SCHOOL COUNCIL CODE OF PRACTICE

Implementation Date: Thursday, 11 March 2004
Review Date: Term 4, 2015

DEECD DOCUMENTATION
The following DEECD source relates to this area:

AUTHORITY
The council of Zeerust Primary School acknowledges that it must act within and with reference to the Education Act 1958, the Education Regulations 2000, Orders made under the Act, Ministerial and Department guidelines and directions, and other statewide policies and guidelines. Under the Regulations, this council is required to meet at least twice in each school term.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
Council members agree to observe the following principles:

• All councillors are school community representatives. While they bring a particular perspective to council, a councillor is not a representative of one section of the community. As such, all councillors will seek to make decisions considering all sections of the school community.

• Council discussions and decisions will focus on improving the conditions that will optimise the learning outcomes of students of this school.

• Council will be responsible for developing and reviewing specific policy statements for the school, consistent with DEECD and Training policies, and the goals and priorities of the strategic and annual implementation plans.

• Council will be accountable to the local school community and to the DEECD.

• Councillors will observe the need for confidentiality, where appropriate, in relation to topics that are discussed by council.
• Councillors will observe the need for orderly conduct of council meetings and for the unity of council in the public arena.
• Councillors will undertake to declare any conflict of interest when it arises.
• Councillors will respect the decisions reached by council. Any discord that may arise from these differences of opinion will be addressed and resolved, where possible, within council structures and procedures.
• Councillors will understand their responsibilities in relation to policy development in the school and respect the responsibilities of the Principal as leader and manager of the school when implementing those policies.

COUNCIL PROCESSES
• In developing the school strategic plan, budget, and all school policies of the school, council should represent the school community.
• Councils should schedule all school policies for review on an ongoing basis.
• The public spokespersons for the council are normally the council president and the Principal, unless otherwise agreed.
• A set of standing orders will be developed by council.

Darren Schreck  
School Council President

Peter Farrell  
Principal