

**TEMPLATE**

**\*SCHOOL NAME\* SCHOOL COUNCIL\*\*  
CONFLICT RESOLUTION BYLAW**

1. Every \*NAME\* School Council Member will be given an opportunity to express concerns or opinions about any issue or item being considered by the School Council.
2. Speakers to an issue will maintain a calm and respectful tone at all times.
3. Speakers will be allowed to speak for a reasonable duration of time.
4. The Chair's (Co-Chair's) responsibility is to:
  - a. clarify the statements made by all speakers.
  - b. identify common ground among all speakers.
  - c. to set out the distinct interests of all members.
  - d. *option: where an additional topic area arises during the discussion, the Chair shall consider the applicability of that topic to the current discussion and either ask for the agenda to be revised, or alternatively, ask for the new topic to be tabled for discussion at the next meeting.*
5. If no common ground can be identified, the Chair will seek to identify precedents or precedences among all members before proceeding further.
  - a. *Option: The matter may be deferred to a future meeting if more information is collected.*
  - b. *The Council may request a formal vote on the issue. The pertinent issues and the results of the vote shall be documented in the School Council minutes. Unique procedures for voting (using a ballot, or paper, secret ballot, show of hands, etc.)*
6. If all attempts at resolving the conflict have been exhausted, the Chair shall request the intervention of a superintendent or other senior administrator such as the Parent and Community Engagement Office to facilitate a resolution to the conflict.

Note: Other conflict resolution suggestions exist in Section 7 of "School Councils: A Guide for School Board Members, 2002."

**Bylaw Approved: "DATE"**