

## **BOWMORE SCHOOL COUNCIL**

### **CONFLICT RESOLUTION BYLAW**

1. Every Bowmore School Council (“BSC”) member will be given an opportunity to express his or her concern or opinion about any issue or item being considered by the BSC.
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 period of time without interruption.
4. The Chair’s responsibility is to:
  - a. clarify the statements made by all speakers;
  - b. identify common ground among the points of view raised, if possible; and
  - c. 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. The BSC shall strive to reach decisions by consensus. Where the Chair determines that it is necessary to clarify the wishes of members, a formal vote on an issue shall be taken. The question at issue and results of the vote shall be documented in the minutes.
6. If all attempts at resolving a conflict have been exhausted without success during the particular meeting that the conflict has arisen (or the following meeting if there is insufficient time available to canvas issues and discuss the matter), the matter will be deferred until the earliest future date when consultation with a school board representative from the Parent and Community Involvement Department and the conflicting parties can be arranged.
7. In the unlikely event that resolution is not achieved after consultation with a representative from the Parent and Community Involvement Department, the Chair shall request the intervention of a superintendent or other senior administrator to facilitate a resolution to the conflict.

Note: Other conflict resolution suggestions exist in section 7 of “School Councils – A Guide for Members, 2002.”

***APPROVED MAY 17, 2012***