

AGENDA INFORMATION AND SAMPLE AGENDA ITEMS

“Partnering with P&Cs to advance public education”

WACSSO Conference is the forum where affiliates have the opportunity to propose agenda items seeking:

- amendments to the WACSSO Constitution (as amended at the previous Conference)
- amendments to the WACSSO Policy document (as amended at the previous Conference)
- information / action from the Minister for Education, Director General of Education or other government authorities.

Agenda items should seek to amend WACSSO Constitution, WACSSO Policy or relate to a State or National education issue. Include adequate preamble and/or support material to enable other affiliates to be well informed about the issue you are raising.

WACSSO Policy is a ‘living’ document and needs reviewing/amending each year to ensure it is up to date and relevant to what is happening within education in Western Australia and Australia. Affiliates are asked to review the WACSSO Policy to identify sections of the policy they see as needing amendment.

The agenda items below are provided as a model example. It shows the structure of an agenda item, i.e. adequate preamble, issue of state or national educational interest and character, clearly defines the action to be undertaken. **It is not appropriate for items to relate to individual persons or schools.**

The sample motions contain the basic instructions / directions you are seeking Conference to endorse. Conference policy agenda items when accepted by Conference either become part of WACSSO Constitution or Policy or form the basis of actions to be undertaken by State Council during the coming year.

Remember

WACSSO Constitution 21.3 enables State Council to reword and / or amalgamate proposed items.

State Council is the body which actions successful motions. They have a responsibility to ensure that what you are seeking to achieve is accurately reflected and clearly communicated by the wording of the information that is presented to Conference.

Conference cannot amend Constitutional items (other than typographical or grammatical errors) once these items are placed on the agenda.

Policy or Action Items may be amended by Conference, but no amendment can negate the intention of the original motion. Action items need to define **what** action you wish taken, **who** is to undertake the action and **how** it is to occur.

Please contact your State Councillor or the WACSSO Office should you require any advice or assistance with preparing your agenda item. They are experienced in offering helpful suggestions about support arguments, additional sources of information and wording of motions.

Items must be received by close of business on 15th June 2018. No late submissions can be accepted. Refer to WACSSO Constitution 21.0 and 31.0.

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SAMPLE: CONSTITUTION AGENDA ITEM

Constitution Section 3.0

Subject: Objects

Proposed by: Example School P&C Association Inc.

PREAMBLE

The current wording of Constitution Section 3.0 does not uniformly define our objects as relating to government schools.

In particular Section 3.1 does not define that WACSSO represents the parents & citizens' associated with children attending government schools.

By the inclusion of the words "attending government schools" after the appearance of the word children the definition of our representation is strengthened.

MOTION

That WACSSO Constitution Section 3.1 be amended by inserting the words "attending government schools" after the word "children."

FOR INFORMATION, if proposal is adopted the section would read:

3.0 OBJECTS:

The objects of WACSSO are to:

- 3.1 Endeavour by all possible means to ensure that children attending government schools receive the best possible education and to this end to initiate and support moves towards the improvement or reassessment of existing education.

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SAMPLE: POLICY AGENDA ITEM

Policy Section 3: At the School

Subject: 3.8 Assessment and Certification of Students

Proposed by: Example School P&C Association Inc.

PREAMBLE

The Education Act 1999 allows for a student to cease schooling at the conclusion of the year in which the student attains the age of 15.

Once upon a time students received an Achievement Certificate detailing courses studied during lower secondary school (Year 8 / 9 / 10). The Achievement Certificate ceased to be issued a number of years ago and currently there is no formal certificate issued to students at the completion of the compulsory years of school attendance.

Students who successfully progress through post compulsory schooling are issued with a Certificate of Secondary Graduation via the Curriculum Council of WA.

Students transferring between schools, states or educational institutions or seeking employment have no formal certification issued by a central authority such as the Curriculum Council to display their achievements, areas of study and skills attained.

The following proposed amendments strengthen and detail the minimum requirements set on behalf of our students.

MOTION

That WACSSO Policy Section 3.8 be amended to read:

3.8.d. All school leavers should receive documentation of positive achievements.

All students should be issued with certification by a central authority detailing their academic achievements during any compulsory schooling period.

Additional certification should be issued relevant to any post compulsory education undertaken by the student.

SAMPLE: ACTION AGENDA ITEM

Subject: Contributions, charges & other educational costs

Proposed by: Example School P&C Association Inc.

PREAMBLE

In 2002 the Gallop Government implemented long standing ALP policy relating to the voluntary contribution of charges associated with public education during the compulsory years of schooling.

It is difficult to assess with any certainty and integrity the impact and costs of implementation of government policy in the absence of the collection and collation of quality information. The Giffard Committee was hampered in providing advice to the Minister in relation to this issue due to a lack of real data.

It is also impossible to ensure any compensatory funding is distributed to areas of genuine need. Compensatory funding was distributed on a formula basis at the commencement of 2002 to high schools only. No consideration was given to the needs of primary schools.

The Department of Education Western Australia (DoE) has a duty to collect, collate and analysis information with regard to the variations of costs for comparable courses of study between schools, the level of parental contributions both pre and post implementation of this policy and the methods of collection utilised and the quality and accuracy of the information provided by schools to their communities.

Anecdotal evidence is insufficient to base advice and assessments on. Accurate assessments and decisions must be made from a base of knowledge and fact.

Collection, collation and analysis of such data would assist to ensure that costs associated with provision of education are equitable, and any supplementary compensatory funding is distributed to areas of genuine need.

MOTION

That WACSSO requests the Director General of Education to develop and implement processes for the collection, collation and analysis of data relating contributions, charges and other educational costs.

Information should include data from 1997 onwards with regard to:

- the costs of comparable courses of study between schools
- level of parental contributions
- methods of collection and information provided to parents by schools

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