

# “WHAT IF WE DON’T GET THE POSITIONS FILLED AT THE AGM?”



At the start of the year the WACSSO office and State Councillors are frequently asked this question. The election of a full Executive Committee is a requirement of the P&C Constitution (as approved by the Minister for Education). A P&C with vacant Office Bearer positions that is not actively advertising vacancies is not abiding by its Constitution. Additionally, while planned and previously approved events and expenses can go ahead, WACSSO does not recommend any new events or expenses are approved until all vacant positions are filled. P&Cs with employees should consider how they will meet their obligations during the transition period that follows an AGM. Please contact the WACSSO Office for advice.

Here are some ideas to implement to help attract volunteers to fill Office Bearer roles:

1. The current Executive should promote all the benefits of the P&C to the school community well in advance of the AGM. Put out a fact sheet covering: services run, money raised and all the community benefits of having a P&C.
2. The current Executive must also make it very clear what the school stands to lose if the Executive positions are not filled. Be positive, but blunt.
3. Promote the AGM well, make a big event of it and use a range of promotional pathways. Give plenty of notice (three weeks if possible).
4. Personally prompt people to fill positions and highlight why they would be a great fit. Be proactive.
5. Get the Principal on board to promote the P&C (an absolute must) – newsletters, school Facebook page, school app, website, school assemblies, etc.
6. Ask retiring executive members to be mentors for first term (or longer) and promise a comprehensive handover meeting.
7. Request all Office Bearers give an overview of their role at the start of the AGM.
8. When running elections at the AGM, start with Sub-committee and Executive Committee positions first, working your way up to the Office Bearer positions. Potential Office Bearers can see the support they have and who they will be working with.
9. Seek WACSSO resources, webinars and training. See WACSSO’s ‘infosheets’ at [www.wacssso.wa.edu.au/resources/pc-resources/under ‘P&C Guides’](http://www.wacssso.wa.edu.au/resources/pc-resources/under-P&C-Guides).
10. More ideas are available here: [www.wacssso.wa.edu.au/resources/attracting-volunteers/](http://www.wacssso.wa.edu.au/resources/attracting-volunteers/)