

## DID YOU KNOW.....

- ❖ Children's learning is enhanced when parents and teachers work together and share in decision making.
- ❖ Parents represent the community's deepest and most direct interest in the welfare and education of their children.
- ❖ Successful schools thrive with the support of committed and active parent communities.
- ❖ Parents help to ensure closer links between the school and the wider community.



School Associations  
are for  
effective school management.

Parent groups  
are for  
effective parent involvement.

## ABOUT US:

Tasmanian State School Parents and Friends Inc is an independent community based organisation, which was founded in 1947 to provide a key support network and independent voice for parents of students in our state schools.

One of our key objectives is to provide accurate information, useful guidance and resources to parents.

For more information on the roles of office bearers, conducting a meeting or setting up your parent group contact our office by phone, email or call into the office.



More information can be found  
online at:

[www.parentsandfriendstasmania.asn.au](http://www.parentsandfriendstasmania.asn.au)

or  
contact our State Office:

Ph: 6234 9488 Fax: 6234 9378  
email: [admin@parentsandfriends.asn.au](mailto:admin@parentsandfriends.asn.au)



TASMANIAN  
STATE SCHOOL  
PARENTS & FRIENDS  
INCORPORATED



SUPPORTING YOU IN  
MAKING A  
DIFFERENCE TO YOUR  
CHILD'S EDUCATION

## SCHOOL ASSOCIATIONS

Following changes to the Education Act (1994), all government schools now have a School Association in place to manage the affairs of their school community.

Your School Association is an elected committee consisting of staff, parents and - in the case of high schools and colleges - student members as well.

As a parent you can be involved in your School Association at various levels. Each year, your School Association will hold elections and half of the positions of Parent Members will become vacant. Nominating for one of these positions and if successful with the election, will ensure that you are directly involved with your School Association.

Your School Association is required to hold meetings at least four times a year, but may choose to meet more frequently. These meetings are open to all members of your school community to attend as observers.

Under the new changes, your School Association must also provide an opportunity for parents to get together in a less formal way.

How this opportunity is provided will differ from school to school.

Many schools have a parent group that operates as a sub-committee of their School Association. This group may or may not be called a P&F. It will meet regularly and have at least one representative who sits on the School Association committee to act as a point of communication between the two groups.

*“parents -  
the essential element!”*

## PARENT GROUPS

- ❖ Are a great place to start your involvement with your child's education. Find out when yours meets!
- ❖ Offer parents an opportunity to get together and discuss matters of interest in an informal, friendly setting.
- ❖ Through two-way communication with the School Association, help parents share in shaping and implementing school plans and policies so they reflect the input of the whole school community.
- ❖ Give parents opportunities to meet teaching staff and help the school build positive attitudes to students and families.
- ❖ Stimulate community interest and participation in education.
- ❖ Ensure the interests of state school parents and their children are represented on issues through the network of State and National parent organisations.



## TASMANIAN STATE SCHOOL PARENTS AND FRIENDS

- ❖ Is the peak parent body in Tasmania and is an active member of the national parent organisation - ACCSO.
- ❖ Represents you on Departmental committees and working groups.
- ❖ Is committed to the promotion and protection of student and parent interests in State schools and colleges in Tasmania.
- ❖ Keeps you informed through our newsletter, "Parent Contact", our website, regular regional forums and an annual conference.
- ❖ Makes regular comment on education and related issues through the media.
- ❖ Provides guidance and resource material for running parent groups and participating in School Associations.
- ❖ Is an independent community based organisation actively supporting parent participation in our state school system since 1947.
- ❖ Always welcomes new volunteers!