

PIAC POST

SUPPORTING PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2020 | VOL 19-20 | ISSUE 2

#ACTIVE PARENTS

PARENT REACHING OUT GRANTS 2019/20

The Ministry of Education Parent Reaching Out Grants (PRO) have been distributed differently this year, directly to school boards.

The TDSB received \$133,405.35 for projects that demonstrate a commitment to respecting the role of parents in students' educational experiences. The board consulted with PIAC, Superintendents, and Trustees to identify initiatives that fall within the following areas:

- Supporting and enhancing School Council capacity
- Enhancing the efficacy of families around mental health and wellbeing, equity or achievement
- Engagement of diverse families and school councils in the School Improvement Process

The Board approved the allocation as follows:

- Learning Network / Centre & Ward Engagement (\$103,405.35)
- 2020 Parents as Partners (PAP) Conference on March 28 (\$30,000)



PARENT PARTICIPATION ON THE SIP

School Improvement Planning review

Schools are required by O.Reg 612 of the Education Act to involve parents in the development of the School's Improvement Plan (SIP). The TDSB is creating guidelines to assist Principals with engaging their parent community in the SIP.

The interim guidelines focus on better explaining the process and seeking out diverse family input.

Details of the interim expectation can be found at:

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/AgendaMinutes/Type/A?Folder=Agenda%2f20190612&Filename=6.5.pdf>

TIP: Have a SIP discussion with your Principal at your next School Council meeting.

SAVE THE DATE

Parents as Partners Annual Conference

**Saturday March 28, 2020
Toronto Congress Centre**

The day will offer parents/guardians the opportunity to participate in learning, sharing and networking with families, staff and community partners. The day features a keynote address, informative workshops and a vendors' marketplace of local associations & agencies which provide many different kinds of support for children & families.

**Looking for information on School Council Finances?
Check out the TDSB SC Financial Information Webinar:
<https://www.youtube.com/embed/Rxe1DP9AGao>**

SCHOOL COUNCIL TRAINING SESSIONS

Each year the Parent & Community Engagement Office (PCEO) of the TDSB provides **free** workshops across the system to support the important work of School Councils. This year's topics are School Council Basics, School Council Bylaws, and School Council Effectiveness.

The next session is School Council Effectiveness

Effective School Councils examines how to run an effective council - committees, volunteers, communication and engaging families. It will help you begin to engage families in ways that are meaningful and relevant to them and meet the School Council mandate - pupil achievement.

February 13 - John Polyani

February 20 - Drewry SS

February 26 - Woburn CI

March 5 - Central Tech

All workshops are 6:00-9:00 pm

For the full schedule, go to:

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/School-Councils/Workshops>



#HAVEYOURSAY: TDSB CONSULTATIONS 2019/2020

The TDSB is preparing to review P023, Parent and Community Involvement. Policy updates will include parent involvement in the School Improvement Planning process. Many Wards are holding meetings in the coming weeks.

Other upcoming reviews include:

P006 Advertising

P021 Fundraising

P020 Transportation of Students

P078 Community Engagement

Several new policies are being developed, including a new policy for Specialized Schools and Programs. Public consultations expected to open soon.

For the full TDSB policy review cycle:

<http://bit.ly/2M9A8Rd>

School Committee Participation

Did you know there are 4 school committees where parents are intended to be involved?

Caring & Safe Schools, School Improvement Plan, Staffing (elementary) and Budget.

For more information, go to:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/OB8U_nFD4spg0ZEt6WFFlcGZTZOU/view



BECOME A PIAC VOLUNTEER!

Do you have passion for supporting parents as partners in education?

The following vacancies are available on PIAC:

- Ward 10 (Trustee Moise) - 1 position
- Ward 19 (Trustee Patel) - 1 position
- Ward 21 (Trustee Rajakulasingam) - 1 position
- Ward 22 (Trustee Sriskandarajah) - 1 position


Contact your Trustee or info@torontopiac.com

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PIAC
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