# PIAC POST

SUPPORTING PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 2021 | VOL 20-21 | ISSUE 6

#### **#OPPORTUNITY**

#### **PARENT REACHING OUT GRANTS 2020/21**

The Ministry of Education Parent Reaching Out Grants (PRO) have been distributed directly to school boards. The TDSB was allocated \$131,563.00

Following conversations with the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) as stipulated by the Ministry, the funds will be allocated to support the following initiatives:

- School Council Anti-Black Racism, anti-Indigenous and anti-oppression application initiatives (\$52,500@1,500/Council)
- Virtual Parent/Caregiver engagement tools and supports (\$20,000)
- Conversation Series 2.0-Going Deeper (\$35,000)
- Enhanced Multi-lingual Supports (\$24,063)

#### SCHOOL COUNCILS CAN NOW APPLY TO THE TDSB FOR PRO GRANTS

School Councils may submit one request for supports up to \$1,500 (maximum per school) to support initiatives/activities that engage parents/caregivers (including virtual), and build School Councils' capacity around Human Rights, Equity, Anti-Racism, Anti-Indigenous and Anti-Black Racism. Project/Initiative must be completed on or before by June 30, 2021. A final report will be required on or before July 6, 2020. **Application deadline 5pm, March 1.** 

More information and link to online application form at: <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/.../Parents-Reaching-Out-Grants">www.tdsb.on.ca/.../Parents-Reaching-Out-Grants</a>

#### **NEW CSW COMMUNITY SUPPORT HUB**

TDSB Community Support Workers (CSW) are assigned to support Model Schools. Their new website is an easy to use resource for **all parents and School Councils**, You will find parent engagement, equity & mental health information; access to live online drop-ins; and invitations to <u>Parent Academy</u> workshops and more.



See the new hub at tdsbhub.com

**Check out our updated School Council Toolkit!** 

http://torontopiac.com/uploads/3/4/8/1/34816230/piac\_school\_councils\_toolki t\_2020-02-10\_bookmarked.pdf

### **#HAVEYOURSAY: TDSB CONSULTATIONS 2020/2021**

#### **POLICY CONSULTATIONS UPDATE**

The revised **TDSB** <u>Policy Review Schedule</u> highlights 16 policies to be reviewed or developed by the end of this school year. In order to proceed with the public consultation phase of these policies during the pandemic, staff have developed a new <u>Virtual Consultations Procedure (PR731)</u>.

Two policies will be available on the TDSB Consultations webpage soon!

- <u>Parent & Community Involvement Policy (PO23)</u>. You can read the current policy and add your own ideas to the discussion before a new draft is developed via the <u>TDSB Engage</u> webpage. Follow the webpage to find out when new opportunities to join the conversation are announced.
- <u>Specialized Schools & Programs Policy (NEW)</u>. This policy is affiliated with the Secondary School Review and will update the process by which students apply at both the elementary or secondary levels. It is closely linked to the revised Optional Attendance Policy (consultations completed last fall) and will be recommended to the board together this spring.

Last Call! The revised Advertising & Distribution of Materials Policy is being recommended for approval at the March 10th Regular Board Meeting (see meeting agenda for final version). The policy concerns what is allowed to be advertised and how it is distributed to the school community, including materials from school councils. Final public consultations are complete. If you have any concerns about the revised policy, please contact your Trustee directly.

# Join the Conversation!

#### **TDSB Conversation Series**

TDSB families are invited to a series of engaging and informative conversations. Hear from leading experts and participate in question and answer sessions online.

These conversations are jointly hosted by the TDSB's Parent and Community Engagement Office (PCEO) and the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC).

For upcoming links and archived sessions, go to: <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Conversations-Series">www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Conversations-Series</a>



## **PIAC Ready Set Engage**

#### **Conference Resources Posted**

Recordings and resources from November are now posted on our conference page:

<u>www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Conferences/PIAC-Conference</u>



#### **BECOME A PIAC VOLUNTEER!**

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

The following vacancies are available on PIAC:

Ward 1 (Trustee Gill) - 2 positions Ward 3 (Trustee Nunziata) - 1 position Ward 7 (Trustee Pilkey) - 1 position Ward 12 (Trustee Brown) - 1 position Ward 21 (Trustee Rajakulasingam) - 2 positions

#### Ward elections will be held virtually.

Contact your Trustee or info@torontopiac.com

#### **CONTACT US**

info@torontopiac.com

🚹 Facebook.com/PIACToronto

🕥 @TorontoPIAC

**(**) 416-395-5040

www.torontopiac.com

