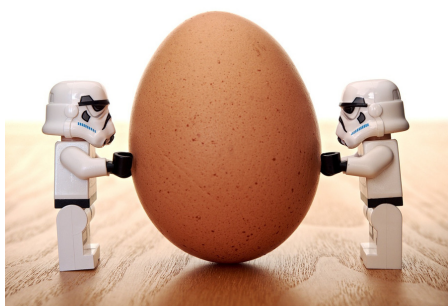


# PIAC POST

SUPPORTING PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

MARCH 2019 | VOL 18-19 | ISSUE 4

## #HIGHLIGHT: WORKING TOGETHER SERIES



### PARENT ENGAGEMENT: COMMUNICATION

Parent engagement is challenging for school administrators, educators, and parents alike. However research clearly supports a role for parent/family engagement in improving student attendance, love of school, learning, academic achievement/success, and well-being. Parent engagement is more than just pot lucks and movie nights. Parents make a difference!

Good communication underpins effective parent engagement. Try these communication approaches:

-Parent/Child: Communicate your expectations for your child, show interest in your child's interests, value learning and model successful learning behaviours (put in time and effort, communicate effectively, understand your learning strengths and weaknesses), be specific in praise, establish learning and well-being routines, initiate contact with your child's teacher.

-Parent/Teacher: Ask your child's teacher for positive feedback about your child and their strengths, ask about curriculum content and links to current events so you can support and reinforce your child's learning using real-world events, ask about learning strategies that will help you support your child, and ask about communication methods and timing for keeping parents in the loop! If your schedule permits, ask your child's teacher about volunteering in the classroom.

### ANNUAL PARENTS AS PARTNERS CONFERENCE

Sat 30 Mar, 9am  
Beanfield Centre  
Keynote speaker Karl Subban  
Registration is now open  
Free

For more information:  
<http://bit.ly/2UresSh>

### PCEO SCHOOL COUNCIL WEBINARS

Want to learn more about how school councils work?

Trying to recruit new school council members?

The TDSB's Parent and Community Engagement Office (PCEO) is hosting three webinars this Spring. Use the following links at the specific times to join the webinars:

Thurs 28 Feb, 7pm  
School Council Basics  
<http://bit.ly/2STdGR3>

Tues 26 Mar, 7pm  
School Council Bylaws  
<http://bit.ly/2S9o5TX>

Wed 10 Apr, 7pm  
School Council Effectiveness  
<http://bit.ly/2tqx6yf>

## #HAVEYOURSAY: TDSB CONSULTATIONS



Looking for additional resources?  
Visit: <http://torontopiac.com/resources.html>

## CARING AND SAFE SCHOOLS (P051)

- Deadline: 31 Mar
- To ensure that all students feel that they belong, are heard, accepted, safe, supported and cared for.
- To enhance and maintain working and learning environments that embed principles of equity, anti-oppression, anti-racism, acceptance and inclusion
- Share your feedback here: <http://bit.ly/2U5Okw4>

## PRESTO ROLL-OUT

- Deadline: 17 Mar
- PIAC is seeking ideas and thoughts on the PRESTO rollout. The purpose of this initiative is to help students smoothly make the transition away from TTC passes and tickets, to the PRESTO card.
- Share your feedback at [info@torontopiac.com](mailto:info@torontopiac.com)

## MARCH CHECKLIST

- TDSB Long Term Program & Accommodation Strategy
- Contact your Trustee for consultations in your Ward re school closings, program changes etc.



## BECOME A PIAC VOLUNTEER!

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

Do you want to support the sharing of information and resources on public education with TDSB parents?

Parent and community volunteers are always welcome, however the following vacancies are available at PIAC:

Ward 5 (Trustee Luka) – 2 positions  
Ward 10 (Trustee Moise) – 2 positions  
Ward 13 (Trustee Li) – 1 position  
Ward 15 (Trustee Story) – 1 position  
Ward 16 (Trustee Aarts) – 1 position  
Ward 17 (Trustee Smith) – 2 positions  
Ward 18 (Trustee Kandavel) – 2 positions  
Ward 19 (Trustee Patel) – 2 positions  
Ward 21 (Trustee Rajakulasingam) - 1 position  
Ward 22 (Trustee Sriskandarajah) - 1 position

For more information contact your Trustee or [info@torontopiac.com](mailto:info@torontopiac.com)

## BUILDING COMMUNITY



Here are some parent involvement and engagement ideas your council might host to involve your community in non-fundraising events:

-Host a Spring Cleaning Swap, Trade & Sell Meet! To help families get rid of good quality unwanted items/de-clutter/pick up inexpensive items within their community.

-Host a parent no-bake cooking night for healthy nut-free snacks, e.g. banana protein balls.

-Build a Homework Club.

## CONTACT US

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**PIAC**  
Toronto District School Board  
Parent Involvement Advisory Committee