PIAC POST

SUPPORTING PARENTS AS PARTNERS IN EDUCATION

FEBRUARY 2023 | VOL 22-23 | ISSUE 6

#RESPONSIBLE

SCHOOL COUNCIL PURPOSE

What School Council Does

School Councils exist to improve student achievement and enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. They are legislated and governed by Ontario Regulation 612. Councils fulfill their role by advising their principal.

Support each other with:

- Communication
- Workshops
- Information

Represent each other on:

- School Improvement process
- <u>School Committees</u>
- Mental Health
- <u>Equity</u>

Be accountable to each other through:

- Bylaws
- Consultations/surveys
- Meeting minutes, reports

What School Council Doesn't Do

Council does not discuss individual teacher or student situations. Parents' classroom concerns should follow the <u>Parent Concern Protocol</u>.

SCHOOL COUNCIL EQUITY TIPS

School Councils work inclusively, recognizing that all parents/caregivers have an equitable place in the school community, free from racism, classism, and other isms, intentional or unintentional.

Consider Equity when preparing council communications, or planning meetings and events. Ask your principal to share your School Profile to better understand who your community is.

Use a variety of methods to seek out diverse parent voices/knowledge. Build relationships to break down barriers. Disrupt practices that contribute to oppression. Remember you are representing ALL parents/caregivers in your school community.

It's not just about who attends council meetings/events. Research shows that what parents do at home has the most impact on student success.

Try this <u>Equity and Inclusion Tool</u> at your School Council.

Read the People for Education

<u>Progress Report on Anti-Racism across Canada</u>

SUPPORTING TEST & EXAM STRESS

Student Success During Times of Stress.



Santé mentale en milieu scolaire Ontario

School Mental Health Ontario has developed a resource for students, parents & teachers focusing on test & exam stress, providing strategies to help students perform at their best.

Student Mental Health in Action is a series of four lessons to support the development of basic mental health knowledge and help-seeking skills for secondary students, focusing on building their understanding of mental health and mental illness, signs of mental health problems, and how/where to access help when needed.



Check out their Parent/Caregiver Test & Exam handout.

#HAVEYOURSAY

TDSB Student/Parent Census

The TDSB Student & Parent Census has been designed to gather information about students' perceptions and identities including participation in school activities, safety, wellbeing, mental health, outdoor learning, etc. Staff are then able to better develop school and system programs to support them and eliminate the barriers to learning and positive school experiences.

The Student & Parent Census is administered every 4 years. This year's was paused in November to complete the expected review. The Census is tentatively planned to be launched at the end of March, Expect more information after the March Break.



Looking for information on Model Schools. parent workshops or community resources?

It's all at tdsbHUB.ca



BECOME A PIAC VOLUNTEER!

The following vacancies are open on PIAC: Contact PIAC or your trustee about elections.

Ward 1 (Trustee Hastings) - 1 position Ward 3 (Trustee Nunziata) - 1 position Ward 6 (Trustee Hassan) - 1 position Ward 15 (Trustee Ehrhardt) - 2 positions Ward 16 (Trustee Aarts) - 1 position Ward 17 (Trustee Shan) - 2 positions Ward 19 (Trustee Patel) - 1 position Ward 21 (Trustee Rajakulasingam) - 1 position

Learn more about being a PIAC Rep.

CONTACT US

info@torontopiac.com





www.torontopiac.com



Parent Involvement Advisory Committee