



Tuesday, January 24, 2023

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PCEO UPDATES

School Council Innovation Grant (SCIG)

The School Council Innovation Grant focuses on equity, anti-oppression, anti-Indigenous Racism, Human Rights, anti-racism, and anti-Black racism to build parents/caregivers and Council knowledge in these areas.

The grant application closed on December 9, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. We received 269 application submissions, requesting a total of \$454,922.84. There were 135 applications approved, totaling a request of \$170,000. We have received 13 appeals, for an amount of \$23,871.22. We have set \$5000 aside for appeals using other funding.

The grant was reviewed by three TDSB employees, & one community partner using Qualtrics – an online survey. The reviewers were required to adhere to the following criteria:

- Eligibility and thematic criteria were met
- Project tackled root causes of oppression
- Project utilizes an asset-based approach that included parents/caregivers most impacted by oppression
- Aimed for transformational Change
- Offered innovative solutions to dismantling oppression
- Demonstrate the skills, capacity, and knowledge to implement the proposed strategy, or outlined a plan to build those skills or acquire strategic partners

School Council Access to the Thought Exchange Tool

TDSB has a subscription to ThoughtExchange, which is an excellent tool (and an alternative to a traditional survey) for engaging parents/caregivers and students for their input and feedback, for instance, your School Improvement Plans. You'll find this [short video explainer about ThoughtExchange](#) and how it works useful, along with the attached PDF with more information.

PCEO is working with ThoughtExchange staff to provide training & orientation sessions for School Council Chairs/Co-Chairs/Vice Chairs on how to use ThoughtExchange. To date, there have been three sessions attended by approximately 20 Council co/vice-chairs. There will be more sessions offered following the launching of Exchanges by the first cohort.



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School Improvement Planning Parent/Caregiver Brochure

PCEO is working with a design team to finalize the SIP brochure for parents/caregivers. The brochure will be shared with schools and School Councils for distribution. Tools for schools to engage parents/caregivers and Council is also in the last stages of design and will be shared with Superintendents and principals.

Parent/Caregiver Engagement in the Principal/Vice-Principal Interview

The Board is currently recruiting parents/caregivers/guardians who are interested in participating in the Vice-Principal Interview Committees. Procedure 705 - Selection, Promotion, and Placement Process for Vice-principals allows for parent/caregivers /guardian representatives identified through the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) to participate in Vice-Principal interviews.

If you would like to volunteer to participate in the Spring 2023 Vice-Principal interviews you are required to do the following:

1. Complete the Expression of Interest (link - <https://bit.ly/PVPSpring2023>) **no later than Friday, January 27, 2023.**
2. Be available for the virtual VP Process and Interview Training Session scheduled for

**Tuesday, February 7, 2023
6:00 to 8:00 pm.**

The zoom link for the training will be emailed to all who submitted as available in the "[Expression of Interest](#)".

Please note **attendance at a training session is mandatory** to participate as a Parent/Caregiver representative on a Vice-Principal Interview Team.

3. Be available for the Spring 2023 cycle, interviews for Elementary Vice-Principal and Secondary Vice-Principal will be held on two of the three tentative interview dates below:
 - Tuesday, February 21, 2023
 - Thursday, February 23, 2023
 - Monday, February 27, 2023
- You will not be scheduled for more than one of these dates.
➤ Depending on the number of interview teams scheduled, not all parent/caregiver representatives will be scheduled.



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- You will be informed by e-mail no later than the week before the scheduled date if you have been placed on an interview team or identified as an alternate/backup for the day.
- The interview day begins with a team caucus at 8:00 am with the site coordinators. The last interview of the day will commence no later than 3:30 pm.

For further information please contact latha.john@tdsb.on.ca

School Council E-mail Activation Update

TDSB I/T department has been working with schools and Council chairs to get accounts activated. Outlined below are ZOOM and Council e-mail accounts that have been activated:

- Total # of Zoom Accounts: 619
- Total # of Zoom Accounts Logged into 93
- Percentage: 15%

School Council Chair/Co-Chair Accounts:

- Total # of Active Accounts: 1047
- Number of Schools with School Council Chair/Co-Chair Accounts in use: 460

School Council By-Laws Template Update

TDSB has updated the School Council By-Laws Template. All Councils are required to update or create by-laws by December 2022. To date, we have received over 200 templates. Follow-up is happening with outstanding schools. For further information, please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/School-Councils/By-Laws>

School Council Training

School Councils, parents/caregivers interested in furthering their learning may engage in independent learning by reviewing the PCEOs YouTube page at <https://www.youtube.com/@pceotdsb4577>

PO23-Parent, Caregiver Engagement Policy

The Board at its May 2022 meeting approved the PO23 Policy. The new policy can be viewed at <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Detail/docId/188> TDSB is also working on a Parent, Caregiver Engagement procedure to support the PO23-Parent, Caregiver Engagement Policy.



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Interim Expectations for Parent/Family Engagement in the School Improvement Process (SIP)

At its meeting on June 30, 2021, the Board approved the extension of the 2019-2020 interim expectations for parent/caregiver involvement in the SIP to 2021-2022 with the addition of data sharing with parents and caregivers.

The 2021-2022 proposed interim expectations for school teams will focus on explaining the SIP and the value of parent/caregiver engagement. Principals will seek input on the initial thinking regarding SIP goals with the School Council (as required under Regulation 612) and from all parents and caregivers, particularly those, under-represented and under-served, share school data with parents/caregivers on (well-being, equity, and Achievement).

Schools will be commencing SIP work in the areas of achievement, well-being, and Indigenous Education and Sovereignty, with equity threaded in all areas.

TDB System Calendar

Want to know what activities/events are taking place on the board? Visit the system calendar at <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/School-Year-Calendar>

TDSB Connects

TDSB Connects is a monthly electronic newsletter for parents/guardians with information about news and events from across the Toronto District School Board. If you are a parent/guardian who doesn't currently receive TDSB Connects, please contact your local school to ensure your email address is up to date in your child's student contact record.

To sign up visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Media/News/Newsletters/TDSB-Connects/Sep-27-2021>

INFORMATION SHARING

CampTO: Information & Registration

At Toronto's seasonal CampTO's, children and youth can be active, learn new skills, and make fun memories close to home.

Registration for Summer CampTO opens February 11, 2023, at 7 am.

Registration for March Break CampTO is open

Choose from: CampTO, CampTO Explore, CampTO Plus, Counsellor in Training, or Adapted & Inclusive options for campers with disabilities or needing additional support.

For more information visit <https://www.toronto.ca/explore-enjoy/recreation/camp-to/>



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TDSBhub-Resources for parents/caregivers

Visit the hub... one-stop shop for parents/caregivers one-stop shop created and sustained by the Community Support Workers (CSWs). For information visit www.tdsbhub.ca

Parent and Caregiver Early Literacy Website

As part of our commitment to early reading, Early Years has developed a [family and caregiver website](#) to encourage parents and caregivers to explore early literacy in their homes and community.

This website supplements the [Family and Caregiver Guide](#) that was released that outlines the vision of early reading in the TDSB in partnership with parents/caregivers and communities. Both the website and the Guide are led by our vision of parents/caregivers and provide an overview of foundational early reading skills and essential instructional approaches.

“Supporting Students at Home”-Resources for parents/caregivers of students in French programs.

Parents/caregivers may access resources at <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Elementary-School/School-Choices/French-Programs/Supporting-Students-at-Home>