



CATHOLIC  
PARENT  
INVOLVEMENT  
COMMITTEE



Toronto Catholic Parent Involvement Committee  
CEC • 80 Sheppard Avenue East • North York, ON • M2N 6E8 • [www.tcdsb.org/cpic](http://www.tcdsb.org/cpic)

---

March 10, 2020

Via: Corporate Services Committee

Trustees of the Board,

Thank you for your attentiveness and questions at our formal presentation to you on the purpose & activities of CPIC at the February Student Achievement Committee meeting.

On your agenda this evening, there is a staff report on “2020-21 Budget Setting Plan and Consultation”. There has been continued efforts and success in engaging parents & stakeholders across the system over the years, and for this we congratulate you and the staff that have undertaken these efforts.

Soliciting the views of stakeholders, staff, students and especially parents is critical to inform you as governors of the pulse of the public, and where they would like to see investments, efficiencies or in many cases due to constrained budgets - trade-offs made between priorities.

We noticed that CPIC is proposed to meet with staff at our meeting on May 11<sup>th</sup>. While we appreciate the opportunity to be involved in the process, it is important to distinguish that CPIC should just not be seen as another checkmark in the standard stakeholder consultation process of meeting with parents. This has been the common misconception for a number of years in the Board.



CATHOLIC  
PARENT  
INVOLVEMENT  
COMMITTEE



Referring to the Government of Ontario – Ministry of Education website

<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/PIC.html>

**PICs: What they do**

Every school board is different. So every Parent Involvement Committee is different too. Parent Involvement Committees build parent engagement by:

- providing boards with advice on parent engagement and how to communicate with parents
- developing strategies and initiatives to help boards engage more parents in their children's learning at home and at school
- sharing information with, and supporting the work of, school councils within the boards.

Bringing your attention to bullet #1 - **It would be better served to engage CPIC with the question on how to communicate with parents more effectively overall and especially on key budget consultations.** This would more align to CPIC's mandate by engaging our Committee at the onset of formulating strategies to further connect with parents and soliciting our assistance in effective execution. We would then hope that these recommendations will be reflected in the staff report recommendations and provide direct useful contextual information to shape your views and motions to staff in responding to any staff report under consideration.

Thank you for your continued commitment to parent involvement and we look forward to contributing in a collaborative and meaningful way to parent engagement across the TCDSB.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Del Grande".

John Del Grande  
CPIC Chair