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REPORT TO

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL BEING, CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

METRICS REPORT ON THE CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL, POLICY S.10, 2019-2020

"May he give you the desire of your heart and make all your plans succeed." Psalm 20:4

Created, Draft	First Tabling	Review
November 16, 2020	December 3, 2020	Click here to enter a date.

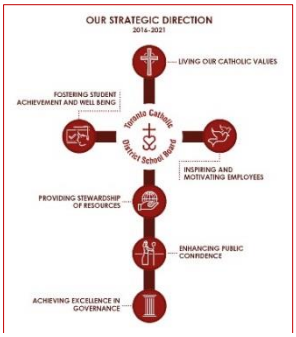
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INFORMATION REPORT

Vision:
At Toronto Catholic we transform the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

Mission:
The Toronto Catholic District School Board is an inclusive learning community uniting home, parish and school and rooted in the love of Christ.
We educate students to grow in grace and knowledge to lead lives of faith, hope and charity.



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A. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides metrics on the activities and valued contributions of the Toronto Catholic District School Board (TCDSB) Catholic School Parent Councils (CSPCs) for the academic year of 2019-2020 at the local level.

This report also includes the engagement and learning opportunities provided by staff to parents and to Catholic School Parent Councils.

The cumulative staff time required to prepare this report was 10 hours.

B. PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to comply with the TCDSB Catholic School Parent Council Policy, S. 10, metrics requirements that the "*annual report of CSPC activities will serve as an assessment of the Council's work to support student achievement and well-being at the school*."

C. BACKGROUND

1. Consistent with Ontario Regulation 612 on *School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees*, the purpose of [Catholic] school councils is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents."

2.The TCDSB's Parent Engagement and Communications Departments play a guiding and supportive role to Catholic School Parent Councils and staff in the promotion and enhancement of effective parent engagement that is in harmony with TCDSB's shared vision of transforming the world through witness, faith, innovation and action.

3. At the system level, staff from these and other departments worked closely with TCDSB's Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (CPIC) and the Ontario Association for Parents in Catholic Education - Toronto (OAPCE-Toronto) to maximize support to the local Catholic School Parent Councils.

D. EVIDENCE

Catholic School Parent Council Activities and Parent Engagement Initiatives

1. Consistent with Ontario Regulation 612, s.24 (1) and (2) that every school council submit an annual report on its activities, including a financial report, for 2019-2020 academic year, 102 school councilscomplied with the regulatory and Policy S. 10 requirement by electronically submitting a CSPC annual report.

   The chart below provides some highlights from the reports submitted:

2018-2019 Metrics	2019-2020 Metrics
60% of councils submitted a report	52% of councils submitted a report
100% of councils had 6+ meetings	100% of councils had 6+ meetings
74% of the councils had a designated OAPCE-Toronto representative	98% of the councils had a designated OAPCE-Toronto representative
73% of CSPCs raised funds to support the purchase of learning materials	78% of CSPCs raised funds to support the purchase of learning materials
72% of CSPCs raised funds to support the Arts	75% of CSPCs raised funds to support the Arts
69% of CSPCs raised funds to support the sports	56% of CSPCs raised funds to support the sports
68% of CSPCs raised funds to support the transportation for events/excursions	63% of CSPCs raised funds to support the transportation for events/excursions
83% of CSPCs raised funds to support celebrations (graduation/sacraments)	74% of CSPCs raised funds to support celebrations (graduation/sacraments)
53% of CSPCs raised funds to support humanitarian /charity organizations	48% of CSPCs raised funds to support humanitarian /charity organizations

2. In addition to the support that CSPC fundraised moneys contributed to the enhancement of curriculum and extra-curricular activities for students, the following are some examples of CSPC initiatives and activities that contributed to parent engagement at the local level, as for example family evenings events on topics, such as: healthy living; mental health; wellness; math; science; STEAM; technology; robotics; fitness; anti-bullying; and inclusivity; and online safety.

Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

1. In 2019-2020 the Ministry changed its parameters regarding PRO Grants:
   - schools could not apply directly to the Ministry for funding;
   - the Board received a Regional PRO grant for total of $51,009.48.
   - the funding was divided evenly by Trustee Ward and distributed to the schools that that had made use of most or all the PIC funds from previous years; and
   - in spite of the sudden closure of schools in March 2020 derailing the majority of local school plans for in-person event, 27% of the schools benefited from in-person or virtual events.

2. As per the Ministry's request, the TCDSB returned the remaining unused school council 2019-2020 grant funds of $ 44,666.10 to the Ministry.

Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Grant

1. The Ministry of Education provides each school board with funds to be allocated to local CSPCs to support school-based parent engagement initiatives.

2. These funds are earmarked to find local solutions that lessen barriers to parent engagement and enhance the participation of parents, with the goal of equity of outcomes for all students.

3. In September, each school was allocated an annual PIC grant of $500.

4. In 2019-2020, due to the sudden school closure, only 14% of schools accessed their Ministry provided parent involvement funds in the School Block Budget ($500.00).

5. Currently there is a CSPC PIC balance of $348,469 of unused funds (Appendix A).

System Activities and Resources Supporting and Promoting Parent Leadership

1. Outreach and collaboration between the Parent Engagement Department, CSPC, CPIC and OAPCE has resulted in increased two-way communication with parents.

2. CSPC Share Point was created and regularly updated to provide CSPC chairs with resources.

3. In 2019-2020 of the 195 schools, only three schools did not have a formal Catholic School Parent Council. Attempts were made by administration to empower parent participation in school events and recruit prospective parents through one-on-one invitations, school newsletters and School Messenger.

4. Of the 192 schools with elected councils, 100% of the newly elected CSPC chairs were provided with a TCDSB, CSPC designed email and credentials, allowing for greater access to Board communication and support, as well as, access to internal CSPC sites (e.g., CSPC Share Point; Grants 4 You).

5. After two years of consultation with parents, CSPCs, CPIC, OAPCE and staff, followed by detailed revision after each consultation and draft, the CSPC Policy S.10, and accompanying TCDSB CSPC By-Laws, was completed and ready for Board approval.

6. Several CPIC Motions associated with improving parent access and communication were approved at Board for further implementation with the goal to improve parent engagement (Appendix B).

7. The coordinator of the Parent Engagement Department provided resources/reminders via email with regards to the operation requirements and timelines of CSPCs, as well as, responding daily, via phone and/or email, to council executives' and staffs' inquiries.

8. The topic of parent engagement remained as a standing item on the K-12 principal meetings.

E. METRICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY

1. The metrics and accountability framework as outlined in Catholic School Parent Council, Policy S. 10, will be the basis for this report and for assessing parent engagement impact.

2. The data in this report will continue to serve as the benchmark for strategy improvement to enhance and support continued parent engagement, and partnership enhancement.

F. CONCLUDING STATEMENT

This report is for the consideration of the Board.