



REPORT TO

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

### REPORT REGARDING ACCESSING FUNDS FOR TCDSB21C LEARNING PROGRAMS THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

And looking at them Jesus said to them, "With people this is impossible,  
but with God all things are possible."

Matthew 19:26

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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**

Arising out of a presentation made by members of the TCDSB21C Learning Team at the September 8, 2016 Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee, the Board referred back to staff the task of reporting on how schools can expand and access partnerships. This report provides information regarding the opportunities that the Partnership Development department is investigating to build capacity for TCDSB21C Learning.

*The cumulative staff time dedicated to developing this report was 20 hours.*

## **B. PURPOSE**

1. This report is in response to a Trustee motion at the Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee on September 6, 2016:

*That the presentation be received and referred to staff to come back with a report on how schools can expand and access partnerships.*

## **C. BACKGROUND**

1. **September 8, 2016** – At the Student Achievement and Well Being, Catholic Education and Human Resources Committee meeting, staff made a presentation regarding TCDSB21C Learning Update to the Committee.
2. **September 9-October 21** – Staff from the TCDSB21C team and the Partnership Development team assessed existing partnerships that potentially could be expanded. A list of TCDSB21C Learning relationships with external organizations is presented in **Appendix A**.

## **D. EVIDENCE/RESEARCH/ANALYSIS**

1. In reviewing potential partnership agreements, it is important to distinguish between the local arrangements annually made by the school and those that have system implications.

2. The TCDSB has policies and procedures that permit fundraising, sponsorships, donations and advertising to be undertaken by its schools, providing the principal with a certain level of autonomy and flexibility for all activities related to school-generated funds. Examples of these local arrangements are pizza lunches and yearbook providers.
3. There are times, however, when a possible arrangement or partnership will have deeper system commitments that may not be initially apparent, especially in the area of technology purchases or provision of technological software and services. It is always advisable to consult with the Partnership Development department or the Area Superintendent to ensure that the partnership is advisable, and will not unknowingly commit the board to additional expenditures.
4. The TCDSB21C team will continue to collaborate with the Partnership Development team to review all existing partnerships with a view to deepening and expanding those relationships. Further, new partnership opportunities will be explored throughout 2016-2017 that will serve to further enhance student achievement and well-being.
5. In the event that a school community or the Catholic School Parent Council seeks to support the acquisition of new and/or additional technology, or wishes to consider other technological services from an external provider, they must first contact the Superintendent of Curriculum Leadership & Innovation: ICT, prior to moving forward with the plan.
6. Below are examples of the types of partnerships sought and obtained for the TCDSB with specific reference to technology:

#### **A. Current TCDSB21C Learning Relationships with External Organizations**

- i. Currently, TCDSB21C Learning has developed relationships with a number of external organizations (**Appendix A**) that provide a variety of products and services. Staff are investigating enhancements and/or deeper levels of commitments with these organizations.

## **B. Partnerships**

- i. Partnership Development Department staff are engaged in outreach efforts with industry, community, post-secondary institutions and government organizations to develop programs, provide in-service teacher professional development and build capacity for TCDSB21C Learning teaching and learning.

## **C. Grants**

- i. Partnership Development Department staff have identified a number of Learning Technology grant opportunities for schools (Best Buy Canada, Soft Choice Power Up School Tech Grant, Samsung Canada Solve for Tomorrow Challenge, Staples, Google Canada - Toronto Community Grants) and are listed on Grants4You located on the Board's website.
- ii. Partnership Development Department staff in collaboration with schools and other TCDSB central departments to assist and support schools throughout the granting process.
- iii. Additionally, staff will continue to make on-going efforts to search-out new Learning Technology grant opportunities for schools.

## **D. Source of Funding**

- i. As aforementioned, Partnership Development Department staff are engaged in outreach efforts regarding accessing funds for TCDSB21C Learning. It is prudent to determine the funding resulting from those efforts. Once staff understand the level of funding that can be accessed through partnerships, the source of funding to augment that funding can be identified.

## **E. CONCLUDING STATEMENT**

This report is for the consideration of the Board.