

TCDSB COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 2015-2016

Learning Opportunities and Cultural Events

ENGAGEMENT	LEVEL	PURPOSE /GOAL	OUTCOME/IMPACT
<p>October, 2015 Newcomers' Welcome Conference</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative featuring a Conference Forum to provide newcomer families and International Students with pertinent information on navigating the Canadian education, health and workplace system. The theme tied into TCDSB's Pastoral Plan - "The Year of the Family"</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 240 attendees made up of parents, children and International Students attended and were provided with information to support their transition and integration into TCDSB community, including navigating the system, school structure, school registration and community resources linked to their local Catholic school and parish. • A postcard with relevant information and FAQs was provided in different languages as a handy reference tool.
<p>October 2015 Chinese Panda Cup Public Speaking Awards</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<p>Sponsored by the Toronto Chinese Consulate, part of TCDSB International Languages and Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards were presented at a banquet for dignitaries, school board representatives, instructors, parents and students. • Four (4) TCDSB students were recognized by receiving top awards.
<p>October 2015 CSPC and Administrators' Policies and Procedures Workshop</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<p>Workshops provide information and resources to CSPC and Administrators on Ministry and TCDSB policies and guidelines in order to lay the foundation for effective governance to support student achievement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 attendees participated in information sharing to support increased parent engagement in TCDSB school communities. A plenary session provided an overview of current school council Ministry legislation and TCDSB policy. • This was followed by role specific break-out sessions where participants

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			increased their skill set and networked.
<p>October 2015 – June 2016 CSPC and Administrators’ Workshops</p>	Inform	<p>Monthly workshops were provided for CSPC members, administrators and parents at large on topics pertinent to CSPC governance and parent engagement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An average of 50 participants attended the monthly CSPC workshop where a specific topic related to CSPC governance and parent engagement was discussed in detail. Participants had the opportunity to increase their skills through small group discussion, role playing, case studies and question/answer periods.
<p>October, 2015 Parent Involvement Week</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB parent and community engagement initiative to increase the opportunities for parents to visit their child’s school during the school day in order to see student learning in action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every school provided different opportunities for parents and community partners to visit the school to see learning in action and to have the opportunity to dialogue on various parent engagement initiatives.
<p>November, 2015 - March, 2016 Instituto Camoes Portugal</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative to provide Professional Development for Portuguese Instructors.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two workshops on strategies for teaching Portuguese as a Second Language sponsored by the Portuguese Consulate was provided with 25 Portuguese instructors attending. One workshop provided the opportunity for parents and their children to attend and listen to a Portuguese cultural group perform an interactive play.
<p>January, 2016 St. Jane Frances</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative to bring together clergy, community leaders, school</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 attendees participated, with students providing a variety of Vietnamese performances which was

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International Languages Program		administration, International Language instructors, parents, students, parish members, and TCDSB school board representatives to build and strengthen TCDSB’s Trinity of HOME-SCHOOL-PARISH.	followed by cultural food, games and contests to promote community engagement through greater cultural understanding among the various TCDSB communities.
February, 2016 TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: African-Canadian Heritage Month	Inform	TCDSB Community Relations Department Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of African Canadian Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 200 students from 7 different schools along with staff and parents. This celebration included student work, presentations from the 7 schools on African Canadian Heritage, and a Mass celebrated by Fr. Obinna. The goal is to inform students of African Canadian culture and celebrate our Catholicity within the context of diversity within the TCDSB
March 2016 TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: Celtic Heritage Month	Inform	TCDSB Community Relations Department Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of Celtic Canadian Culture. The goal is to allow students and parents within TCDSB to celebrate their unique culture and teach other students the uniqueness of our diversity with TCDSB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 125 students from 4 schools along with staff and parents. This celebration was about the diversity of Celtic culture within our TCDSB Community. It included student work, student plays and began with a Mass.
March, 2016 Parent Reaching Out Workshop	Inform	TCDSB Community Relations Department outreach and community engagement initiative to provide CSPC members and Principals with in-depth information on parent engagement topics and the PRO Grant application process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 attendees participated. Number of PRO Grant applications from TCDSB has increased, with an accompanying high level of approvals of funds flowing from the Ministry to CSPCs.
June, 2016 St. Mary of the Angels International Languages	Inform /Consult	TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative to bring together clergy, community leaders, school administration, International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 200 students and parents, along with board and community dignitaries. Students showcased their learning and demonstrated firsthand

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Program		Language instructors, parents, students, parish members, and TCDSB school board representatives to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the program.	the benefit to student achievement of learning an additional language.
October 2015 – May 2016 TCDSB sponsored Parent Forums for Filipino, Spanish, Tamil, Vietnamese and Chinese	Inform	The Community Relations Department partners with various ethnic groups and assists with Parent Conferences that focus on parents; their feedback, concerns, questions etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended anywhere from 100 to 400 parents on Saturdays. The outcome is to inform various parent groups about the TCDSB; its programs both academically and socially, and to listen to what parents in these various communities have to say about our school system.
April 2016 TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: Hispanic Heritage Month	Inform	TCDSB Community Relations Department Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of Hispanic Canadian Culture. The goal is to allow students and parents within TCDSB to celebrate their unique culture and teach other students the uniqueness of our diversity with TCDSB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 200 students from 4 schools along with staff and parents. This celebration was about the diversity of Hispanic culture within our TCDSB Community. It included student work, student plays and began with a Mass.
May 2016 TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: Asian Canadian	Inform	TCDSB Community Relations Department Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of Asian Canadian Culture. The goal is to allow students and parents within TCDSB to celebrate their unique culture and teach other students the uniqueness of our	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 300 students from 4 schools along with staff and parents. This celebration was about the diversity of Asian culture within our TCDSB Community. It included student work, student plays and began with a Mass.
May, 2016 15th Chinese Arts and Literary Contest for Youth	Inform	Sponsored by the Association of Chinese Arts and Literary Contest for Youth in partnership with TCDSB as part of TCDSB International Languages and Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awards were presented at a banquet for dignitaries, school board representatives, instructors, parents and students. • Twenty five TCDSB students were recognized by receiving awards in

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			different categories.
<p>June, 2016 St. Jane Frances Catholic Elementary School</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative to bring together clergy, community leaders, school administration, International Language instructors, parents, students, parish members, and TCDSB school board representatives to build and strengthen TCDSB’s Trinity of HOME-SCHOOL-PARISH.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 250 attendees including Church/Archdiocese and Vietnamese community dignitaries/leaders, enjoyed student showcasing their talents through poetry, song, dance and instrumental music performances in their native language.
<p>June, 2015 James Culnan Vietnamese International Languages Program</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative to bring together clergy, community leaders, school administration, International Language instructors, parents, students, parish members, and TCDSB school board representatives to build and strengthen TCDSB’s Trinity of HOME-SCHOOL-PARISH</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 300 attendees including Church/Archdiocese and Vietnamese community dignitaries/leaders, enjoyed student showcasing their talents through poetry, song, dance and instrumental music performances in their native language.
<p>June 2015 Mass and Cultural Expose: Italian and Portuguese Heritage Months</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of African Canadian Culture. The goal is to allow students and parents within TCDSB to celebrate their unique culture and teach other students the uniqueness of our diversity with TCDSB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 150 students from 4 schools along with staff and parents. This celebration was about the diversity of African culture within our TCDSB Community. It included student work, student plays and began with a Mass.
<p>June, 2016: 5th Annual “Festa della Lingua Italiana” hosted by Centro Scuola</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative to bring together clergy, community leaders, school administration, International Language instructors, parents, students, parish</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 450 students and parents participated with members of the TCDSB community, featuring Italian cultural performances.

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		members, and TCDSB school board representatives to build and strengthen TCDSB's Trinity of HOME-SCHOOL-PARISH.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recipients of the “Concorso Letterario” essay writing contest and student art work were presented with their awards.