

TCDSB COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT 2016-2017

Learning Opportunities and Cultural Events

ENGAGEMENT	LEVEL	PURPOSE /GOAL	OUTCOME/IMPACT
<p>October, 2016 Newcomers' Welcome Conference</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department cultural outreach and community engagement initiative featuring a Conference Forum to provide newcomer parents with pertinent information on navigating the Canadian education, health and workplace system. The theme tied into TCDSB's Pastoral Plan - "The Year of the Parish".</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150 attendees made up of CSPC members, parents, and government officials attended a plenary session with presentations by key government officials and Newcomer Syrian parents and high school students. Attendees were also 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 FAQ's was provided in different languages as a handy reference tool.
<p>October, 2016 Chinese Panda Cup Public Speaking Awards</p>	Inform	<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. • Three (3) TCDSB students were recognized by receiving top awards.
<p>October, 2016 CSPC and Administrators' Policies and Procedures Workshop</p>	Inform	<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"> • 60 attendees participated in information sharing to support increased parent engagement in TCDSB school communities. This workshop was presented by staff in partnership with CPIC and OAPCE. CSPC members

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			<p>and other parents shared their governance best practices, initiatives and suggestions for future presentations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This was followed by an opportunity for attendees to interact and network in small working groups.
<p>October, 2016 – June, 2017</p> <p>CSPC and Administrators’ Workshops</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<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"> • In partnership with OAPCE monthly key topics were presented by staff, field experts and parents. An average of 50 participants attended the monthly parent workshop where a specific topic related to governance, fundraising and parent engagement was discussed in detail. Participants had the opportunity to increase their skills through networking, small group discussion, role playing, case studies and question/answer periods.
<p>October, 2016</p> <p>Parent Involvement Week</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<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>October, 2016</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Dept Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of Hispanic Canadian Culture. The goal is to inform students of Hispanic Canadian culture and celebrate our Catholicity within the context of diversity within the TCDSB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 150 students from 6 different schools along with staff and parents. Students studying Spanish in an Extended Day program were an integral part of this audience. Hispanic Canadian Heritage was recognized

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			<p>through a celebratory Mass followed by presentations of students work and presentations from the 6 schools. The session included an educational performance by a professional Spanish drummer highlighting folklore music.</p>
<p>November, 2016 - March, 2017 Instituto Camoes Portugal</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<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, 2017 St. Jane Frances International Languages Program</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<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 participated, with students providing a variety of Vietnamese performances which was followed by cultural food, games and contests to promote community engagement through greater cultural understanding among the various TCDSB communities.
<p>February, 2017 TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: African-Canadian Heritage Month</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Dept Initiative featuring a Mass and celebration of African Canadian Culture. The goal is to inform students of African Canadian culture and celebrate our Catholicity within the context of diversity within the TCDSB</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended by 200 students from 7 different schools along with staff and parents. African Canadian Heritage was recognized through a celebratory Mass followed by presentations of students work and presentations from 7

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			schools.
<p>March, 2017 TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: Celtic Heritage Month</p>	Inform	<p>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.</p>	<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 a celebratory Mass, student work and student plays. This was followed by an educational workshop on the Ceilidh dance facilitated by a professional.
<p>March, 2017 Parent Reaching Out Workshop</p>	Inform	<p>TCDSB Community Relations Department outreach and community engagement initiative to provide CSAC members and Principals with in-depth information on parent engagement topics and the PRO Grant application process</p>	<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.
<p>June, 2017 St. Mary of the Angels International Languages Program</p>	Inform /Consult	<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 celebrate the 10th anniversary of the program.</p>	<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 the benefit to student achievement of learning an additional language. A parent forum was facilitated by staff to consult on ways to enhance the program for next year.
<p>October 2016 – May 2017 TCDSB sponsored Parent Forums for Filipino, Spanish, Tamil, Vietnamese and Chinese</p>	Inform	<p>The Community Relations Department partners with various ethnic groups and assists with Parent Conferences that focus on parents; their feedback, concerns, questions and suggestions for an enhanced partnership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In partnership with the After Hours International Languages program there are various events which are attended by anywhere from 100 to 400 parents on a Saturday/Sunday. The outcome is to inform various parent groups about the TCDSB; its programs both

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			academically and socially, and to listen to parent suggestions/concerns as they pertain to their respective communities.
<p>May, 2017 TCDSB Mass and Cultural Expose: Asian Canadian</p>	Inform	<p>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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Planned in partnership with the Toronto Police this celebration was attended by 300 students from 4 schools along with government dignitaries, staff, parents and students. This celebration was about the diversity of Asian culture within our TCDSB Community. It included a celebratory Mass, student work and student performances.
<p>May, 2017 17th Chinese Arts and Literary Contest for Youth</p>	Inform	<p>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.</p>	<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 different categories.
<p>June, 2017 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.

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<p>June, 2017 James Culnan Vietnamese International Languages Program</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<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, 2017 Mass and Cultural Expose: Italian and Portuguese Heritage Months</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<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 government dignitaries, staff parents and students. This celebration was about the diversity of Portuguese Canadian culture within our TCDSB Community. It included a celebratory Mass, student work and student performances by students in the Extended Day international Languages Portuguese program. This ended with an interactive Kahoots quiz.
<p>June, 2017 5th Annual “Festa della Lingua Italiana” hosted by Centro Scuola</p>	<p>Inform</p>	<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"> • 450 students and parents participated with members of the TCDSB community, featuring Italian cultural performances. • Participants in the “Concorso Letterario” essay writing and student art competition were presented with their awards.