



PARENT ENGAGEMENT GRANTS

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE (PIC) GRANT AND PARENT REACHING OUT (PRO) GRANT

Parent Involvement Committee Grant (PIC) and Parent Reaching Out (PRO) Grant

The Ontario Ministry of Education's Parent Involvement Policy provides each school board with funds specifically allocated to support school-based initiatives which enhance the participation and engagement of parents in their child's education.

The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) funding will be allocated to each school board through Grants for Student Needs (GSN). Through the GSNs, the Ministry provides each school board with base funding to support the parent engagement activities of its school councils. An application is no longer required.

Each school will receive a \$500 Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Grant and a \$500.00 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant per school year. Funds are not meant to be accumulated and can be used in conjunction with each other.

At the school level, school councils work toward improving student achievement and enhancing the accountability of the education system to parents. These funds are to be used to lead initiatives that address local parent needs and/or remove barriers that prevent parents from participating and engaging fully in their children's learning and educational progress. (See [Catholic School Parent Councils \(CSPC\) | Toronto Catholic District School Board \(tcdsb.org\)](http://Catholic School Parent Councils (CSPC) | Toronto Catholic District School Board (tcdsb.org)) for resources)

Eligible PIC/PRO Activities/Initiatives

Initiatives that identify and address local barriers to parent engagement and may include, but not limited to:

- ✓ Development of parent resources (e.g., leadership resource for parents, resources addressing well-being, mental health, and anti-racism for students and families; existing resources translated into different languages, etc.);
- ✓ Delivery of parent information sessions (e.g., how to support children and families at home; how to understand curriculum; special education sessions, transition to high school, etc.);
- ✓ Delivery of parent engagement sessions (e.g., parent networking sessions with an educational/information component);
- ✓ Creating a parent lending library (e.g., books, curriculum documents, pamphlets, information packages, that provide parents with information and strategies to assist their children); and
- ✓ Innovative initiatives that enable enhanced and diversified parent engagement and involvement.

Ineligible PIC/PRO Activities/Initiatives

- ✗ Student Excursions, activities, resources, workshops, or speakers, even if parents are in attendance
- ✗ Purchase of student supplies for home use (e.g., markers, paper, glue, scissors, prizes, calendars, supplies, scrapbooks, arts, and crafts)
- ✗ Purchase of goods and services for which the Ministry provides funding for students (e.g., textbooks, library books, furniture, technology, student transportation; etc.)
- ✗ Capital items, such as televisions, sports equipment, shelving, computers, handheld devices (i.e., tablets/laptops)
- ✗ Payment to school board staff or volunteers, including salaries, gifts, gift, or honoraria
- ✗ Computer software or applications, online subscriptions, voice messaging systems
- ✗ School signs or announcement boards
- ✗ Landscaping or equipment for outdoor classrooms or school yards
- ✗ Fundraising events or prizes/gift certificates for fundraising events
- ✗ Social/family events without an educational component for parents

TCDSB PIC/PRO Report Back Process

- Report Back of PIC and PRO initiatives will be part of the mandated CSPC Annual Report to Board.
- Schools will no longer need to submit a Cheque Requisitions to the Board. The Board will automatically send the PIC and PRO Grants to the CSPC bank accounts (and to the school bank account if CSPC is consolidated with the school)
- Each September of the school year, PIC and PRO Grants will be sent to the CSPC
- CSPC, in partnership with the school Principal, are responsible and accountable to the Ministry via the Board for the use of the funds for their intended purposes
- The initiative is discussed and approved through a motion at a CSPC scheduled meeting, and recorded in the meeting's minutes
- All supporting documentation must be available at the school upon request of review.
- Use of PIC/PRO Grants for **ineligible activities/initiatives** will lead to claw back of funds the following school year