



School Councils

READY • SET • ENGAGE

Workshop Descriptions

1. Collaboration between the School Council and the School

An effective school council is reliant upon the relationship between the school council and the Principal. How can relationships be built and nurtured to ensure the school council and the Principal are on the same page. Join this conversation to share your ideas and learn from others.

Presenter: Ashraff Khan

2. Effective School Councils

Council meetings should be opportunities to share information, learn about learning, and provide families with the tools to support their children. But too often, we get caught in the weeds. This workshop will look at committees, volunteers and some of the initiatives Councils can take to create authentic family engagement in our schools.

Presenter: Nancy Angevine-Sands

3. Equity within school councils

To address issues of equity within school councils. Exploring the language "hard to reach" to move to a place of inclusive councils.

Presenters: Rukiya Mohamed and Stephanie Fearon

4. How do school councils setup their TDSB email account?

Every TDSB school has an elected school council. The TDSB provides a TDSB email box to all School Councils to share communications. These sessions are to explain access to the webmail system and access to their School Council mailbox. Participants may bring their own mobile devices to use to log in, and school computers will be available. Individual help will be provided to those who cannot log in.

Presenters: John Manalo and Ross Agosta

5. Immunization – Keeping Students Healthy

Toronto Public Health plays an important role in ensuring the community is fully vaccinated to reduce the spread of diseases. This workshop provides an overview of what Toronto Public Health does and the role of schools' and families.

Presenter: Lucy Bettencourt and Karen Beckermann



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6. Leading Successful Fundraising Campaigns

Is your school embarking on a fundraising campaign this school year? Are you hoping to find out what works with school fundraising? If yes, please join us for a great discussion on leading successful fundraising campaigns. The workshop will review fundraising do's and don'ts, as well as offer insight into what schools have used effectively to generate much needed funds.

Presenter: Michelle Davis

7. Making your School Council Meaningful - Parent Engagement vs Parent Involvement

Are your parents really engaged in their children's learning? Or are they involved in the school's parent agenda? Many School Councils are busy with the work of involving parents in fundraising events and not so much with improving student achievement.

In this workshop, we will consider how to make your School Council more meaningful to your community by focussing on authentic engagement and accessing the two arms of the School Council mandate to build partner relationships between home and school.

Presenter: Nicole Herbert

8. Our School... Our Community... Our Space

Do you know that more than 500 TDSB schools are available for community use? Are you aware that TDSB permit costs are subsidized for community groups? As a parent, this workshop will guide you through the process for permitting schools, permit requirements, spaces available and types of programs you can run in a school. It will also highlight the permitting process and procedures for school councils

Presenters: Ndaba Njobo and Ugonma Ekeanyanwu

9. Parents as Partners Supporting Children's Mental Health & Well-Being – What can I do as a Parent?

Parents/caregivers play a key role in helping students be successful both in school and in life. This session will discuss the important role that parents/caregivers play in supporting their child/youth's mental health and well-being. We will share foundational knowledge about mental health and well-being, share resources, provide information and ideas about how you can be involved in supporting the mental health and well-being with your child both at home and school. We will offer concrete ideas about what you can do to support your school's Parent Council on Mental Health & Well-Being.

Presenters: Heather Johnson and Zena Shereck



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10. Parent Engagement for Father Figures or the Male Role Model

This is an interactive look at the big roles fathers play within the TDSB, the impact they have on their children and community while looking at some of the barriers fathers face and how to break through them. This is an essential discussion for all fathers who want to be more involved and engaged within the TDSB school system.

Presenter: Christopher Levien

11. Parent Participation in Vice Principal Interview Process

As you may be aware, the Toronto District School Board currently includes a Parent Representative on Vice-Principal Interview process. This session will speak about the selection, promotion and placement of vice-principals in a fair and equitable process which values community input and incorporates collaborative parent involvement.

Presenters: Eva Rosenstock, Superintendent Mary Jane McNamara and Superintendent Louie Papathanasakis

12. School Council Basics

This workshop strips school councils down to the basics. We look at Regulation 612, Elections and Funding. Whether you are new to Council or just looking for a refresher, this session will help you understand the necessities for running an effective council.

A brief presentation on how school councils can work with the local School Student Nutrition Advisory Committee

Presenter: Mirian Turcios and Michelle Murdock

13. School Council Bylaws

One can't hope to have an effective Council without a firm foundation. This workshop will take participants through the need-to-know of writing Council bylaws. Whether you're looking to update your current document or write a new one, this workshop will keep you focused on what's important - and how to get there

Presenter: Nancy Angevine-Sands



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14. School Council Financials and School Cash Online

This workshop will cover topics in the TDSB School Council Information Quick Guide. You will learn about:

- Insurance coverage
- School Generated Funds –what are they and how should they be spent
- School Council Financial Plan and School Needs Assessment
- The TDSBs online platform for collecting funds
- Cash handling and safeguarding funds
- Donations
- Reporting requirements

Presenter: Marisa Chiu

15. School Councils Communications 101

Conveying and exchanging information is a key role of School Councils. We will go over WHY good communication is important, HOW to use different platforms to engage your audience and WHAT tools you can explore with your School Council. Join this workshop if you want to learn and share!

Presenter: Nazerah Shaikh

16. School Improvement Plan

Mandated by the Ministry of Education, the School Improvement Plan (SIP) is an annual road map that identifies changes a school needs to make to improve their level of student achievement. SIPs should be developed with input from teachers, school council, families and community members. This workshop will focus on how a SIP is developed and how school council and families can work with their school to identify what, when and how changes will be made.

Presenter: Aretha Philips

17. School Messenger Tool

This session will introduce the new School Messenger Tool for school council members. We will also examine how this exciting tool will enable school council to communicate effectively with their parent community.

Presenter: Kevin Bradbeer

18. School Statement of Needs

School Statement of Needs outlines the parent/community priorities for the school that the superintendent will use to identify a principal if one needs to be appointed. It is a record of the main priorities of the parent community and the school board for that specific school.

This workshop will explore the role and function of School Statement of Needs.

Presenter: Superintendent Helen Fisher



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19. Student Nutrition Programs
Participate in an exciting, dynamic, interactive workshop focusing on Student Nutrition Programs in our schools. Learn about the benefits to students, gain knowledge on cost of healthy food and focus on parent engagement through volunteering.
Presenters: Angela Dozzi , Lynne Martens and Durward Anthony