

What is the YCPIC?

The York Catholic District School Board formed the **York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee (YCPIC)** in 2008. Made up of parents from across York Region and other stakeholders including



Trustees, the Director of Education, Superintendent of Education and School Administration, YCPIC's main purpose is to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the Board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being. YCPIC is an official committee of the Board, and meets regularly throughout the school year.

YCPIC's mission statement is:

To support and encourage parent involvement at the Board level and to support improved student achievement and well-being by providing information and advice to the Board on effective parent engagement strategies and practices. To communicate with, and support school councils, and to undertake activities to help parents support their child's learning at home and at school. Our mission supports the vision and strategies put forth in *Parents in Partnership... A Parent Engagement Policy for Ontario Schools, 2010*.



Learn more about parent engagement

Resources:

- Parents in Partnership... A Parent Engagement Policy for Ontario Schools, 2010
http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/involvement/pe_policy2010.pdf
- Ministry of Education - School Councils: Guide for Members 2002
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/guide.html>
- Ontario Regulation 612/00 - School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees
<http://edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/PIC.html>
- YCDSB Catholic School Councils: Policy 606
<http://www.ycdsb.ca/trustees/policies-procedures/>

For more information contact the **York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee** at ycpic@rogers.com or visit: <http://www.ycdsb.ca/parents/ycpic/>



York Catholic District School Board

Mission

Guided by Gospel Values and Catholic Virtues, in partnership with home and Church, we educate and inspire all students to reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment.

Vision

Our students will become creative and critical thinkers who integrate Catholic Values into their daily lives, as socially responsible global citizens.

Website: www.ycdsb.ca | Twitter: @ycdsb



HOW CAN I

Help my Child Succeed?



Parents as Partners

The many benefits of being actively engaged in your child's education



Why parent engagement is important to student success

As a parent, you have a strong influence on your child's attitude toward school, learning and future success. In fact, the greater support you and your family provide your child, from Kindergarten to Grade 12, the more likely your child will do well in school and choose to further his/her education.

Through active involvement in your child's education, both you and your child will benefit from:

- Having a greater positive attitude about school and learning
- Experiencing more success with homework
- Improving student engagement and better performance in school
- Feeling more confident in his/her ability to learn and do well at school
- Consistent school attendance
- Having fewer behavioural and social problems
- Enjoying opportunities to get involved in school and community life
- Increasing the likelihood of your child graduating from secondary school
- Setting a path that leads to a brighter future for students at school, and later in their life

Why you should be engaged in your child's education

Parents play a vital role in education. Engagement between all partners involved in your child's education—parents, teachers, school, church and community—increases student achievement. When partners work together to support your child's education, everyone benefits and schools become increasingly vibrant and positive places to teach, learn and grow in a Christ-centred environment.

Communicating on behalf of your child early in the school year, every year, helps teachers develop a better understanding of your child's strengths and needs, and assures them that they have your support.

Active participation in your child's school and education will help you better understand the school system and its policies and procedures. This will make it easier for you to access, and be aware of tools, programs, and parenting strategies that provide the assistance you may need to support your child's education.

You will also have opportunities to learn more about specialty services, programs, workshops and events happening in the school and community that could enhance your child's educational experience and engage him/her in learning opportunities suited to their personal interests.

What does parent engagement look like?

Parent engagement can take many forms, and is a concept that goes beyond volunteering in schools. It focuses on the interaction with your child and their learning environment, both at home and at school.

Easy ways to **ENGAGE** your child:

- **ENGAGE your child in a conversation about their day.**
 - Ask what his/her favourite part of the day was, who they played with/ate lunch with, etc.
 - This shows your interest in his/her well-being, and sets the stage for joint student-parent decision making when your child gets older
- **ENGAGE in reading a book with your child.**
 - Ask him/her to tell you about the book, why they chose it, why they think the author wrote it, etc.
 - This helps you better understand your child's reasoning and comprehension
- **ENGAGE with the school your child attends.**
 - Read all correspondence; visit the website regularly; stay current with school news; attend school events; volunteer at the school, or become involved with your Catholic School Council
 - This proactive approach helps you build relationships and teaches your child about the importance of community
- **ENGAGE with your child during homework time.**
 - Set up a quiet, organized area and help him/her with their homework
 - This will help him/her develop good study habits and learning skills

