



# Catholic School Council

## Orientation Workshop

PRESENTED BY:  
YORK CATHOLIC PARENT  
INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE





# Congratulations!

We'd like to extend our sincere  
congratulations to those of you that are new  
to the Executive Member roles in your  
Catholic School Council (CSC)





# Welcome!

We would like to welcome you to the YCPIC  
Catholic School Council Workshop





# Agenda

**1** Prayer and Land Acknowledgement

**2** Introductions

**3** Overview

- Role of Catholic School Councils
- Role of YCPIC (York Catholic Parent Involvement Committee)
- Ontario Regulations, Guide for Members
- Board Policy
- School Constitutions

**4** Breakout Room Discussions

**Room 1**

The Role of CSC Chair/Vice/Co-Chair

**Room 2**

Let's Talk About Money (Treasurer's role)

**Room 3**

How to take great meeting minutes

**5** Wrap Up

7:00pm

7:45-8:45pm

8:45-9:00pm



# Parking Lot

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Questions?



Comments?

Park them





# Let us Pray

Dear Father,

We thank You for everyone gathered here today.

We are thankful that You know each of us by name  
and have chosen us to walk with You.

May Your goodness and love be present among us  
during our time together.

Come fill our lives with Your love.

Come fill our conversations with Your grace and truth.

Come fill this meeting with Your presence.

We ask this in Your name.

Amen





# Land Acknowledgement



Todd Jamieson  
YCDSB Knowledge Keeper

We are gathered on the ancestral lands and waters of all Indigenous Peoples who have left their footprints on Mother Earth before us.

We respectfully acknowledge, those who have walked on it, those who walk on it now, and future generations who have yet to walk upon it.

We pray to the Creator for strength and wisdom, that all may continue to serve as stewards of the earth.





Welcome

Domenic Scuglia, Director  
of Education

Jennifer Sarna, Associate  
Director of Education



# Parents as Partners

Education is a partnership involving parents, students, teachers, Principals, School Boards, Church, Government, and the School Community



Your involvement in your Catholic School Council gives you the opportunity to build that partnership, be part of a dedicated team working to ensure a high quality of Catholic education, and an accountable education system for all children.

**Your involvement is valued and appreciated!**

*Thank you!*





# Why We Do What We Do

**Parent engagement is the most significant factor contributing to a child's success in school**

Research links parent engagement to:

- Higher grades and test scores
- Lower drop-out rates
- Higher on-time high school graduation rates
- More likely to go to post-secondary education

(Research based on Author Debbie Pusher)





**"Great schools can become even better places to teach and learn, and student achievement often improves".**

[Ontario.ca/EDUparents-Parents Matter](https://ontario.ca/EDUparents-Parents Matter)









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# Your Role

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Catholic School Councils play a vital role in the education system in Ontario

They provide a forum through which parents and members of school communities can contribute to the continuous improvement of student achievement



# Why School Councils Exist

Catholic School Councils play a vital role in the education system in Ontario

They assist in:

- 1 Improving student achievement
- 2 Enhancing the accountability of the education system to parents



# Effective Catholic School Councils

- 1 Have a clear and consistent process for decision making
- 2 Communicate with the school community about their activities
- 3 Maintain high ethical standards
- 4 Have members who have developed mutual trust and respect for one another
- 5 Work towards a common goal for the benefit of the "whole" school community, in order to help foster a school environment that is equitable, diverse and inclusive.



# Tools Needed for Success

- 1 Ontario Regulation 612/00 (Ministry of Education)
- 2 YCDSB Policy 606 **Catholic School Councils**
- 3 By-Laws (School Constitution)
- 4 Board Multi-Year Strategic Plan
- 5 Define Roles and Responsibilities
- 6 Set Realistic and Attainable Goals
- 7 Operate Effective Meetings



# Expectations

- 1 Work as a group with common goals
- 2 Be familiar with the Regulations and Policies
- 3 Develop working relationship with school Administration
- 4 Maintain a school/community-wide perspective on issues
- 5 Provide orientation and training for new members
- 6 Focus on community building activities which promote the school
- 7 Recruit and train volunteers
- 8 Share an "Annual Report" with the school community and submit it to the Board





# Ontario Regulations (Ministry of Education)

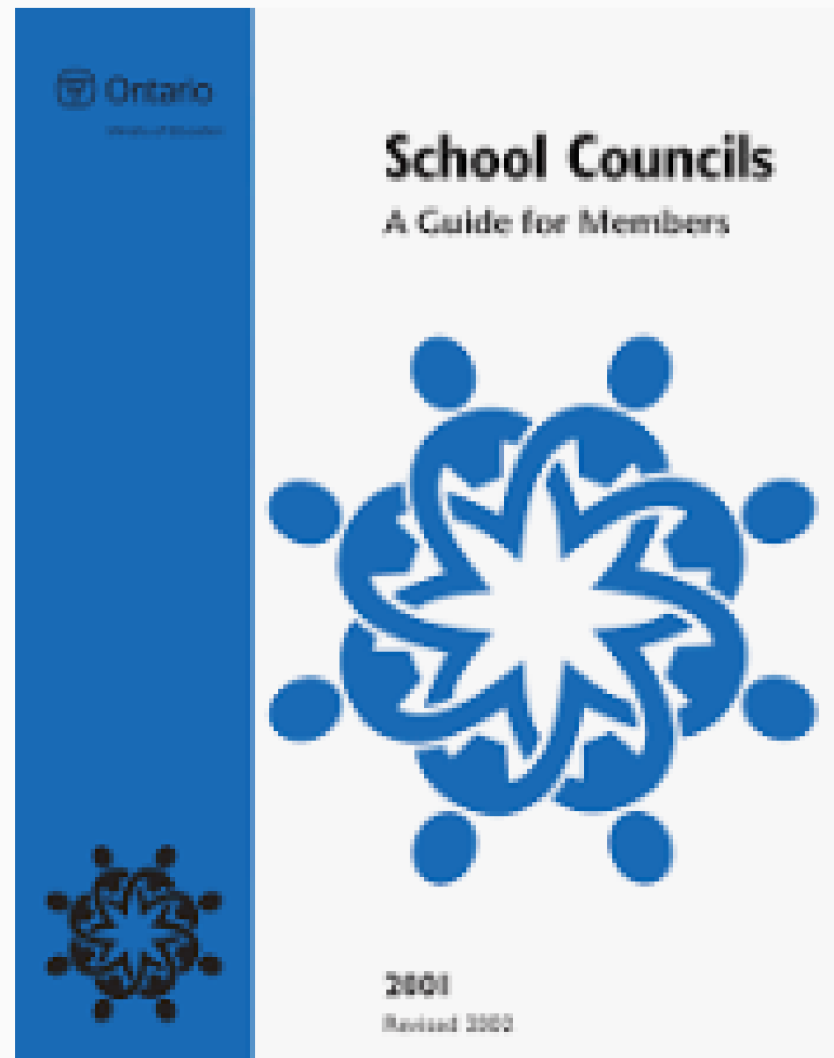
Ontario Regulations 612 and 298, together,  
address 3 key issues

- 1 | Operational Matters
- 2 | Obligations of Board and Principals to consult with CSCs
- 3 | Purpose of Catholic School Council ~ Advisory Role

[www.gov.edu.on.ca](http://www.gov.edu.on.ca)



# Council Member Resources



Code of Ethics

Elections

Signing Officers

Filling Vacancies





# YCDSB POLICY

## Catholic School Councils

### Policy Statement:

**It is the policy of the YCDSB that each school will establish a Catholic School Council**

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### Purpose:

**The YCDSB, as per the Education Act, Ontario Regulation 612, School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees, requires that a CSC will assist the school in engaging parents, developing positive communication links with home, Church, and the broader community.**

**The Catholic School Council will also assist the school in realizing its goals and mission, in alignment with the Board's vision.**

# **CONSTITUTIONS**

## **(BY-LAWS)**

- 1. Living documents**
- 2. Meet the needs of the community**
- 3. Provide direction and support**
- 4. Provide rules and an operating framework**
- 5. Assist in resolving conflicts**
- 6. Require an annual review (at first official meeting)**
- 7. Language is easy for all to understand**
- 8. Provides direction**





# PRO GRANTS

## (Parents Reaching Out Grants)

The Ministry has given a set amount of money to the school Board. As such, it will be up to each Superintendent to select those schools that receive funding, based on the criteria given. The funding amount is not as abundant as it used to be, however, schools are still encouraged to apply, and possibly partner with a neighbouring Catholic school, in order to better serve the monies received.



# PRO GRANT 2023/24

School Councils are to identify projects that support the diversity of parent needs and parent communities at the local level through an **equity and inclusion lens**

- Addressing social inclusion and racism specifically anti-Asian, anti-Black, and anti-Indigenous racism and other prejudices toward racialized and marginalized groups;
- Creating a safe and welcoming environment;
- Demonstrating respect for parents as valued partners within the education system regarding decisions about their child's education;
- Enhancing communication with teachers;
- Informing parents about the expectations of the Ontario Curriculum

Projects may include, but are not limited to:

- Parent Resources;
- Parent Engagement Sessions;
- Parent Information Sessions;
- Projects that Reflect the Diversity of Your School Community

**Applications due to your Superintendent by December 5th, to be used by June 15, 2023**



# Parent Engagement CSC 2023/24

- Catholic School Councils will be allocated \$500 to be used to support programs, strategies and initiatives that involve parents or the school community.
- Catholic School Councils are to report to the school community at the end of the school year on how the funds were spent, and to include a separate line noting the Parent Engagement allocation and the amount spent in the CSC annual report.
- No applications are required, the funds will be available in the school's bank account on November 9, 2022. A dedicated sub ledger account will be established to track this funding and associated expense. Please advise your Catholic School Council Chair and Treasurer about the funding

**Any questions can be directed to your school Principal**

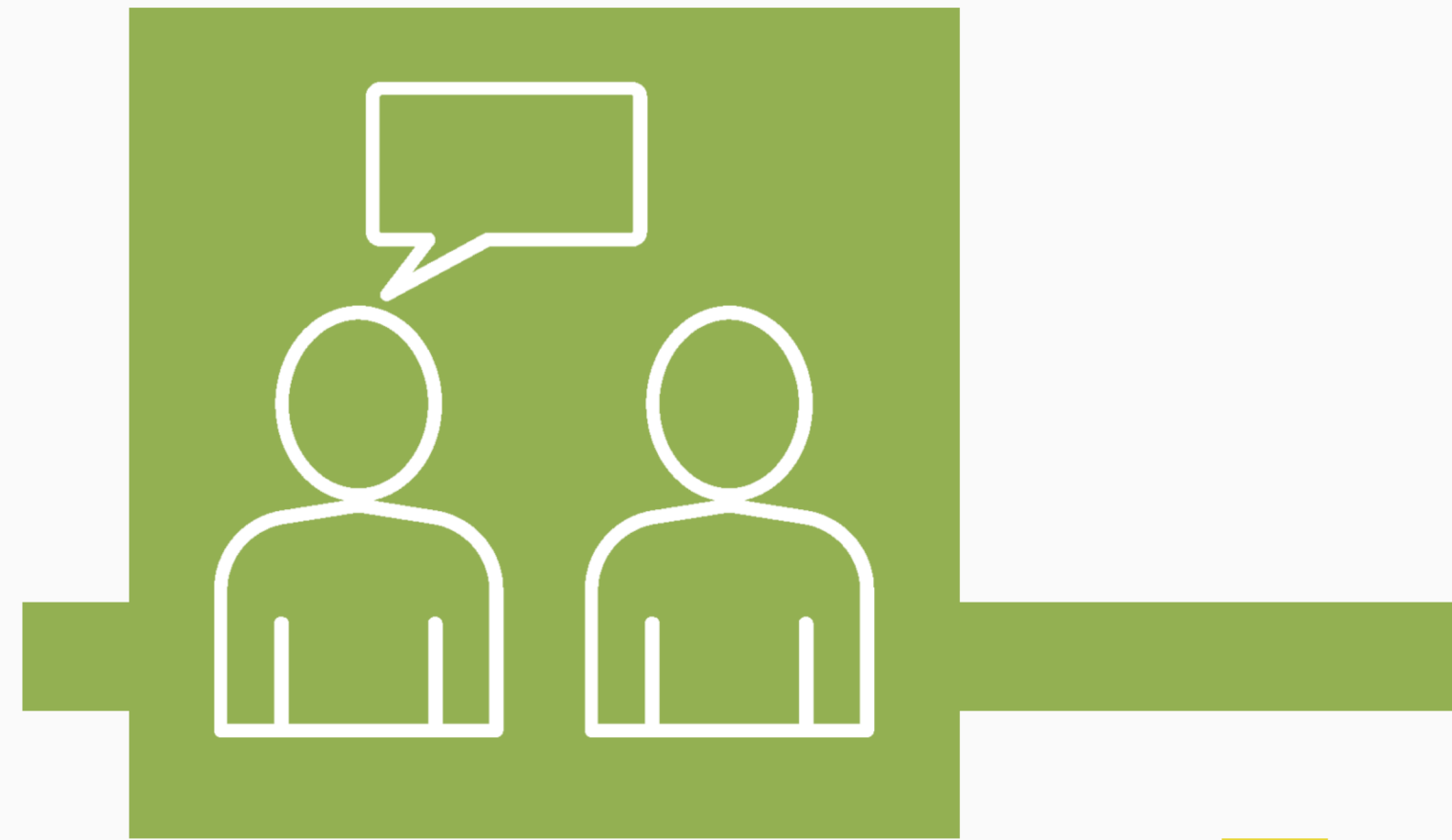


***BRIEF QUESTION PERIOD***



# Breakout Room Discussions

- Room 1 The Role of Chair/Vice/Co-Chair
- Room 2 Let's Talk About Money (Treasurer's role)
- Room 3 How to take great meeting minutes





# Contact Us

[www.ycdsb.ca/parents/ycpic/contact-ycpic/](http://www.ycdsb.ca/parents/ycpic/contact-ycpic/)

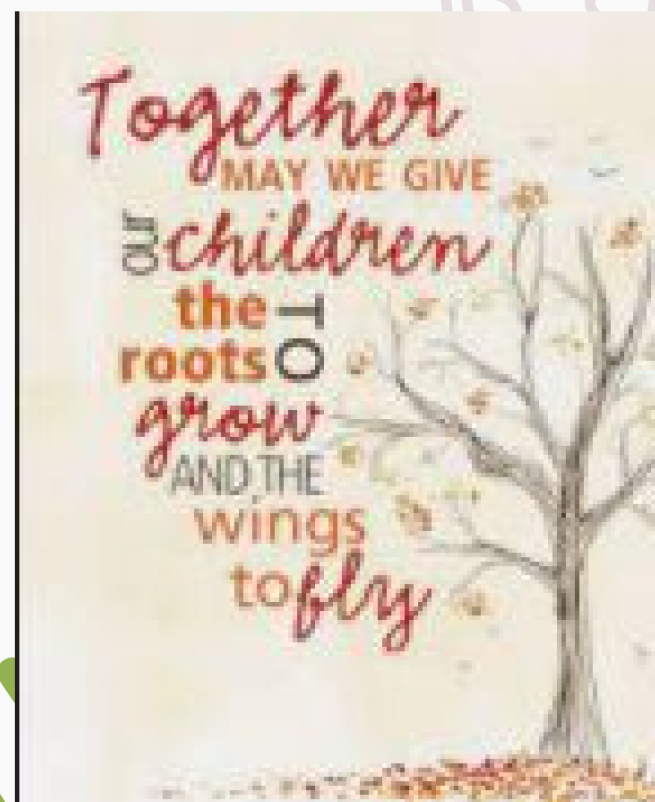
[www.ycdsb.ca/parents/ycpic](http://www.ycdsb.ca/parents/ycpic)

[www.ycdsb.ca](http://www.ycdsb.ca)





# THANK YOU



“At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents.”  
- Jane D. Hull

*There are two  
— and only two —  
keys to educational  
success: hard work &  
parental involvement.*  
— Michael Farris, President  
Home School Legal Defense Association

