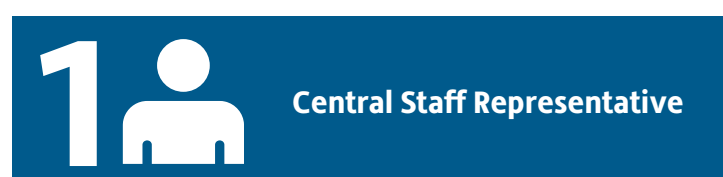


PARENT INVOLVEMENT

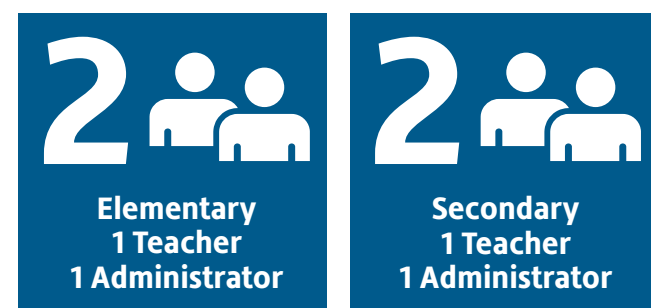
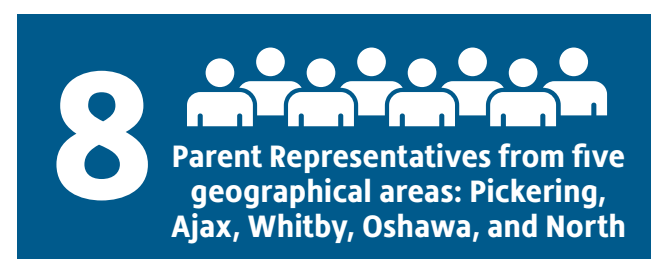
YEAR END REPORT 2023-2024

This report has been provided to the Board of Trustees as required by the Durham District School Board (DDSB) Regulation: Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and Ontario Regulation 330/10 which states that "The Parent Involvement Committee shall annually submit a written summary of the committee's activities to the Chair of the Board and the Director of Education"

The PIC provides the school board with information and advice to help engage parent(s)/guardian(s). The PIC undertakes activities to help parent(s)/guardian(s) support their children's learning at home and school. They also share information with and support School Community Councils (SCC).



The PIC comprises of:



Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

A key focus for PRO Grant Initiatives is to reduce barriers to parent engagement and meet the individual needs in the school communities. The Ministry of Education provided \$75,000 to support PRO Grants in the DDSB.

43 Applications from both Elementary and Secondary schools were approved.

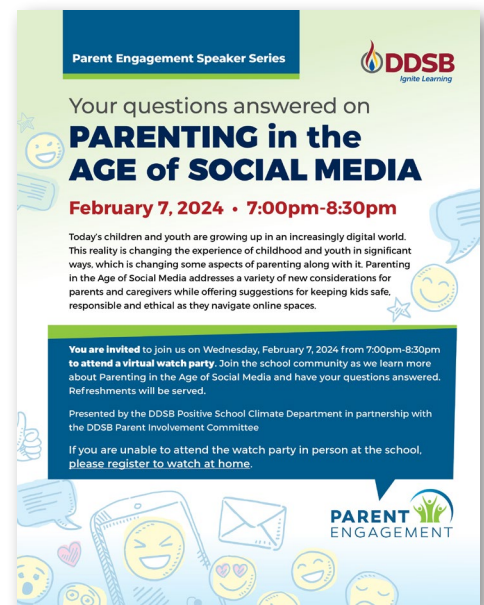
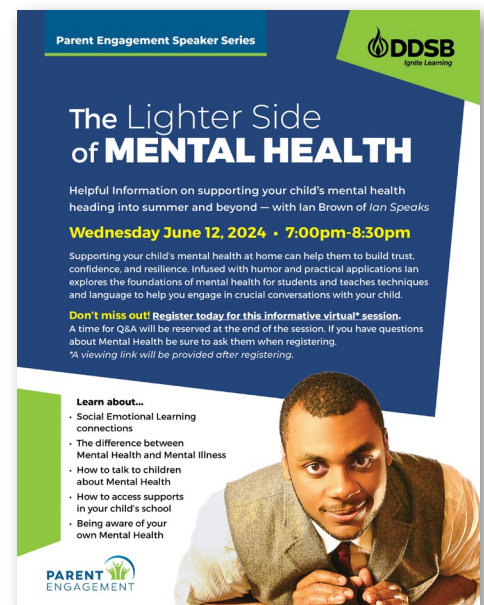
The Parent Engagement Speaker Series hosted two events this school year.

This year, we offered a new pilot program, whereby schools could receive funding to host a watch party of the virtual speaker event. The purpose was to remove potential barriers for families attending a central in-person event, while also supporting grass-roots engagement at the individual school level. We had a small number of schools participate in this pilot and look forward to rolling this out to all schools across multiple event opportunities next year.

In February, we hosted *Parenting in the Age of Social Media* with our partners from the Positive School Climates Department in partnership with the DDSB PIC. The focus of this event was to address new considerations for parent(s)/guardian(s) while offering suggestions for keeping kids safe, responsible, and ethical as they navigate online spaces.

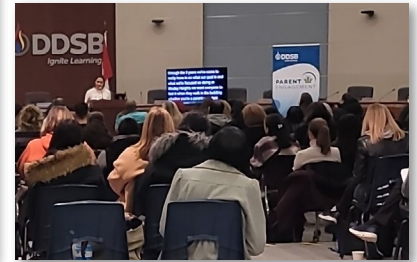
In June, we had guest speaker Ian Brown talk about *The Lighter Side of Mental Health* providing helpful information on supporting each child's mental health heading into summer and beyond.

The focus of both events came from community surveys and PIC feedback on topics that were important and relative to families.



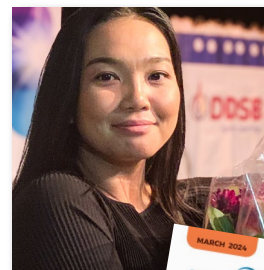
Regional SCC

In February, the PIC hosted the first in-person Regional SCC meeting since 2019. Administrators, SCC Chairs, and designates were invited to attend an evening including a panel of guest speakers, breakout sessions on topics relevant to SCCs, and the opportunity to network with each other at the end of the evening. The event was a great success, with almost every school represented, and positive feedback all around. Special thanks to Sinclair Secondary School culinary students and staff for catering the event.



Volunteer of Distinction

On October 24th, the PIC was joined by our Trustees, Director of Education, Superintendents, Administrators, and staff for our first in-person Volunteer of Distinction recognition evening since 2019. The event acknowledges and celebrates volunteers from schools across the Board as nominated by their Principal and SCC for their commitment and work within the school. Volunteers were recognized in a ceremony, followed by a reception where they had the opportunity to meet with all attendees.



Parent Engagement Communication

Parent Engagement produced three e-newsletters this year featuring information, resources, and strategies for parent(s)/guardian(s). These e-newsletters were shared with communities through schools, social media distribution, and on our website.

