

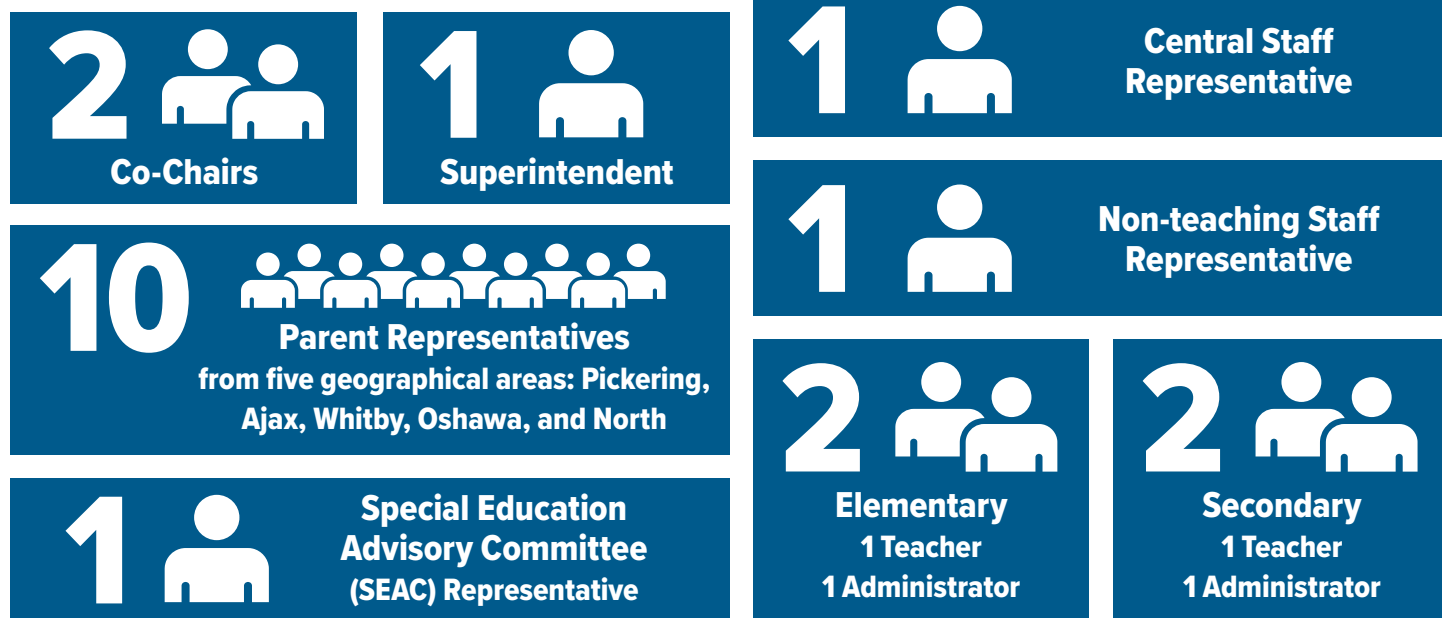
PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

YEAR END REPORT 2024-2025

This report has been provided to the Board of Trustees as required by the Durham District School Board (DDSB) Policy and Procedure: Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) and Ontario Regulation 330/10 which states that “A parent involvement committee of a board shall annually submit a written summary of the committee’s activities to the Chair of the Board and to the board’s 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 is comprised of 23 members:



Total times the PIC met in the 2024-2025 school year **4***

**In response to feedback from our committee, we will move to have 5 meetings next year*



7 DDSB Staff also support PIC sub-committees.

Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

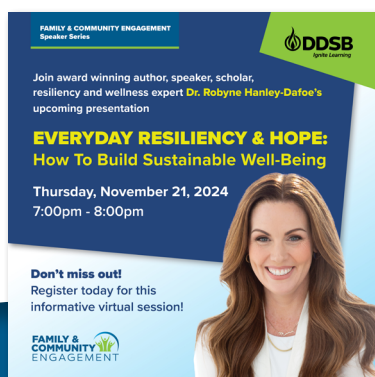
DDSB is a grateful recipient of Ministry of Education PRO Grant funding. This initiative helps to reduce barriers to parent engagement by supporting events that align with the interests and needs of individual school communities. Ranging from STEM & financial literacy to wellness and navigating online platforms, our parents/caregivers had a variety of opportunities to engage with their school and fellow community members.

This year, DDSB provided \$84,500.00 to support 43 engagement events across the region.

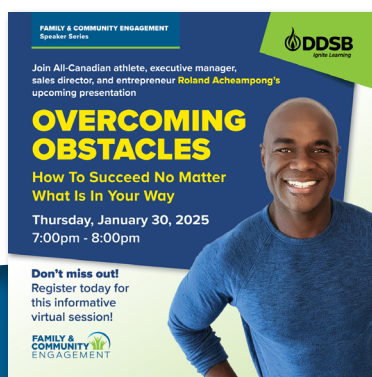


The Parent Engagement Speaker Series

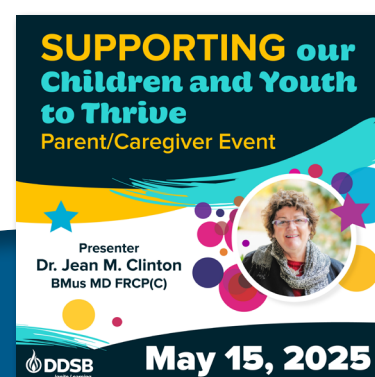
Our 'Speaker Series' sessions continued this year with great success. In response to requests from our parents/caregivers for more learning opportunities, we were pleased to be able to host three sessions; two virtually and one hybrid with over 1000 participants in total. What was a pilot program last year, became a valuable continued initiative for engagement: school "watch parties." We provided incentives including food and prizes for those hosting families in their buildings for the presentations. Our "watch parties" provide a great opportunity to come together for networking, learning and engaging discussions. Our Speaker Series sub-committee is already planning our sessions for next year based on the feedback we received from our parents/caregivers to ensure they remain helpful and relevant.



Thursday, November 21, 2024
Dr. Robyne Hanley-Dafoe presented
Everyday Resiliency and Hope:
How to Build sustainable Well-Being



Thursday, January 30, 2025
Roland Acheampong presented
Overcoming Obstacles: How to
Succeed no Matter What is in
your Way



Thursday, May 15, 2025
Dr. Jean M. Clinton presented
Supporting our Children and
Youth to Thrive



Volunteer of Distinction

On October 17th, PIC and the Family and Community Engagement Department were joined by our Trustees, Director of Education, Superintendents, Administrators, and staff to celebrate and recognize the invaluable contributions of our Volunteers of Distinction from the 23-24 school year. This event recognizes the contributions of one distinguished volunteer from every school across the region as nominated by the principal. By helping to ensure no child starts the day hungry, sharing expertise in the arts and music, organizing fundraisers, assisting in the library, chaperoning field trips, and working alongside our staff to plan family nights and school events, we could not do all that is needed to support our students growth and development without the help of our volunteers. We celebrate and thank you!

Regional SCC

This year, with feedback from the committee we hosted three local regional meetings for our SCC Chair(s) or designate) and school administrators. This was an increase from our single regional meeting last year where we heard that members wanted more opportunity to connect. These meetings provided opportunities to network with community organizations and other schools to share ideas and potential collaboration opportunities. Attendees also heard from various DDSB departments that support the great work happening in our schools such as our Family and Community Engagement Department, Anti-Oppression Department, Indigenous Education Department, Curriculum Facilitators and many more. At these meetings, we were also treated to delicious food offerings prepared by culinary arts students from Sinclair SS, J. Clarke Richardson CVI, Port Perry HS. They did a tremendous job! Next year, we will plan to host one regional and three local meetings for a total of four to further support our SCCs.

3 REGIONAL MEETINGS:

- **Whitby/Oshawa**
October 24, 2024
- **Ajax/Pickering**
October 29, 2024.
- **North**
November 5, 2024

Parent Engagement Communication

Our PIC Communications sub-committee members supported the production of two e-newsletters for families which highlighted various events and departmental updates from across DDSB. These e-newsletters also allowed us the opportunity to hear from parents/caregivers by way of a survey link where hundreds of responses provided feedback on what information would be helpful and how that information can be shared. 84.5% of respondents let us know that the newsletter is a good communication tool, so we will keep them coming!

