

## **TDSB School Council Survey 2015-2016**

We appreciate your help in completing this survey of School Council operations and effectiveness. Our purpose is to better support your work!

This survey is designed for <u>on-line completion in one session only</u>.

The due date for receipt of your response is Tuesday May 31, 2016

(Note: If you choose to print a hard copy of the survey first for reference or preliminary completion, you will need to transfer your responses to the on-line form later and submit it electronically by the due date above.)

Describe your school by type and grade range:
Туре
a) Regular Day School
Alternative School
Other
Additional descriptor if desired (e.g. French Immersion, Specialty program)
Grade range
b) C Elementary (K-5, K-6)
Elementary/Middle (K-8)
Middle (6-8)/Junior High (7-9)
○ Secondary
Other
2. a) What is the approximate enrolment of your school?
250-500
O 500-750
750-1000
O >1000
b) Please select your school from the drop down list: Please Select
Other please specify:
3. What types of parent groups are currently operating in your school? (check all that apply)
School Council - General Council representing the whole school
Additional School Council(s) representing distinct parent groups Specify:
O Home & School Association
Other Specify:
Additional space is provided below for descriptive comments or explanations to distinguish between the various parent groups if applicable:

## **School Council Roles & Functions**

"The purpose of school councils is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents."

(Ontario Ministry of Education, Regulation 612/00)

4. How well does the statement above reflect th	e role yo	ur Schoo	ol Counc	il plays i	n this sc	hool con	nmunity	·5	
Mostly True Somewhat True	O Somewhat Untrue O Mostly Untrue O Not Sure								
In the table below about School Council roles ar	nd function	ons, the	re are su	ıb-quest	ions for	each iter	n:		
<ul> <li>(a) Are you aware that this is a function of School Council? (Yes/No)</li> <li>(b) How frequently does this School Council engage in these functions or activities? (Often/Sometimes/Rarely/Never)</li> <li>(c) What level of importance should be placed on these functions by the School Council? (High/Medium/Low)</li> </ul>									
	of this		How <b>frequently</b> does the School Council engage in this?				What level of importance should be placed on this?		
	(a) A		(b) Frequency				(c) Importance		
	Yes	No	Often	Some- times	Rarely	Never	High	Medium	Low
a) Advise/ make recommendations to the School Principal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
b) Advise/ make recommendations to the School Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
c) Participate in developing the School Improvement Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
d) Participate in developing the School Budget	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
e) Participate in developing the non-Board Financial Plan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
f) Advise about school policies and practices (e.g., dress code, safety, homework, attendance)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
g) Organize school-wide fundraising activities and social activities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
h) Host presentations, information nights, workshops, etc.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
i) Support school initiatives with finances, materials or equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
j) Share information about School Council issues/ activities with parents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
k) Share information about relevant Board/ Ministry issues with parents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Obtain parent input about issues under consideration by Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
m) Complete a School Statement of Needs (SSON) for consideration in Principal/VP vacancies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
n) Represent parents on school committees (e.g. Safe & Caring Schools)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
o) Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5. What were the <b>top 3</b> areas of focus or accomp	lishment	for you	r School	Council	this sch	ool year	?		
a)									
b)									
c)									

## **School Council Membership and Operations**

A. Membership								
6. The membership of your School Co	uncil inclu	des the follo	wing people	(indicate by	a Yes/No an	d a #);		
a) Elected parent members	) Yes	O No	Number of Elected parent mem			nbers	]	
b) Principal (or VP delegate)	) Yes	O No	Num	ber of Principa	l (or VP dele	gate)	]	
c) Teaching staff of the school	Yes	O No	Numbe	er of teaching s	staff of the so	chool	]	
d) Non-teaching staff of the school (	) Yes	O No	Number of	Non-teaching s	staff of the so	chool	]	
e) Student (s)	) Yes	O No		Num	nber of Stude	ent(s)	]	
f) Community representative (s)	) Yes	O No	Number	of Community	representati	ve(s)	]	
g) Other (	) Yes	O No			Number of C	Other		
7. Does your School Council members  To a great extent  To a moderate extent  To a limited extent  Not at all	ship reflect	the demogr	aphic make-	up and divers	sity of the w	rhole schoo	l population?	
B. Operations								
8. Please tell us a bit about your Scho	ol Council'	s operations	and proced	ures.				
Our School Council					O	<b>O</b>	<b>^</b>	
	a) Has a good understanding of Ontario Regulation 612 governing school councils  O Yes  No Not Su  Developed its own set of by-laws to direct operational issues (e.g. election procedures,							
membership vacancies, conflict of int	O No	O Not Sure						
c) Holds annual elections at the beginning	O No	O Not Sure						
d) Sets clear goals and priorities for the	O No	O Not Sure						
e) Develops an action plan for carrying of	O No	O Not Sure						
f) Has established some decision-makin	O No	O Not Sure						
g) Completes an annual report about the statements	e Council's	goals, activitie	es, fundraising	, and financial	O Yes	O No	O Not Sure	
h) Additional Comments about Operation	ns:							
<ul><li>C. <u>Meetings</u></li><li>9. Please describe your School Counc</li></ul>	il meeting	s using the fr	equency sca	le provided:				
		Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Not Sure	
a) School Council meetings are schedule communicated well in advance	d and	0	0	0	0	0	0	
b) Meeting agendas are planned in coor with the School Principal	dination	0	0	0	0	0	0	
c) Meetings are led by the Chair/Co-Cha	ir	0	0	0	0	0	0	
d) Minutes of School Council meetings a and made publicly available	re taken	0	0	0	0	0	0	
e) Meetings are attended by other non- parents and/or school community me		0	0	0	0	0	0	
f) The School Councils uses sub-commit its decision-making process	tees in	0	0	0	0	0	0	
g) Interpretation or translation services								

are available as required

h) Child care services are available as required

<ul> <li>10. Which of these funding sources did your School Counce</li> <li>Ministry funds of \$500.00 allocated to each School Counce</li> <li>TDSB funds of \$1.25 per pupil (min \$300, max \$1000)</li> <li>Additional funding for Model Schools for Inner Cities</li> <li>Parent Reaching Out Grants (PROG) available by application</li> <li>External grants</li> </ul>	ncil	year? (Check o	off all that a	pply.)	
Our own Fund Raising efforts					
<ul><li>11. Does your School Council have access to sufficient fun</li><li>Yes</li><li>No</li></ul>	ds to meet the	eir operationa	al needs and	l requireme	nts?
Additional Comments about funding:					
Communicatio	ns & Relati	onships			
<ul> <li>Yes</li> <li>No</li> <li>Not aware of the email account</li> <li>13. How often does your School Council use the following School Council news with the wider school community</li> </ul>		on strategies c	or methods	to inform o	share
School Council news with the wider school community	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Not Sure
a) School Council meetings	0	0	0	0	0
b) School Council newsletter	0	0	0	0	0
c) Reports within a school newsletter	0	0	0	0	0
d) Information signs or posters displayed on the schools Public Noticeboard (Reg 613; 1.1)	0	0	0	0	0
e) Individual flyers/ notices sent home with students	0	0	0	0	0
f) School Council website	0	0	0	0	0
g) School website	0	0	0	0	0
h) Email messages and/or alerts	0	0	0	0	0
i) By phone or automated message system	0	0	0	0	0
j) Social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter)	0	0	0	0	0
k) The School Council Facebook page	0	0	0	0	0

D. Funding

I) Other

14. Please respond to the following statements a sharing using the frequency scale provided:	about your S	chool Counc	cil communic	ations, relat	ionships and	l informatio
	Always	Usually	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Not Sure
a) Parents are actively encouraged to attend School Council meetings	0	0	0	0	0	0
b) Parent outreach and engagement strategies help us connect to culturally diverse families	0	0	0	0	0	0
c) The School Council has a positive, respectful working relationship with others	0	0	0	0	0	0
d) The Principal provides information and resources to support our work	0	0	0	0	0	0
The Principal takes the advice/ e) recommendations offered by the School Council into consideration	0	0	0	0	0	0
f) A parent delegate attends Ward Council/ Forum meetings	0	0	0	0	0	0
g) School Council members attend workshops or training sessions provided by TDSB	0	0	0	0	0	0
h) The School Council is aware of the work of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC)	0	0	0	0	0	0
i) PIAC provides the School Council with helpful information, support and/or resources	0	0	0	0	0	0
School Council members attend the School j) Council Appreciation Event in February hosted by PIAC	0	0	0	0	0	0
k) School Council members and/or parents attend the annual PIAC "Parents Make a Difference" conference in November	0	0	0	0	0	0
15. To what extent do you think that your School needed to carry out their roles?  To a great extent		ity & Nextembers have		e resources	and informa	tion
To a moderate extent						
To a limited extent						
Not at all						
16. To what extent do you think that your Schoo decision-making?	l Council has	s a meaningt	ful influence	on school p	lanning and	
O To a great extent						
O To a moderate extent						
O To a limited extent						
O Not at all						

assistance (you may select multiple options) would be most valuable in terms of:
(a) The types or methods of support preferred?
Training/Workshops
Reference documents (e.g. a handbook, Best Practice write-ups, guidelines, templates)
Equipment, materials, resources or supplies
○ Financial Support
Networking Opportunities
Other
(b) The specific topics or subject areas where more information is needed?
Carried Legislation & Regulations
Recruitment & Orientation
Operational Procedures
Effective Meetings
Consensus Building & Decision Making
Contributing to the School Improvement Plan (SIP) process
Relationship Building
Communication Strategies
Engaging Diverse Populations
Fundraising Policies & Procedures
Other
Additional Information
18. Additional space is provided below for any other thoughts or comments about School Council successes or issues that you'd like to bring to our attention.

17. To maximize the success and effectiveness of your School Council, please indicate what kinds of additional

Thank you for your time and for providing us with some very important information. A summary of results and recommendations will be made available to you upon completion!

SUBMIT