



DSBN Parent Involvement Committee

support • engagement • success

The following are examples of DSBN schools' previous use of the \$500 annual Parent Involvement Funds provided by the Ontario Ministry of Education and DSBN. The initiatives you choose to undertake need not be complex or overly time-consuming. It is important to keep in mind that these efforts made to engage parents can result in huge dividends for parents, staff and students.

1. School Community Night with refreshments
2. School Council volunteer t-shirts and pamphlets used to promote School Council
3. Guest speaker night
4. Family Math night with refreshments and numeracy hand-outs
5. School Council social to encourage new members
6. Promotional materials to encourage parent involvement in school (fridge magnets)
7. Family Science days
8. Cyber bullying presentation
9. Parent BBQ and information session
10. School Council name tags
11. Literacy Night
12. Trivia Night advertising School Council
13. U Power presentation
14. Family Fun Night
15. Social Media Awareness guest speaker
16. Parent Night about "How to Support Your Child in French Immersion"
17. Transition presentation for parents
18. Funds used for Babysitting during School Council meetings
19. Parent Information display
20. Family Picnic
21. Family Appreciation breakfast
22. Internet Safety evening
23. Parent Lending Library
24. French Café for parents throughout the year
25. Parent Technology Night
26. Joint evening with Secondary school council and feeder school councils
27. Family of Schools evening
28. Secondary evening hosting Grade 7, 8 and 9 families
29. School Council promotional table, clothes and banner
30. Advertising for speaker series



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Parent Involvement Funding

\$500

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Parent Involvement funding is to provide additional support for the work of School Councils in their efforts to reach out and further engage parents at school and at home, as well as to support student achievement and well being. By working collaboratively, School Councils will help identify parent engagement strategies and implement parent-focused initiatives (as outlined in the 2010 Ontario Engagement Policy).

BACKGROUND

In 2005-2006 school year the Ontario Ministry of Education announced their base funding in support of parent engagement. These funds are allocated through the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) to school boards to support a wide range of parent engagement activities.

GUIDELINES

The funding must be utilized in a manner that is focused on increasing parent engagement at home and at school and to support student achievement and well-being. Working collaboratively, School Councils help to determine strategies, initiatives and projects that would best serve their school community and help to identify and remove any barriers that limit engagement by parents.

Funds are only to be used to support and encourage parent involvement

Some of the projects or activities that are considered as NOT an appropriate use of the funds are listed below:

- Capital projects, school furniture, landscaping expenses, playground equipment, facility upgrades;
- Purchase of goods and services for which the Ministry of Education or DSBN provides funds, such as textbooks;
- Student focused activities/purchases including: student agendas/planners, speakers/performers for students;
- School anniversaries/reunions/dinners;
- Other non-parent involvement based initiatives.

Every school in the DSBN has \$500 available in their budget to encourage Parent Involvement.