

Winter 2024

Engagement Matters

Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PEAC)

Advisory Committee Newsletter



Newly Revised School Council Handbook

School Councils build family and community partnerships in support of student achievement and well-being, and the newly revised YRDSB School Council Handbook is a comprehensive guide to help you and your school council achieve its goals.

In the handbook, you will find useful information about...

- Promoting authentic family engagement,
- Board and Ministry approved fundraising and administration of funds,
- Guidance with school council operational procedures,
- Current information about internal and external communications.

To access an electronic copy of the document, please visit the [YRDSB School Councils webpage](#), and remember to share this document with all of your council members.

PEAC Regional Symposium Returns to In-Person

Save the Date

Event Date:

**Thursday,
April 18th,
2024**

We are delighted to announce that this year's Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PEAC) Regional Symposium will take place in-person on **Thursday, April 18, 2024**. Please watch your school council email inbox, the EDSBY School Council Hub and the [YRDSB website](#) for more information.

Agenda Setting Ideas for School Councils



The School Council Handbook has a list of suggested agenda-setting items to help you get the most out of the year. These ideas are organized by season. Over the winter months, consider incorporating some of these plans into your next meeting.

- **Team Building** ~ *What are some of the ways that you can grow stronger relationships with your volunteers?*
- **Develop a Communications Plan** ~ *Who are your marginalized community members and what are some ways that you can expand your reach to all community members regarding the work of the school council?*
- **Develop a Fundraising Plan** ~ *What fundraising initiatives work well for your school, who will help run the activities, and how will the funds be spent?*
- **Active School Travel** ~ *How can your school benefit from incorporating or modifying your Active School Travel plan?*
- **PRO Grant** ~ *Have you applied for funding and what additional support from volunteers might you need to make your event a success?*
- **School Improvement Plan** ~ *What ideas can you provide to help your principals with next year's School Improvement Plan?*
- **Principal Profile** ~ *Reviewed and updated annually, discuss with your school council to determine if your Principal Profile accurately reflects the needs of your school community and then adjust it accordingly.*
- **Guest Speakers** ~ *Invite guest speakers on topics that are reflective of community identities, needs, and interests to speak at your next school council meeting or a school-wide event.*
- **PEAC Regional Symposium** ~ *Share the date (Thursday, April 18, 2024) with your school council members, and the program itinerary once it becomes available.*



Communicating with School Councils and PEAC

Your voice matters, especially when it comes to your child's education. Finding ways to be involved, sharing your ideas, and learning more about how to support your child are just some of the ways that you can enhance your engagement with the school. Here are some access points to help you connect with your school council or PEAC. You may also contact your school office for information that is specific to your school council.

Who...	What...	How...
PEAC	Great for board-wide resources, Ministry documents, calendar of events, meeting links, newsletters, inspiring ideas	Email: leadership.development.engagement@yrdsb.ca Website: YRDSB PEAC website contact form Phone: 905-727-0022 ext. 3650 EDSBY: School Council Hub (for council chairs) Video Resource: Using Groups in Edsby
School Councils	Great for activities and resources specific to your school, volunteering, staying up-to-date with your school community, sharing your ideas.	Email: "schoolname"@sc.yrdsb.ca Website: link on school's webpage

Supporting Policy Review

Policy #218.0, **Healthy Learning Spaces**, Policy #242, **Standards of Conduct**, and Policy #620, **Community Involvement Hours**, are currently under review.

Share your ideas, suggestions and feedback by following this link, [Guideline to Policy Review and Feedback](#).

**YRDSB
2023-2024
Learning
Calendar**

Submit a story idea for our next PEAC newsletter!