



APPLICATION FORM

School Number: 947563
Regional Office: Barrie Regional Office

PARENTS REACHING OUT (PRO) GRANTS FOR SCHOOL COUNCILS

Title: Reaching Out to Parents - Welcome Package & Parent Handbook

Application Number: 20045988

Application Due By: 2013-05-21

Report Due By: 2014-08-31

Name of School Board: Kawartha Pine Ridge DSB

School Information
Name: Thomas A Stewart Secondary School Type: Secondary
Address: 1009 Armour Rd, Peterborough, K9J7B1
Phone no.: (705)743-5230 Fax no.: (705)749-9452 E-mail address: annie_johnston@kprdsb.ca
Principal: Annie Johnson
School Council Chair: Tom Churchill, Kelli Grady
Do you have a partner?: No

PROJECT INFORMATION

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1. Indicate the challenge(s) to parent engagement being addressed by your project:

Communication (lack of language specific materials for parents or parent information related to curriculum and other school-based activities);
Parents New to the System (parents who have a child in the school for the first time, have recently moved into the area, or have recently arrived as newcomers to Ontario);
Overcoming Local Barriers (initiatives to support parents in identifying barriers to parent engagement in their own community and finding local solutions to help more parents get involved i.e., socio-economic, childcare, transportation, and language);
Other

If other (please specify): A large number of our parents do not have a history or strong knowledge base about TAS. We would address this with a comprehensive handbook which would include a variety of useful info to keep them 'in the loop'

2. Select up to three statements that describe the goal of your project:

Create a welcoming environment for parents as partners in their children's education;
Enhances communication between school and parents;
Highlights the school as an important resource for parents in the community

3. Outline the steps to be followed in the process in order to meet your goal. Indicate what, how, who and when it will be done.

i) What will be done?

We will produce a comprehensive handbook which would include a variety of useful info to keep TAS parents 'in the loop". The Handbooks could include the following information:

- important school information including: how to sign up for the school e-newsletter, how to report an absence, tips on finding your way around the school, etc.
- parent council contact information, meeting dates, website address
- curriculum information including SHSM & Arts program guidelines
- how to access board and community services in support of student success
- ideas for how to support student learning
- school code of conduct
- volunteer information

ii) How does this enhance parent engagement in support of improved student achievement and well-being?

In September 2012 two high schools in Peterborough were merged, in the process regular class attendance at the downtown high school PCVS, which was dearly beloved by many, was ended. Many of the students who had attended PCVS were made to continue their program at TAS. This significantly changed the school environment at TAS. These two communities were amalgamated, thus forming something completely new to the community of Peterborough. We believe this new school can be strong but in the integration process we are very concerned about student achievement and well-being related to the massive upheaval. It has had a huge effect on many students. We are keenly aware of the important role of parents during this transition, and a handbook to inform them of the school will help parents to feel engaged and able to support their children.

iii) Who will do it?

Parent council with school support and assistance

iv) How will it be done?

Volunteers to work with school staff to collect and organize relevant information for the welcome package and school handbook, which will be printed and provided to each new school family.

v) When will it be done?

by May 31, 2014, to be ready for the 2014/15 school year.

vi) Why do you want to organize this project?

It is very important to our "new" school community. See reply to second question above

4. Does the project support a ministry initiative? Please select all that apply?

Character Development;
Healthy Schools;
Safe, Inclusive and Accepting Schools

5. Indicate the steps you will follow when evaluating the success of your project.

1. Information collection, organization, submission, and principal's approval
2. Handbook is printed, completed
3. Handbook is distributed
4. Feedback (informal and/or formal) is received
5. Required changes and/or additions to handbook are made as needed and approved

6. In one sentence summarize your project proposal.

Welcome Letter and Information Package for parents of new students, including comprehensive handbook which would include a variety of useful info to

keep them 'in the loop', of which each school family would receive one copy

PROPOSED BUDGET INFORMATION

School Number: 947563
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Please check the list of eligible and ineligible expenses in the 'Guidelines' and list all items and the estimated cost of each.

Item	Description	Cost
Printing of parent resources --- Impression de ressources pour les parents	printing costs	1000

Total Funds Requested: \$1,000.00