



# Supporting Parent Engagement in Ontario School Boards and Schools

All boards in Ontario are required to have a Parent Involvement Committee. This fact sheet answers commonly asked questions about Parent Involvement Committees in Ontario.

## What is a Parent Involvement Committee?

A Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is an important advisory body to school boards. A PIC is a formal structure and a key vehicle at the board level that enhances parent involvement and supports student achievement and well-being.

## What do Parent Involvement Committees do?

The purpose of Parent Involvement Committees is to support, encourage and enhance meaningful parent involvement at the board level to improve student achievement and well-being. The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) acts as an advisory body to the local school board, and provides an important link between parents and the board's director of education and trustees. Parent Involvement Committees build parent engagement by:

^ T V S Z M H M R KIÚ'7 Í© -@pÿ of the PIC are welcome to attend meetings. Notices of when and where meetings are to be held, as well as minutes of past meetings are posted on the board's website.

## How do PICs differ from school councils?

School councils are school-based structures. PICs focus on things that affect more than one school and link parents with the school board's director of education and trustees. The PIC provides advice to the board on parent engagement, communicates with and supports school councils, and undertakes activities to help parents in the board support their children's learning at home and at school.

PICs actively support school councils by enhancing their role