



OTTAWA-CARLETON
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MEMORANDUM

TO: Principals

FROM: Prince Duah, Superintendent of Instruction

DATE: 11 February 2022

RE: **2021-2022 SCHOOL COUNCIL VIRTUAL SPEAKER NIGHT**

The district will launch the second annual School Council Virtual Speaker Nights this year.

How Does it Work?

The district develops a list of topics and speakers for School Councils to choose from. All School Councils will be able to review the list of topics and available dates and identify their preferred session. School Councils will have the opportunity to register for one Virtual Speaker Night only. School councils will be able to partner with other schools.

Why Are We Doing This?

The Ministry of Education provides Parents Reaching Out (PRO) funding to district school boards and school authorities to lead projects with a focus on the identification and the removal to support the identification of barriers to parent engagement in their school communities and find solutions to help more parents get involved in their children's education.

Working with the OCDSB Parent Involvement Committee, we have developed an allocation model of PRO grants that provide parents with a more expansive choice of speakers while transferring the administrative work associated with reporting to the Ministry of Education to central staff.

Application Process

School Councils will receive an email with the registration links for the sessions in March 2022. As a school council selects sessions, dates will be eliminated from the application form. The successful applicants will be notified shortly after registration is complete.

The successful applicants will be responsible for:

- Promotion and advertising of their Speaker Nights within their local communities.
- Managing the registration of families for the Speaker Night.
- Liaising with the speaker to sort out the logistics of the Night.
- Moderation of the Speaker Night should they wish to engage a speaker of their own choice.
- Distribution and completion of post-event feedback from the Speaker Night Participants. A google form will be provided to facilitate the collection.

The district will provide the following support to the successful school councils:

- A toolkit to help school councils prepare for and promote and moderate their Virtual Speaker Night.

- School councils will receive a google form to be completed to fulfill the reporting requirements to the Ministry.

You can read more about our plans in this [PIC Report](#). More information about school councils' access to these funds will be available in February.

cc: School Councils
Office Administrators
Corporate Records