

Engagement Matters

Parent, Family and Community Engagement Advisory Committee Newsletter



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In this edition of Engagement Matters, we share a spotlight on our community partner, Girls Inc. of York Region, who worked with Newmarket High School staff on a region-wide prom and graduation inclusion project. We also invite our school council chairs to join us on our Edsby platform so we can share ideas amongst our schools. Lastly, we invite you to submit future ideas or success stories through our online request form. On behalf of the members of PEAC, we wish our students, staff and families a wonderful start to the 2022-2023 school year!

Attending a PEAC Public Meeting

PEAC public meetings are open to the public and all are welcome to attend. In addition to Board and PEAC updates, there are also special interest presentations at each meeting.

Date: December 1, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm to 9 pm

*This is a joint meeting with our
Equity and Inclusivity Advisory
Committee (EIAC) Members

Location: Please check the [PEAC website](#) closer to the meeting date for full details.

YRDSB partnered with Girls Inc on prom dress inclusion project in Spring 2022

A pop-up shop of glittery dresses, fancy shoes, and accessories opened up at Newmarket High School (NHS) in spring 2022 for girls, non-binary and female-identifying students. The shop was open to anyone from any school - public, private, or denominational - and every item was free, thanks to generous donations from the general public and local businesses.



Girls Inc of York Region has been hosting a prom prep event for the last 17 years, and this year they expanded their reach through collaboration with the help of Mary Perin and Mary Lamanna at NHS. The costs associated with graduation and prom can be a barrier for some students. This event helped alleviate the financial stress that can be associated with this milestone event. Thank you to everyone who helped make this worthy cause a success!

Who is Girls Inc of York Region?

Girls Inc. of York Region is a non-profit organization located in Newmarket, whose vision is to empower girls, non-binary and female-identifying individuals to discover their inherent strengths and grow up to be healthy, educated, and independent so they can seek the highest quality of life possible. They run evidence-based programs in a safe pro-girl environment to inspire girls to be Strong, Smart, and Bold. Girls Inc is a proud champion for the rights and well-being of all girls while focusing on the needs of those from vulnerable communities.

Girls Inc. has so much to offer!

- Anti-bullying lunch programs and positive body image lunch programs at schools,
- In-school workshops and community workshops, such as the Trans 101 workshop and our Yoga and Gratitude workshop coming this fall,
- 1:1 mental health support,
- After-school programs that promote resiliency and build skills,
- Book Clubs to promote a love for reading,
- Events such as our Boo Bash Halloween Fundraiser event on Friday, October 21, 2022,
- Summer, winter, spring and PA Day camps,
- Plus much more!





Join the Edsby Group for School Council Chairs and Co-Chairs

Calling all school council chairs and co-chairs! We have an Edsby group just for you!
To join, simply accept the invitation through your Edsby account.

On our Edsby platform you can:

- stay up-to-date on school council topics and current affairs;
- share inspiring ideas and helpful suggestions for fundraisers and events;
- learn about training sessions and public meetings,
- plus so much more!

Your engagement with this group is helping create a support network for school councils across our Board. We look forward to growing this group together!

Helpful Hint: To ensure that you receive important messages, update your notification settings by following the step-by-step instructions in the “Knowledge” section of the group.

Supporting Policy Review

Policy #221.0, **Student Trustees**, Policy #635, **Student Dress Code**, and Policy #672, **Student Leadership and Voice**, are currently under review.

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

School Council Forums postponed until February 2023 due to municipal elections

Submit a story for our newsletter!

Use this form to share your ideas

