

reach every student
appuyer chaque élève

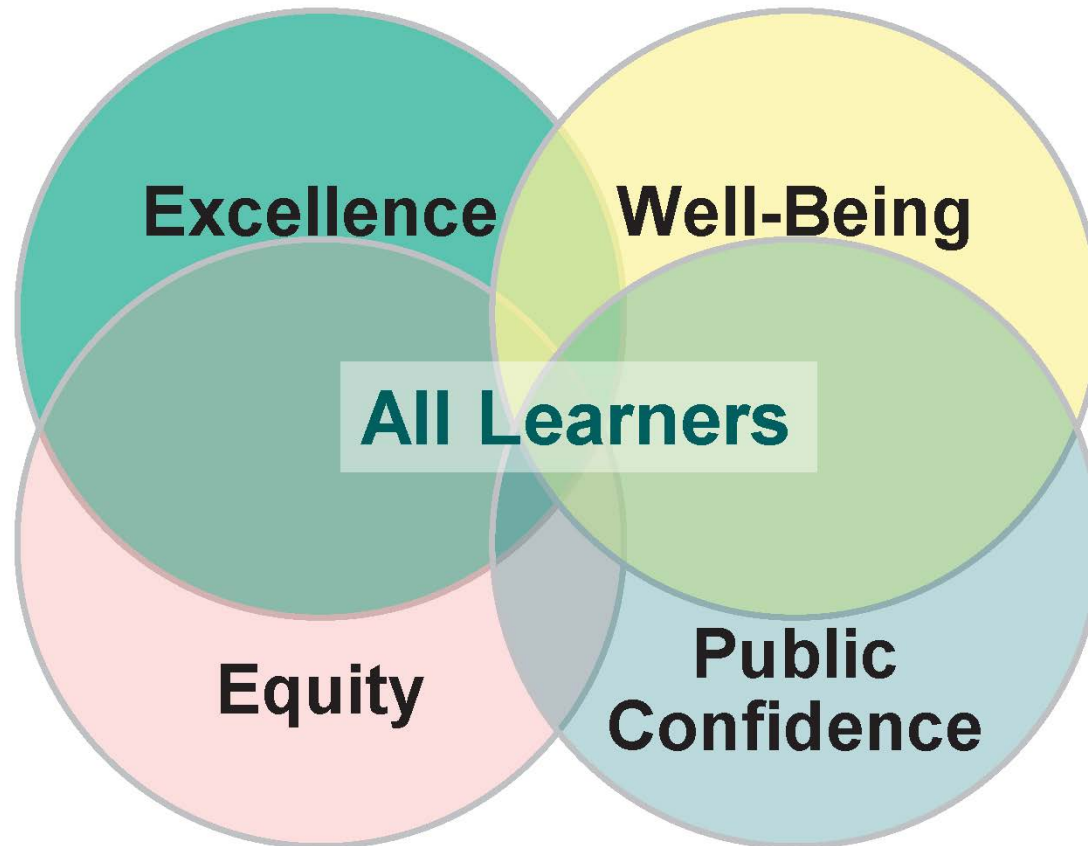
PARENTS REACHING OUT (PRO) GRANTS

Parent and Community Engagement Office

2015-2016



RENEWED VISION FOR EDUCATION IN ONTARIO



RENEWED VISION FOR EDUCATION IN ONTARIO

The four renewed goals for education are:

- **Achieving Excellence:** Children and students of all ages will achieve high levels of academic performance, acquire valuable skills and demonstrate good citizenship. Educators will be supported in learning continuously and will be recognized as among the best in the world.
- **Ensuring Equity:** All children and students will be inspired to reach their full potential, with access to rich learning experiences that begin at birth and continue into adulthood.
- **Promoting Well-Being:** All children and students will develop enhanced mental and physical health, a positive sense of self and belonging, and the skills to make positive choices.
- **Enhancing Public Confidence:** Ontarians will continue to have confidence in a publicly funded education system that helps develop new generations of confident, capable and caring citizens.

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PARENTS REACHING OUT GRANTS – BACKGROUND

- Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants support **enhanced parent engagement at the local, regional and provincial levels** with particular focus on parents who face barriers to parent engagement.
- PRO Projects are varied and include:
 - Outreach to parents from diverse backgrounds
 - Projects that support parents in isolated communities
 - Resources for parents of students with special education needs
 - Workshops to help parents be engaged in their children's success at school
 - Translation of materials into languages of the school community



ACCESSING THE APPLICATION

- Information is available online:
 - School Councils Grants:
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/schools.html>
 - Regional/Provincial Grants:
<http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/parents/regional.html>
- On-line application website:
<http://education.factorial.ca>



TWO TYPES OF PRO GRANTS

- School Councils – maximum \$1,000
- Regional/Provincial – maximum \$30,000





SCHOOL COUNCIL APPLICANTS

- Review the Project Guidelines
- Review the Terms & Conditions
- Begin application on-line (remember to save for later!)

School councils of publicly-funded schools may submit:

- Individually, or
- with another school council(s) in the board, or
- with other groups in the school or in the community



SCHOOL COUNCIL PARTNERSHIP APPLICATIONS

- Each school council **must** submit its own application
- The applications can be identical, and the budget should reflect each school council's portion
- Each school council is eligible for the maximum amount of \$1,000
- Each school council is responsible for its own project budget (i.e., the equitable share of the overall budget for the project).



2015-2016 PROJECT GUIDELINES

- One proposal per school council
- Maximum funding of \$1,000
- All proposals must be approved through a motion of the school council
- Special consideration will be given to eligible projects that:
 - have not received funding the previous year
 - promote increased access to and awareness of math strategies and resources for parents to support their children’s learning at home and at school
- Projects must comply with the regulations, by-laws, policies and guidelines of the school board and school council



TERMS & CONDITIONS

- Funding is for the approved project—any changes to the project must be reported to and approved by the ministry
- Funds must be spent by June 30, 2016
- Approved PRO project implementation is the responsibility of the school council



PROJECT FOCUS

Each grant application should contain information from the following two parts:

Part 1

Grants are intended to support school-based initiatives to reach parents who face barriers to becoming involved in their child's education or school under the following categories:

- a) **Communication** – could include translation of documents into multiple/other languages, providing parents with information related to curriculum or other school-based initiatives
- b) **Geography** – reaching parents living in a larger or remote geographic area
- c) **Parents New to the System** – parents who have a child in school for the first time, have recently moved into the area, or have recently arrived as newcomers to Ontario
- d) **Overcoming Local Barriers** – identifying local barriers to parent engagement and finding local solutions to help more parents get involved (e.g., socio-economic, childcare, transportation, and language)
- e) Other types of barriers

Part 2

The grants should focus on initiatives that are designed to inform or engage parents in support of improved student achievement and well-being and align with Ministry of Education goals.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO FIRST TIME APPLICANTS AND THOSE₁₂ THAT PROMOTE INCREASED ACCESS TO MATH STRATEGIES



PROJECT GOALS

The PRO application provides statements that best describe the project goal(s). Applicants may choose up to three:

1. Create a welcoming environment for parents as partners in their children's education
2. Eliminate barriers that may prevent parents from fully participating in their children's learning
3. Enhance attendance at parent events at the school
4. Enhance communication between school and parents
5. Enhance parent involvement with their children's learning to support student achievement and well-being
6. Highlight the school as an important resource for parents in the community
7. Provide parents with the knowledge, skills and tools they need to support student learning at home and at school





PROJECTS SUPPORTING MINISTRY INITIATIVES

- Aboriginal Education Strategy / First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework
- Character Development
- Early Years
- English Language Learners
- Literacy
- Mathematics Curriculum and Numeracy across all Curriculum
- Healthy, Safe, Inclusive and Accepting Schools
- Special Education
- Student Success / Learning to 18
- 21st Century Teaching and Learning
- Other (please specify)





INELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS OR ACTIVITIES

- Activities that have already taken place
- Payment to staff (e.g., salaries, honoraria, gifts)
- Cost of police background check for parent volunteers
- Purchase of goods & services for which the Ministry provides funding (e.g., textbooks, library books, school furniture, computers, cameras, projectors, student transportation, etc.)
- Student-focused activities including fees for speakers for students and purchase of supplies for home use (e.g., markers, paper, glue, scissors, software, student agendas, calendars, etc.)
- Computer software, online subscriptions, voice messaging systems, website maintenance, or software applications for portable devices
- Capital items such as TVs, sports equipment, shelving
- Portable/handheld devices (e.g., tablets, laptops)
- Entertainment activities such as BBQs, fun fairs, volunteer teas, dinners, movie nights, dances, concerts and performances
- Art mural projects, field trips, school signs, announcement boards/screens, landscaping, outdoor classrooms
- Prizes or incentives to parents and/or students, fundraising events
- Lessons for parents (e.g., French, English Language Learners, Computer, CPR etc.)
- **Refreshment costs exceeding 15% and promotion costs exceeding 5% of approved funding**





APPLYING FOR A GRANT

- Application must be completed and submitted online.
- Begin the application as soon as possible, completing all of the mandatory fields and save often!
 - Information can be saved to allow work on the application at different times.
- Ensure your application is consistent with your board's strategies and policies.
- Applicant should keep registration email address active for future notifications.
- A copy of the application will automatically be sent to the principal and school council for their records.

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COMPLETION OF SCHOOL COUNCIL APPLICATION

- Type and select your school name
- Select the Goal(s) of the Project
- Steps to be followed to meet the goal (what, who, how, when and why)—explanation rather than just one word
- Does the project support a ministry initiative?
- Indicate how the success of your project will be evaluated
- Provide a one-sentence summary of the project
- Complete all fields with an asterisk “*”





BUDGET

- Enter all items, providing an estimated cost of each budget item (up to a maximum of \$1,000). Examples include:
 - Speaker
 - Child Care
 - Transportation
 - Refreshments – up to 15% of total allocated
 - Translation
 - Photocopying
 - Promotion – up to 5% of total allocated





FUNDING AND FINAL REPORTING

- Please note that School Councils must plan to spend the approved funding by June 30, 2016.
- Notification by e-mail will be sent to applicants when the Report Back form is available on-line.
- Report Back form is to be completed online after project completion by accessing <http://education.factorial.ca> on or before July 15, 2016 at the latest.
- The completed Report Back form will automatically be e-mailed to the principal.
- Receipts for the expenses are to be filed and retained according to your board's policy .

QUESTIONS

When completing the application:

- Technical – contact by e-mail – support@smartsimple.com
- Application Content – **contact:**
 - Regional Office
 - **Barrie** (705) 725-7627 1-800-471-0713
 - **London** (519) 667-1440 1-800-265-4221
 - **Ottawa** (613) 225-9210 1-800-267-1067
 - **North Bay/Sudbury** (705) 474-7210 1-800-461-9570
 - **Thunder Bay** (807) 474-2980 1-800-465-5020
 - **Toronto & Region** (416) 212-0954 1-800-268-5755
 - Parent and Community Engagement Office – PRO@ontario.ca