

Welcome to the DDSB

Parent/Guardian Resources



SUCCESS

WELL-BEING

LEADERSHIP

EQUITY

ENGAGEMENT

INNOVATION

DDSB MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

INTRODUCTION

This booklet is an informative road map to the different resources and services available for parents/guardians in the Durham District School Board.

Durham District School Board - Human Rights Statement

The Durham District School Board is committed to learning environments that are safe, welcoming, respectful, equitable, accessible, inclusive and free from discrimination while placing Human Rights and Equity at the centre.

The Durham District School Board is responsible for public education in:

- Ajax
- Brock
- Oshawa
- Pickering
- Scugog
- Uxbridge
- Whitby
- DDSB@Home Elementary (Virtual School)
- DDSB@Home Secondary (Virtual School)

Find your local school: ddsb.ca/en/our-schools/find-a-school.aspx#

Durham Student Transportation Services (DSTS):

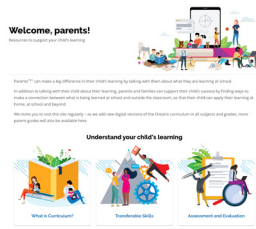
DSTS is responsible for the management and administration of all home to school transportation for students eligible for transportation, in accordance with the Transportation Policy of both the Durham District and the Durham Catholic District School Boards.

dsts.on.ca/



SUCCESS

Set high expectations and provide support to ensure all students and staff reach their full potential every year.



Government of Ontario - Resources for Parents

This website provides valuable information about your child's learning at school and lists resources to support their learning at home.

dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/parents



Parent Toolkit

The Parent Tool kit is a resource for parents/guardians to support learning at home.

education-leadership-ontario.ca/application/files/4114/9884/7229/Parent_Toolkit_-_What_Parents_Can_Do_To_Help_Their_Child_Succeed_At_School-compressed.pdf

WELL-BEING

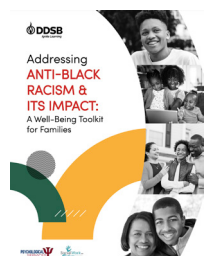
Create safe, welcoming, inclusive learning spaces to promote well-being of all students and staff.



Personal Resiliency Tips During the COVID-19 Pandemic

This is a resource with tips on well-being and self care from the School Mental Health Ontario organization.

smho-smso.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/TipSheet-Personal-Resiliency-During-Covid19-ENG.pdf



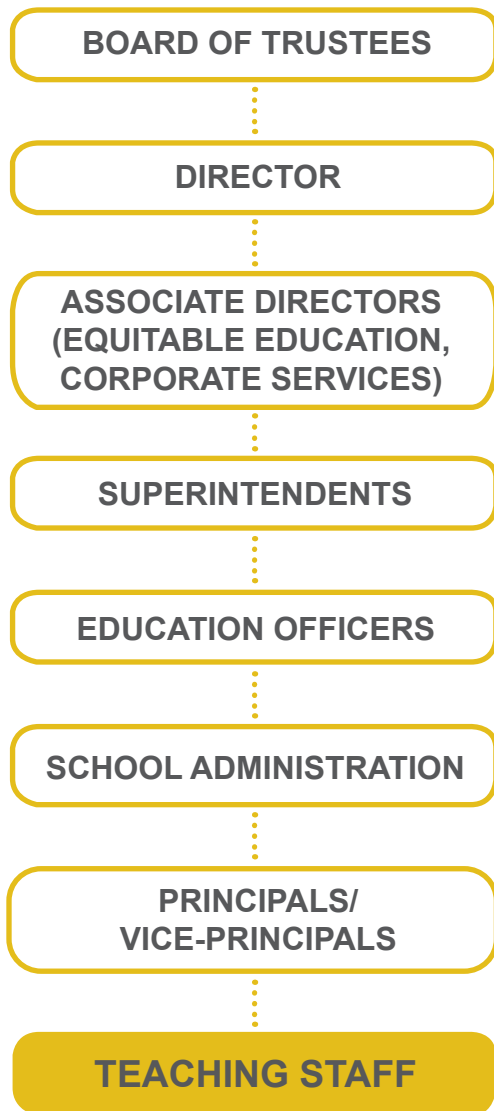
Addressing Anti-Black Racism and Its Impact: A Well-Being Toolkit for Families

This Toolkit was developed to provide racially competent resources to Black families; however, we believe that its contents can be beneficial for all communities seeking greater understanding of the impact of Anti-Black Racism.

ddsb.ca/en/family-and-community-support/resources/Documents/Your-Well-Being-Matters/Anti-Black-Racism-Toolkit.pdf

LEADERSHIP

Identify future leaders, actively develop new leaders and responsively support current leaders.



Durham District School Board Organizational Chart:

The Durham District School Board values the leadership of their teaching staff, the school administration teams, the Education Officers, Superintendents, Associate Directors and the Board of Trustees. Every group plays an important role in your child's education.

Who to Contact First:

If you need help or have any questions or concerns, begin by contacting your child's teacher. If you wish to meet with another staff member, contact the school office to book a meeting. Please remember to sign in at the school office when you arrive.

For all other inquiries contact us at:

Durham District School Board

400 Taunton Rd. E., Whitby ON L1R 2K6 Canada

Phone: 905-666-5500

Toll Free: 1-800-265-3968

Fax: 905-666-6474

Website: ddsb.ca/en/whats-happening/media-desk.aspx



STUDENT SENATE
DURHAM DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Student Senate (Student Trustees):

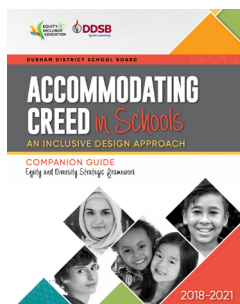
Student Trustees are responsible for representing the voices and needs of all students in the DDSB at the Board level. Student Trustees run the Student Senate which meets once a month to discuss student needs and issues.

Student Government, Athletic Council:

The Student government is a group of students that are tasked with overseeing a wide range of events and activities around the school. The Athletic Council is made up of students who are interested in promoting sports and athletics.

EQUITY

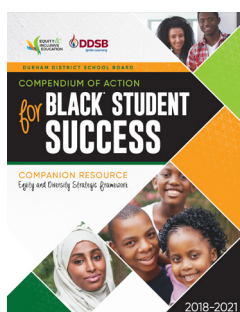
Promote a sense of belonging and increase equitable outcomes for all by identifying and addressing barriers to success and engagement.



Accommodating Creed: An Inclusive Design Approach

The purpose of this document is to guide the development of an inclusive, welcoming and inviting learning environment as we support all students.

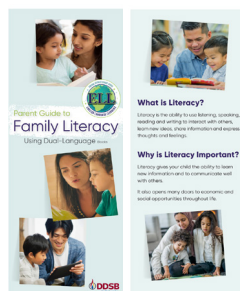
ddsb.ca/en/about-ddsb/resources/Documents/Equity/Accommodating-Creed-in-Schools-.pdf



Compendium of Action for Black Student Success

The Compendium of Action for Black Student Success signals the Durham District School Board's commitment to supporting the success of all Black students.

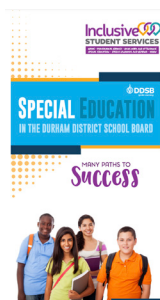
ddsb.ca/en/about-ddsb/resources/Documents/Equity/Black-Students-Compendium.pdf



Parent Guide to Family Literacy: Using Dual-Language Books

This resource has practical information and resources to support dual-language reading at home. Students and families are encouraged to make use of their multilingual knowledge when reading together as a family.

drive.google.com/file/d/1Ewiatln_-VnfiZu1WUHZVa9S5ZpD5NQ7/view?usp=sharing

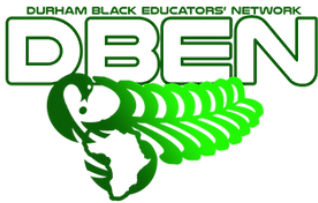


Special Education in the Durham District School Board: Pathways to Success

This resource provides a framework for student success by providing a range of pathways, programs, opportunities and services. For more specific information, please contact the Special Education Resource Teacher (SERT) at your child's school.

ddsb.ca/en/programs-and-learning/resources/Documents/Inclusive-Education/Many-Paths-to-Success.pdf

Affinity Networks: The Durham District School Board (DDSB) is dedicated to offering curriculum, programs and services that are grounded in Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy (CRRP) and we are supported in this work by our Education Affinity Networks. The Affinity Networks operate independently and represent the District's rich and diverse cultural backgrounds. To learn more about these networks please visit their website and/or social media platforms.



Durham Black Educators' Network (DBEN)

Since 2005, DBEN has been striving to optimize educational experiences for students, staff, parents and community contacts of the Black Diaspora within the Durham Region.

Website: dben.org

Email: durhamblackeducators@gmail.com

Twitter: [@DurhamDBEN](https://twitter.com/DurhamDBEN)

Facebook: facebook.com/durhamblackeducators

Instagram: [@durhamblackeducators](https://www.instagram.com/durhamblackeducators)



Durham Educators' Network for South Asians (Densa)

Since 2018, our shared vision is to inspire and lead students and educators who trace their roots (ethnically, culturally and linguistically) to the sub-continent of South Asia and its surrounding areas. We hope to facilitate change in our education system by embedding culturally relevant teaching practices as well as engage parents in their child's learning.

Website: densa.ca

Email: densadds@gmail.com

Twitter: [@DensaNetwork](https://twitter.com/DensaNetwork)

Facebook: [@Densadds](https://www.facebook.com/@Densadds)

Youtube: [@DENSADDSB](https://www.youtube.com/@DENSADDSB)

Instagram: [@densaddb](https://www.instagram.com/@densaddb)



Keenanow Indigenous Employee Network (KIEN)

Working together to make DDSB a better place for First Nation, Inuit, and Métis Peoples. KIEN supports DDSB employees and students who identify as Indigenous or allies in the pursuit of a healthy, informed, and collaborative community.

Website: sites.google.com/ddsb.ca/kien/home

Email: kien.ddsb@gmail.com

Twitter: [@kien_ddsb](https://twitter.com/@kien_ddsb)



Muslim Educators Network of Durham (MEND)

Meeting the needs of a growing and diverse Muslim population in Durham since 2017. MEND believes in developing student leadership and supporting student success by fostering meaningful relationships through allyship, parent involvement, and educator action.

Website: wearemend.ca

Email: menddds@gmail.com

Twitter: [@MEND_DDSB](https://twitter.com/MEND_DDSB)

Youtube: [@menddds](https://www.youtube.com/@menddds)

Instagram: [@menddds](https://www.instagram.com/menddds)



2SLGBTQ+ PRIDE Network

The 2SLGBTQ+ Pride Network is a safe and supportive space, inviting forum for all DDSB employees to share and discuss strategies and best teaching practices in addressing 2SLGBTQ+ topics in our schools.

Website: ddsb.ca/Modules/search/index.aspx?q=equity





ENGAGEMENT

Engage students, parents and community members to improve student outcomes and build public confidence.

DDSB Parent Portal

The parent portal is available to all Durham District School Board (DDSB) parents and guardians. Through the portal you can view your child's homeroom assignment, attendance history and grades. You can also set up SchoolCash and SchoolMessenger accounts through the portal.

ddsb.ca/en/family-and-community-support/resources/Documents/Welcome-to-the-DDSB-Parent-Portal.pdf

Join the DDSB Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) or your local School Community Council (SCC) to help advise school principals and administrators on all issues related to your child's education.

Joining a Parent Engagement Committee

This link provides information on how to join a parent engagement committee.

ddsb.ca/en/family-and-community-support/get-involved.aspx?_mid_=346

Engaging Parents in the DDSB

This video showcases two Durham District schools, Coronation Public School and Alexander Graham Bell Public School, and their parent engagement activities. Parents and the school worked together and created positive parent involvement opportunities for their individual communities through the voice of staff and parents.

youtube.com/watch?v=OtQmjtrHdxw&t=135s

INNOVATION

Reimagine learning and teaching spaces through digital technologies and innovative resources.

Digital Learning

The Durham District School Board (DDSB) has developed various digital learning opportunities for students to explore and achieve success.

ddsb.ca/en/programs-and-learning/digital-learning.aspx#

OUR SERVICES



Inclusive Student Services (ISS)

Inclusive Student Services provide a range of services, supports, programs and placements for students with special education needs in the Durham District School Board (DDSB). Students' needs are met through a variety of supports and programs within the DDSB at both the elementary and secondary levels. All programs promote integration and independence that are optimally suited for each individual student.

Website: ddsb.ca/en/programs-and-learning/inclusive-student-services.aspx



Positive School Climate

Durham District School Board (DDSB) is committed to maintaining a positive school environment which happens when all members of the school community feel safe, comfortable and accepted. Positive School Climates initiatives work to create positive school environments through Bullying Prevention and Intervention; Character Development; Progressive Discipline; Restorative Practice; Safety and Security; Self-Regulation and Whole School Approach.

Website: ddsb.ca/en/family-and-community-support/positive-school-climates-and-code-of-conduct.aspx



First Nation Métis and Inuit Education

The Durham District School Board (DDSB) has an Indigenous Education department. This department strives to fulfill the implementation of the Truth and Reconciliations Calls to Action and raise awareness of Indigenous history, perspectives and contributions in a holistic and integrated approach. The department hopes to strengthen students' sense of identity, foster positive self-image, and engage community members and organizations in an ongoing dialogue.

Website: ddsb.ca/en/programs-and-learning/first-nation-mtis-and-inuit-education.aspx



Early Years - Child Care Programs

Durham District School Board (DDSB) has a number of partners who provide a variety of child care options for children from the age of 0 to 12. We offer these programs in schools throughout the region to make it convenient for you to find reliable childcare.

Website: ddsb.ca/en/family-and-community-support/early-years-programs-child-care.aspx



Mental Health and Well-Being

We acknowledge that many of our students, parents/guardians, staff and school communities are all experiencing uncertainty and worry about their health and safety, and that of their loved ones. It is important to acknowledge these impacts and intentionally look for ways to maintain and support our collective mental health and well-being.

Website: ddsb.ca/en/family-and-community-support/mental-health.aspx/#Connect-with-our-Mental-Health-Team



Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

SEAC helps the Board protect the rights of students with special learning needs. It provides advice, support and information to parents and guardians of students who require extra support. It is comprised of representatives from local parent associations that make recommendations to the Board on the development of special education programs and services.

Website: ddsb.ca/en/about-ddsb/seac-association-connections.aspx

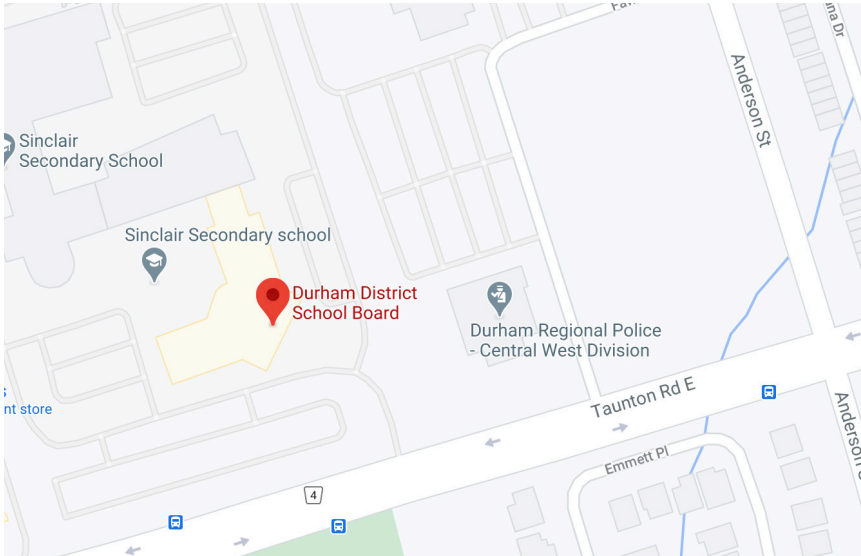


Parent Involvement Committee

The purpose of Parent Involvement Committees is to support, encourage and enhance meaningful parent involvement at the Board level. The PIC acts as an advisory body to the Board, and provides an important link between parents and the Board's Director of Education and Trustees.

Website: ddsb.ca/en/family-and-community-support/parent-involvement-committee.aspx

CONTACT US



Durham District School Board

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Whitby, ON
L1R 2K6 Canada

Website: ddsb.ca

Phone: 905-666-5500

Fax: 905-666-6474

Toll Free: 1-800-265-3968

Twitter: [@DDSBschools](https://twitter.com/DDSBschools)

FOLLOW US

DDSB Equity

[@equity_DDSB](https://twitter.com/equity_DDSB)

DDSB Positive School Climate

[@PositiveDDSB](https://twitter.com/PositiveDDSB)

DDSB Parent Engagement

[@ParentsDDSB](https://twitter.com/ParentsDDSB)

DDSB Wellness

[@DDSBHealthyMind](https://twitter.com/DDSBHealthyMind)

DDSB Make a Difference

[@ddsbpsd](https://twitter.com/ddsbpsd)

DDSB Innovative Education

[@DDSB_EdTechs](https://twitter.com/DDSB_EdTechs)

DDSB Early Years

[@DDSBEarlyYears](https://twitter.com/DDSBEarlyYears)

DDSB Indigenous Education

[@DDSB_Indigenous](https://twitter.com/DDSB_Indigenous)

