



The Ontario Association of
Parents in Catholic Education

Parents **4** Parents 1Pager

RECLAIMING AND RE-ENGAGING PARENTS AS PARTNERS

PARISH

- Have masses at church with parents/families and then have coffee in the church hall afterwards.
- Ask Parents to participate in school masses by attending, singing or reading.
- Host Fundraising events at church - i.e., bazaar, raffles, markets.



SCHOOL

- Family games! Focus on any game that also supports mathematics learning. Allow parents to share their favourite games, may even be a new game from another country which also teaches about other cultures and traditions!
- Books for Breakfast. Parents are invited to have breakfast while hearing an author read their work (and enjoy breakfast together) before school. Love of reading is encouraged, parents meet more parents and get tips on children's literature.
- Do a twist on the coffee mornings – rotate volunteers through a schedule as parent ambassadors to be outside the school at drop-off and pickup times to greet parents they had not met, introduce themselves as members of the council, and invite folks to the next gathering (and wear something that identifies you, a vest, same colour, school spirit wear).



ONLINE

- Use online presence to build relationships with local businesses and politicians - tweet other businesses who are supporting the school in events and donations.
- Create a QR code for events so parents can scan to find out info.
- Create followers on social media accounts by inviting community members, past parents and alumni.



COMMUNITY

- Ask for donations from local businesses and provide them advertising at events, school newsletter or online.
- Reach out to the neighbours and local community - have parent council members knock on neighbours beside the school and invite them to parent council meetings - builds community, in turn neighbours can help at school!
- Movie night! Family movie nights with snacks before and after so families would mingle and children would connect their parents with their friends' parents. The extension to this, once families are comfortable, let the parents gather in another room as the children watch a movie under supervision of volunteers and of course, invite close neighbours and community members - what is better than watching a movie at your local school!

