



OCASC *Committee Report*

Committee: **Parent Involvement Committee** Other:

Meeting Date: **2009-09-29** Meeting Time: **6:00 p.m. - 9:15 p.m.**

Meeting Location: **Other - Please specify** Other: **OCISO Offices, 945 Wellington Street**

OCASC Representative Present: **Anne Teutsch**

Highlights:

1. Presentaiton from Wali Farah of OCISO (Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization) about their organization and its work.

2. Discussion about the OCDSB and OCASC PRO grant applications.

<u>Topic</u>	<u>Summary</u>
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Motions passed

	none

Discussion Items

OCISO Presentation	Wali Farah gave us a slide show and talk on the work of the Ottawa Community Immigrant Services Organization. OCISO runs the Multicultural Liaison Officer (MLO) program for the OCDSB. MLO's work with families and schools to help new families with orientation, encouragement, language, workshops, cross-cultural understanding. Between the group of MLO's 20 languages are spoken. Other work by OCISO includes summer camps for various age groups students and a Newcomer Orientation week for students new to Canada, just prior to the start of school.
PRO Grants	The OCDSB ad OCASC PRO grant applications were discussed. The OCDSB's application will be for a continuatiuon of the Connected Conversation Speaker Series that they did this year. Possible topics include bullying, internet concerns, assessment and evaluation. OCASC has drafted a grant application that involves meeting with parents and school councils, as well as with teachers, to determine barriers to parent involvement from both sides, and then having workshops and creating on-line resources to address those barriers. It was agreed that the barriers have been well researched and documented already and it is not needed for that to be done again. There was definite interest at the committee in the on-line resources and tool kits for parent involvement. OCISO is interested in partnering with OCASC on this grant application. Anne/OCASC and Wali will meet further to pursue this.

Information Items

Bill 177	A very brief update on the status of Bill 177 was given. More will be forthcoming at next week's Strategic Planning and Priorities Committee (formerly Chairs Committee) meeting.