



**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO  
TRANSPARENCY  
INSTITUTE**

A National Chapter of  
**Transparency International**  
the global coalition against corruption



**The  
Integrity  
Commission**  
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO



**National Parent Teacher Association**  
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

**For immediate release**

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## **INTEGRITY CLUBS LAUNCHED IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

### **Six schools in pilot project**

Integrity Clubs to promote integrity and good governance are being introduced as a Pilot Project in six secondary schools this week. The Pilot Project was launched on September 18, 2018 at Queen's Royal College, at Speyside Secondary School, Tobago on September 19 and at St. George's College on September 13 by Mr. Martin A. Farrell, Vice Chair of the Trinidad and Tobago Transparency Institute. The launch of "Integrity Clubs" takes place at St Joseph's Convent, San Fernando on September 21st and at the Bon Air Secondary School on October 1. A date for the In-School Club launch at Williamsville Secondary has not yet been finalised.

During the recent school vacation the 'Integrity Ambassadors' - a core group of teachers and student leaders at the six schools - attended orientation workshops at St. George's College, Barataria. The workshop continues at St. George's College, Barataria, on Saturday, September 22, 2018.

The formal launch of School Integrity Clubs project will take place at the Yara Auditorium, UWI-Arthur Lok Jack Global School of Business on Friday, September 28 at 9 a.m.

Integrity Clubs to champion accountability, competence, ethics, and anti-corruption behaviour in the schools and community are being facilitated by a steering committee that includes representatives of the Integrity Commission of Trinidad and Tobago, the National Parent-Teacher Association and the local branch of Transparency International. The goals of the pilot project are to test and refine the Integrity Clubs before widespread introduction into all secondary schools and to demonstrate the value and benefit of the programme to students and teachers. The Integrity Club Pilot Project is supported by the Ministry of Education and the Tobago House of Assembly's Division of Education.

Integrity Clubs seek to instil integrity and ethical conduct to counter some of the problems and ethical challenges being experienced in our secondary schools. These challenges include: disrespect for authority, indiscipline, bullying, fighting, poor anger management and conflict resolution. Integrity Clubs

are designed to help instil in students and teachers the core values of respect, fairness, compassion, integrity, honesty and responsibility. The pilot study will provide information to determine the most effective structure for implementing Integrity Clubs. The Integrity Club activities will involve students, teachers, the school staff including the Maintenance-Training, Security, School Meal suppliers' and parents in reflecting and acting on issues of integrity.

Integrity Clubs exist in schools in Jamaica, India and in countries on the African continent. Moreover, variations of I-Clubs (sometimes called Character Clubs) are established in primary and secondary schools worldwide.

It is anticipated that the Integrity Clubs - I-Clubs - will have unintended consequences such as promoting students' self-worth and dignity, positively affecting the academic performance of students, creating a positive school culture, reducing unhealthy, deviant behaviours, improving teacher morale, fostering of patriotism and civility as well as favourably affecting the academic performance of students. Moreover, the I-Clubs will hopefully become incubators for future leaders whose formative years would have been spent immersed in the concept of integrity, anti-corruption and good governance.



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