

BACKGROUND

What is the Inner City Advisory Committee?

The Inner City Advisory Committee (ICAC) is a Board recognized Community Advisory Committee created in June 2005.

Following the approval of the Model Schools for Inner Cities (MSIC) Task Force Report (May 2005), The ICAC was mandated to “select and launch three Model Schools in Phase I and four in Phase II” in 2006 and 2007 respectively. The ICAC, in conjunction with the TDSB Research Department, created a selection process based on the vision in the Task Force Report that also emphasized school community involvement. After many weeks of application reviews and full day school visits (both Phase I and Phase II followed the same process), the ICAC put forward their recommendations to the Board of Trustees for consideration.

Membership on the Inner City Advisory Committee is comprised of TDSB Trustees and staff representatives, faculty from York University and OISE, representatives from Toronto Public Health and other City departments, community agencies like the United Way, the Laidlaw Foundation, Foodshare and Right to Play, as well as community and parent members.

What is the current role of the ICAC?

The ICAC’s current mandate, as determined at the June 2007 meeting, is:

“The ICAC undertakes to advocate for the needs of all inner city students and level the playing field so that successful inner city students grow up with choices.”

Through its advisory role to the TDSB, the ICAC has had an impact on many issues affecting students living in Toronto’s inner city communities. ICAC activities include: deputations and motions to the Board regarding issues like the community use of schools, budgetary issues, the Learning Opportunities Index (LOI), food security issues, and TTC equity for older students, as well as the participation in Cluster Parent

Academy Committee Meetings, and advocacy for inner city issues at all levels of government.

Recently, the ICAC has encouraged increased participation in the committee by Model School parent representatives, to further ensure that the focus remains on the right issues, at the right time.

The ICAC is an effective and highly engaged committee, with many dedicated staff and volunteer members whose passion for, and commitment to, success of all of our students living in inner city communities is reflected by their ongoing participation in board standing and sub-committees on their behalf.

When does the ICAC meet and who can attend?

The ICAC meets monthly, and all meetings are open to the public. The ICAC follows Board procedures for Community Advisory Committees and all meeting dates, locations, and approved minutes are posted on the TDSB website.

ICAC Co-chairs and Supporting Staff

Five trustee representatives currently sit on the ICAC:

Trustee Chris Glover (Ward 2)
Trustee Howard Kaplan (Ward 5)
Trustee Chris Tonks (Ward 6)
Trustee Sheila Cary-Meagher (Ward 16)
Trustee David Smith (Ward 19)

ICAC Community Co-chair: Ingrid Palmer (nominated and approved March 5, 2014)

Superintendent of Education: Vicky Branco
Central Co-ordinating Principal, Model Schools for Inner Cities: Helen Fisher
ICAC Co-ordinator: Hilary Wollis

Contact Us

ICAC telephone number: (416) 395-6742

