

PIAC Chair Report

January 21, 2025

PIAC Meetings

A reminder to everyone online and in the Boardroom that PIAC general meetings are recorded and are attended by not only PIAC members but by Trustees, staff, and members of the general public. As well the general PIAC meetings are posted on the TDSB website to be accessed by anyone that visits the website. Let us all use respectful language, conduct during all PIAC meetings.

Code of Conduct

PIAC's code of conduct is available on the Google drive and is available for all members to read. Please make yourself familiar with the code of conduct, if you have any questions about the code of conduct please feel free to reach out to the co-chairs. PIAC's code of conduct is in place to remind all of us that our behavior is to be respectful, and allows all of us to feel safe in all PIAC spaces from small conversations to large general meetings.

This safety gives all members the space to do the great work that PIAC does, allows all of us to safely speak and share ideas. We all have to acknowledge that we may not always agree with each other all the time and understand that with those moments it provides us with the opportunity to have discussions and work through items we need to support school councils, parents, caregivers and students of the TDSB. Please understand that in a general meeting there may be times that a discussion may need to be taken back to a working group for further discussion, this will still allow voices to be heard and important issues to be discussed but still allow for the business of PIAC to take place at our general meetings.

PIAC Working Groups

The important work of PIAC happens as we support our school councils and school communities in person and direct communication as well in our PIAC working groups. As per our PIAC by-laws each PIAC member is required to sign up and participate in at least one PIAC working group. There are two types of PIAC working groups, the governance and non-governance working groups. The current governance working groups are; Membership, Operational Effectiveness which includes Budget and By-laws, and the Strategic Planning workgroups which

are open to all PIAC co-representatives and the CLG representative to PIAC. Our non-governance working groups are; Communications, Special Events, School Council Support and Consultations working groups which are open to all PIAC co-representatives, members, TDSB Parents and Caregivers as well as persons from the community. Please look out for the link from the PCCE Office to sign up for a working group and read the working group descriptions. All of our working groups are supported by the TDSB PCCEO team (Parent Caregiver and Community Engagement Office). If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to the co-chair.

PIAC Conference

Ready. Set. Engage : School Councils & Principals, Stronger is the 15th annual PIAC conference that will take place at Woburn Collegiate Institute on Saturday February 1st from 1pm to 5pm. This conference is an annual event that brings together school council members, TDSB staff and Trustee and PIAC members to engage and network and learn from each other. This is a great opportunity for PIAC representatives to meet with the school councils in their ward. Volunteers are also a large part of the conference's success. Please reach out to the PIAC special events working group or the PIAC co-chairs to find out how to support the conference.

PIAC Post Newsletter

Please look out for this monthly newsletter in your email and share it with those in your communities (ensure your email accounts are updated with our Parent Caregiver and Community Engagement Office). Please send any updates or ideas for future PIAC POST editions to the co-chairs at info@torontopiac.com

PIAC Google Drive

We are encouraging all PIAC members to use the PIAC Google Drive for member resources and Working Group activities. Please complete the User Agreement to gain access to the drive: <https://bit.ly/PIACGOOGLE2021>. Thanks to all the members who have completed the PIAC Google Drive User Agreement.

To facilitate the important work which members are doing to be in compliance with security protocol, all Working Groups are to be using this shared PIAC Google Drive. If you are a PIAC Working Group lead, please move your work into the WG Google folders created in the “!Start Here-PIAC Main Folder!” and make piac.toronto the owner of the folders/documents.

Board Committee Meetings

Your PIAC co-chairs will at times attend the Governance and Policy Committee as well as the Program and School Services Committee meetings. Co-chairs are invited to attend when PIAC has passed a motion to recommend an item to the Board. On Wednesday January 15, 2025 co-chair Zena Shereck attended the Programme and School Services Committee meeting. The 2023-2023 PIAC Annual Report and the PIAC June report were submitted. Trustees asked questions about the recommendation recorded in the annual report around TDSB school council emails that went to the Board and staff last school year. The June report included the recommendation for transparency in reporting non-board funds, this recommendation was referred to staff. TDSB Board committee meetings are welcome to members of the public to attend and are also recorded and posted on the TDSB website. For more information about meeting dates or to listen to past committee meeting recordings and view documents please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes>

Meetings coming up in January in 2025 are:

Planning and Priorities Committee	January 16, 2025
Regular Board Meeting	January 22, 2025
Programme and School Services	February 5, 2025
Planning and Priorities Committee	February 12, 2025
Regular Meeting	February 19, 2025

Policy Reviews

TDSB policies are scheduled to be reviewed and PIAC is part of the process. Our Consultations working group is an active group that consists of PIAC members as well as community members and is able to contribute to the process of the policy being reviewed. For more information about the policy review process and the schedule of policies to be reviewed please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Review>

Upcoming Events for Parents and Caregivers

Please visit the TDSB system calendar for information on up and coming events taking place for TDSB parents and caregivers.

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/School-Year-Calendar>

Recognizing Heritage and History in the TDSB in January:

Tamil Heritage Month

Sarah Ali and Zena Shereck

Co-Chairs, Parent Involvement Advisory Committee, TDSB