

Name of Committee: Parent Involvement Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, April 1, 2025

A Parent Involvement Advisory Committee meeting convened via Zoom on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, from 7:04 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. With PIAC Co-Chairs Zena Shereck & Sarah Ali

Attendance:	Erin Clarke. (W1), Nabil Hasbun(W1), Andrew Waters (W3), Gordon Harvey (W3), Johnson Jayelola (W4), Tamasha Grant (W4), Mercy Charles (W6), Crystal Stewart.(W6),Emily Abrahams(W7), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8), (Gili) Frida Zemer (W9), Sarah Brager (W9) Mark Unger (W10), Katrina Matheson (W10),Janice Barnett (W11), Susan Lee (W12), Nicole Wu(W12), M Saleem Khan (W14), Eden Hagos. (W16), Tanya Ono. (W17), Seema Mitchell. (W18), Moosa Alloo (W19), Prasanna Jagannathan (W19) Chris Levien (W20), Azeem Mohammed(W21), Nadia Judunath. (W22), Zena Shereck (Co-Chair) Sarah Ali (PIAC Co-Chair)
Trustee:	Trustee Deborah Williams
Staff:	Elizabeth Addo, Exec Superintendent, Lisa Dilworth System Superintendent, Latha John (PCCEO),Michelle Munroe, Central Coordinator, PCCEO, Jack Nigro, Executive Superintendent
Guests	Trustee Dan Mcleen, Nicole Herbert (Community Member)
Regrets	Trustee Matias de DoVitiis, Jenny Gannon.(W14),
Absent:	Anshu Grover(W8), Charles Zhu.(W11), Jun (Janet) Zheng. (W13), Thanuja Sanker(W17), Shelley Kulperger(W16), Hasiba Esmatyar(W18),

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
Welcome & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of Quorum Land Acknowledgment <p>Code of Conduct</p> Meeting Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conflict of Interest Change in Membership Status. Approval of Consent Agenda & Minutes of PIAC General Meeting February 25, 2025. 	<p>Quorum was confirmed by PIAC Membership WG.</p> <p>The meeting began with the land acknowledgment and welcome by Co-Chair Zena S.</p> <p>There was no conflict of interest or change in membership status noted.</p> <p>Request to amend the agenda to include the PIAC recommendation to LOI Policy consultation drafted by Ward 16 rep Eden H to Consultation WG report.</p> <p>The minutes of PIAC General Meeting February 25, 2025, were approved as amended by the committee.</p> <p>Nadia J (W22) had informed the committee of her leave of absence. It was noted that member leaves of absence will be recorded as regrets in the January and February minutes.</p>	<p>Motion to approve the agenda as amended by Eden H (W16) seconded by Erin C (W01).</p>	
Co-Chairs Update	<p>A written report was distributed to the committee. Co-Chair Sarah A. reminded the committee that PIAC members are representing parents in their wards and across the board.</p> <p>PIAC members were reminded to join working groups as lot of engagement work is done through the work of the WGs</p>		
Trustee Report Trustee D.Williams	<p>A written report was distributed to the committee and the following was highlighted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-year strategic plan 2024-2028 Heritage month celebrations -Greek Heritage in March & Sikh Heritage in April 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy consultations Schedule 2024-2028 • Excellence Awards 2025nominations. • 2025-2026 BUDGET • Special Education and Inclusion Guides • Mental Health & Well-Being • Summer Programs • UIEC-TDSB Indigenous Summer Cultural Camp • Latinx/Latino/Latina Community Consultation • EQAO Webinar • Ontario Human Rights • Vaccines <p>Discussions Fundraising Policy status & mandatory Contributions</p> <p>Questions were raised on fundraising policy consultation process the revision made at Phase 5 is not consistent with the policy development flow chart, more information on the mandatory contribution, the expected revenues and school generated funds be made available.</p> <p>The final draft will be presented for discussion to the Board on April 16th.</p> <p>Budget Deficit The current budget development process noted a projected deficit of \$70.3 million and the ongoing request for reimbursement of \$61 million in pandemic-related costs from the government of Ontario. Staff will present options to balance the budget at FBEC on April 30th. Ongoing discussions with the Ministry of Education about funding challenges, including the moratorium on school closures which limits the</p>		

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	board's ability to consolidate underutilized schools, which could otherwise help optimize resources and improve programming.		
Working Group (WG) Reports Communication WG	<p>PIAC recommendations on TDSB Supporting Parent Engagement in the policy development process.</p> <p>Discussion</p> <p>Consensus that clearer and consistent inclusion and communication is needed.</p>	<p>Motion by Susan L (W12) and seconded by Andrew W (W03). The motion was passed by consensus.</p>	<p>1. Currently, in the policy development process PIAC is not consulted on Policies until Phase 4 along with other external advisory committees. The Director of Education and the TDSB develop a process that allow PIAC to be involved at an earlier phase of the policy development process.</p> <p>2. PIAC and external advisory committees are consulted on the policy development process but not on the procedural development process. However, historically where parents and TDSB at times conflict is in the procedural aspect of the policy: we request that PIAC and other advisory committees be consulted during the development of procedural process to reduce conflict and to encourage good faith in the board. As well</p>

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	<p>Review of Central Interest Programs (CIP):</p> <p>Discussion: Concerns were raised about the program's impact on equity and the need for transparent data. Request to staff return to a future meeting with concrete data. How many students are requesting waivers of course requirements, particularly in specialized schools, to better understand the impact of changes in admissions on program integrity.</p>	<p>Motion by Susan L(W12) seconded by Gili Z (W09) motion passed with an amendment to include how many students requested a waiver from course requirements.</p> <p>Motion was passed with consensus.</p>	<p>as information on recommendations made to the board and how decisions were made about the policies and procedures.</p> <p>Whereas the TDSB has in place various central interest programs to assist and enhance the interests of students and the TDSB strives to offer students valuable educational opportunities while creating a nurturing climate to promote their growth, development and success.</p> <p>Therefore, be it resolved that the board conduct a full review of the CIP paying attention to but not limited to the following areas: a. Curriculum – has the curriculum remained the same since the lottery or has it changed and if what way. (Were</p>

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			<p>courses modified or removed after the lottery?)</p> <p>b. The adequacy and quality of support for students who are struggling with the rigorous nature of the programs. Was extra tutoring support given to students?</p> <p>c. What was the comparison of success rate or dropout rate of students pre lottery and post lottery? Data on retention rates would be recommended.</p> <p>d. With the lottery was the diversity objectives met in the student population?</p> <p>e. Were students ever declined a position in the CIP due to their geographical location?</p> <p>f. How was information about the various CIP programs sent to schools across the TDSB?</p> <p>g. How many students are applying from the marginalized, racialized communities and how many of those who</p>

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	<p>LOI Policy Consultation:</p> <p>Eden H had drafted a letter on behalf of PIAC to the LOI Policy Consultation group.</p>	<p>Motion by Eden H (W16) seconded by Mercy C(W06) was made to have the co-chairs submit a letter on behalf of PIAC to the LOI Policy Consultation group. The motion passed by consensus.</p>	<p>are applying are being accepted into the Central interest programs?</p> <p>h. What are the success criteria TDSB staff for the lottery and the CIP?</p> <p>i. How many students have requested a waiver of the courses of the programs?</p>
Operational Effectiveness WG	<p>The WG did not meet in March, the next meeting is scheduled for April 14.</p> <p>Budget discussions including addressing a likely surplus from unused ward engagement funds. Working groups needing funds should prepare requests.</p> <p>Bylaws Review:</p>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments and suggested amendments as received from PIAC members are being compiled into a working table. • Members are encouraged to review the bylaws and confirm their review, even if they have no suggestions. • The WG to present the proposed amendments at the May general meeting for discussion only. • The Bylaws to be presented for vote and approval in June. • Bylaws have been shared to PIAC membership via TDSB emails, PIAC Gmail, and are also stored in the Operational Effectiveness Drive. • Comments are still welcome and can be sent to Kaydeen B(W08) or Erin C(W01). • Deadline for feedback is Sunday, April 6, to allow for focused compilation of the working table. 	<p>**Motion to extend the meeting by 30 minutes by Nicole W (W12) 2nd by Eden H(W16)</p> <p>**</p>	
Communications WG	<p>A written report was distributed to the committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leadership opportunity for new PIAC Rep members to step into a co-lead role. • The next meeting on April 10. WG is open to all members, including community members with communication skills. 		
School Council Support WG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gordon H (W03) is now the sole co-lead following the end of Melanie M(W09)'s term. • Acknowledgment and thanks to Melanie M (W09) for her contributions to the WG. • Upcoming WG Meeting is scheduled for April 22, where a new co-lead will be elected. • Ward Outreach Funding: The submission period for the \$500 support funding has closed. Members who applied can begin planning, with guidelines available on the Google Drive. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The WG plans to re-engage with senior staff regarding principal accountability for school council engagement, a conversation that began last fall. 		
Special Events WG	<p>No formal update due to the Co-Lead being on a break.</p> <p>Co-Lead Tany O (W17) raised concerns on TDSB process for board vendors who didn't fulfill contractual obligations and the process to potentially remove non-compliant vendors from the board approved list.</p> <p>Staff responded that the issue is currently being handled and will engage the Purchasing Department to review and address vendor's performance for future reference.</p>		
Membership WG	<p>A written report was distributed to the committee.</p> <p>WG Leadership, New PIAC Members, PIAC membership and vacancies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily A (W07) was welcomed as the new co-lead of the Membership WG. • Welcomed four new members to PIAC. • Ward 9: (Gilly) Frida Zemer and Sarah Brager • Ward 10: Mark Unger and Katrina Matheson • 18 vacancies currently <p>Current elections process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low voter turnout (less than 14 voters in wards with thousands of families) 	<p>Motion by Emily A(W03) seconded by Gili (Frida) Z (W09) to approve the new procedures for PIAC elections (Appendix 3). A roll call vote was done. 8 voted in</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barriers to voting due to In-person voting only, lack of accommodation. No consistent electronic voting option <p>Proposed New Election Procedure (Detailed in Appendix 3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nomination and voter registration period for minimum 14 days Validation period: TDSB staff to confirm eligibility. Voting period: 7 days, via secure electronic ballot Results review: Up to 7 days Oversight: Elections to be overseen by Chief Returning Officers (CROs) – PIAC Membership Co-leads or PIAC Co-chairs, not trustees Trustees can still host ward forums or all-candidate meetings but cannot manage elections. In case of ties, results will be determined by drawing lots. A 35-day election cycle is proposed. Focus on wards with no representatives, wards with only one rep, wards without recent elections. Proposed election procedure to bring consistency, transparency, and fairness to elections. <p>Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns that trustees can no longer run elections, trustees were not formally consulted. The role of Chief Returning Officer (CRO) is not currently defined or approved in PIAC bylaw. 	<p>favor, 3 against and 2 abstentions.</p> <p>The motion was carried.</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarification on data privacy and how eligibility details will be shared with CROs, protecting confidential information while providing reasons for ineligibility. • Gaps left by premature resignations of PIAC members in the operational effectiveness and efficiency of filling vacancies, particularly in WG leadership roles. • A flexible ward election model to include trustees and the relationship between trustees and ward reps, where trustees can choose to participate. • Staff raised potential legal and privacy concerns if parent volunteers handle personal information and suggested obtaining legal advice from the Board's privacy office the need to comply with privacy laws. • PIAC is a volunteer body representing parents and should maintain clear boundaries from staff functions. • Personal experience and concerns from Nadia (W22) as a long-standing PIAC member whose term ended had challenges in reaching her trustee and navigating re-election during her personal leave and bereavement. • Protocols for leave request for PIAC members. • Training for trustees on the PIAC membership process. • Broader communication of ward elections beyond School Messenger like TDSB Connects. • The cost of elections, equity in designing the form for voting and multilingual accessibility. • Data privacy, safeguards, and the destruction of sensitive nomination materials. • PCCEO Staff clarified their role in the PIAC ward election process, provide PIAC Election package to staff supporting the elections, collect nominee information and verify eligibility of the candidates. 	<p>**Motion to extend the meeting by 30 minutes by Chair Sara A, 2nd Andrew W (W03) **</p>	

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Staff Report	The agenda item was deferred.		
PCCEO	The agenda item was deferred.		
Ward Updates	The agenda item was deferred.		
New Business	The agenda item was deferred.		
Adjournment	<p>The committee acknowledged and appreciated the contributions of members who had left the committee. There was recognition of their hard work, passion, and collaborative efforts.</p> <p>Due to time constraints, the committee agreed on deferring further discussions and adjourn the meeting at 10 pm.</p>		