

May 3, 2025

School Council Support Working Group

Motion against board suspension of School Council operations

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Whereas, pursuant to the Education Act, Ontario Regulation 612/00 (O. Reg. 612/00), “The purpose of a parent involvement committee is to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being. O. Reg. 330/10, s. 6.” by supporting school councils of the schools of the board;

Whereas the Ontario Education Act requires school boards to “establish a school council for each school operated by the board”;

Whereas Ontario Regulation 612 states a purpose of School Councils is to “enhance the accountability of the education system to parents.” O. Reg. 612/00, s. 2 (1).;

Whereas suspending a School Council is in conflict with its responsibility to hold the education system accountable;

Whereas Ontario Regulation 612 does not describe a process for school boards to suspend School Council operations;

Whereas at the January PIAC meeting a motion was passed as to the following recommendation, but the recommendation was set aside by Trustees;

Therefore, be it resolved that PIAC recommend the following:

1. The Director of Education confirm that TDSB staff have no authority under Regulation 612 to disband, pause or suspend School Council operations.
2. The Director of Education will consult with Ministry of Education on an appropriate process for when school council operations may be suspended and by whom.
3. If the Ministry of Education indicates that a School Council can be disbanded, paused or suspended that the process to be put in place include appointment of a third party arbitrator by the Director of Education to give final approval to any such action.
4. Director of Education to report back in writing on their position related to recommendations 1, 2, and 3, and any progress made at the last PIAC meeting prior to the end of June 2025.