



Name of Committee: Parent Involvement Advisory Committee

Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 16, 2025

A Parent Involvement Advisory Committee meeting convened on Tuesday, December 16, 2025, from 7:11 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. With PIAC Co-Chair Sarah Ali & Katrina Matheson

Attendance: Aaron Kucharczuk (W5), Crystal Stewart(W6), Emily Abrahams(W7), Anshu Grover(W8), (Gili) Frida Zemer (W9), Mark Unger (W10), Susan Lee (W12), Nicole Wu(W12), Rahat Farheen Mahmood(W15) Tanya Ono. (W17), Moosa Alloo (W19), Chris Levien (W20), Sarah Ali (PIAC Co-Chair) Katrina Matheson (PIAC Co-Chair), Andrew Waters (Secretary), Mercy Charles (Treasurer), Prasanna Jagannathan (Officer at Large),Rahel Gettu (CLG MoTiVate)

Ministry of Education Rohit Gupta Supervisor Ministry of Education, Laura Elliot Ministry Supervisor Assistant

Staff: Elizabeth Addo, Exec Superintendent, Latha John (PCCEO), Stephanie Harris, Comptroller, Michelle Munroe, Central Coordinator, PCCEO, Jack Nigro, Executive Superintendent, Audley Salmon, Associate Director, Craig Snider, Executive Officer

Guests Chloe Toka (MoTiVate), Jennifer Gonzales (MoTiVate), Vimuththan Nantheeswarar (W22 Parent)

Regrets Nabil Hasbun(W1), Sarah Brager (W9)

Absent: Tamasha Grant (W4), Carley Cohen(W05), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8), M Saleem Khan (W14), Kristen Boyd (W15), Thanuja Sanker(W17)

o ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
<p>Welcome & Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Approval of Quorum ● Land Acknowledgment <p>Code of Conduct</p> <p>Meeting Administration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conflict of Interest ● Change in Membership Status. ● Approval of Consent Agenda & Minutes of PIAC General Meeting November 18, 2025. 	<p>Quorum was confirmed by PIAC Membership WG.</p> <p>The meeting began with welcome and Land Acknowledgment.</p> <p>Co-Chairs reminded members to use respectful language and behavior to ensure a safe space for discussion.</p> <p>No conflict of Interest declared or change in membership status noted.</p> <p>Request to add Operational Effectiveness and Motion form Strategic Planning WG to the agenda</p> <p>Request to add amendments that was distributed to PIAC membership to the November minutes .</p> <p>The consent agenda and the minutes as amended from the November 18, 2025, meeting were approved.</p>	<p>Motion to approve the agenda and November 18 minutes as amended by Katrinas M 2nd by Andrew W.</p> <p>Motion carried.</p>	
<p>Co-Chairs Update</p>	<p>New Interim Director PIAC formally welcomed Stacey Zucker as the new Interim Director of Education.</p> <p>Membership PIAC has effectively doubled in size following the completion of the recent election cycle.</p> <p>Communication Barriers</p>		

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	<p>The Chair noted that a written explanation for the denial of PIAC’s use of School Messenger has still not been received from staff.</p>		
Community Updates	<p>Health & Safety</p> <p>Highlighted a severe flu season with absenteeism rates and serious complications affecting students. Co-Chair encourages a recommendation from PIAC on ventilation.</p> <p>Specialized Program Questions</p> <p>Concerns were raised regarding a delay in staff responses to community questions about Special Interest Program admissions, which prevented timely communication with families.</p>		
Working Group (WG) Reports			
Membership Working Group	<p>The written report outlines leadership and upcoming January meeting dates for various governance and non-governance groups.</p> <p>Working group Sign-ups: Members and community participants must re-register every fall to join or continue with working groups.</p> <p>New Ward PIAC Co-Representatives: Based on unofficial election results, 18 new PIAC Co-Representatives across Wards 2, 3, 11, 13, 16, 18, 19, 21, and 22 for two-year terms.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Noel Morgan and Uthman Quick for Ward 2; b. Maira Riaz and Rehab Aly 9 for Ward 3; c. Reem Al Jabi 12 and Hilla Gutman for Ward 11; 	<p>Motion by Andrew W, 2nd by Emily A to</p>	

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	<p>d. Majda Eltayan and Colleen Harper for 13; e. Mercedes Lee and Marycarmen Lara Villanueva for Ward 16; f. Olivia Hetherman and Marissa Hill for Ward 18; g. Moosa Alloo and Chantal Gayle for Ward 19; h. Sundus Meer and Neerajah Ponnampalam for Ward 21; and i. Vimuththan Nantheeswarar and Jennifer Sparks for Ward 22.</p> <p>Community Representative Appointment: In accordance with the bylaws, the WG recommends appointing Rahel Gettu as the Community Representative for MOtiVAtE until June 2027.</p> <p>MOtiVAtE as a community group primarily composed of immigrant mothers. Currently, they have approximately 73 active members who have completed training. Although initial project funding has ended, the group remains active as a volunteer-driven initiative.</p> <p>Addressing Inclusion: In response to questions about male involvement, Rahel clarified that while the group started as an immigrant women’s working group, they are not excluding men and plan to discuss how to involve father caregivers in their January meeting. PIAC conducted a recorded vote on Rahel Gettu’s appointment. Rahel was officially welcomed as a member of PIAC.</p> <p>Election Process Improvements: The Chief Returning Officers (CROs) addressed feedback regarding insufficient biography submission timelines and missing candidate information.</p>	<p>approve the elected Parent Ward Representatives for 2yrs term. The motion was passed.</p> <p>Motion by Andrew 2nd by Emily to appoint Rahel Gettu as community Representative The motion passed with 9 votes in favor, 1 against, and</p>	

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	<p>To ensure fairness, the biography deadline was extended to December 5, and the voting period was extended to December 12, 2025.</p> <p>New elections in January/February 2026 are planned for Wards 6, 8, and 20 as terms end, and recommendations to fill existing vacancies in Wards 1, 4, 7, 10, and 14 will be presented in January.</p>	7 abstentions	
School Council Support WG	<p>Crystal S, the co-lead for this group, provided the following update:</p> <p>School Council Innovation Grant (SCIG):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● TDSB staff denied PIAC’s request to have a representative sit on the grant review team, as the panel remains staff-only. ● PIAC was invited to participate in the planning process for the grant in October and May. ● PIAC held a successful help session on Nov 25 to assist councils with the application process. <p>Ward Outreach: School council chair contact lists for all wards were distributed on Nov 27 to facilitate better communication.</p> <p>School Council Fundraising and Tax Receipts PIAC recommends the TDSB issue tax receipts for the donation component of fundraising purchases made by families.</p> <p>Discussion: Members discussed the motion, and the challenges posed by various payment vendors. Previously, councils could use Form AC-219 for tax receipts, but the mandatory shift to School Cash Online removed this option</p>	Motion by Crystal 2 nd by Andrew. The Motion was passed In Favor: 6 Against: 1 Abstain: 1.	

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	<p>The motion was amended to make this non-mandatory, allowing individual councils to choose whether to offer this option. A recorded vote was called.</p>		
Consultation WG	<p>2026 TDSB Budget Plan. Parents emphasized the urgent need for a provincial review of the school board funding formula.</p> <p>Specialized Programs policy. The new application process for these programs closed on December 12. The WG has flagged a significant communication gap regarding community questions regarding the new lottery system, specifically focusing on equity for Model Schools and support for Arts portfolios</p>		
Communication WG	<p>The committee focused on expanding its reach to the broader parent community, especially given the current absence of school board trustees.</p> <p>Member Outreach: The group welcomed new members and recognized the need to expand their email base. Attempts to reach parents via school council co-chairs have yielded limited results so far.</p> <p>Infrastructure Improvements: Redesigning the website’s mailing list sign-up link.</p> <p>Newsletter Strategy: PIAC is asking TDSB staff for advice on allowing ward reps to include sections in school principals' newsletters to relay information directly to parents.</p> <p>Air Quality Concerns: Parents highlighted a lack of communication regarding classroom CO2 levels. They requested that the TDSB distribute infographics and physical posters in schools to</p>		

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	<p>educate families on fighting airborne diseases during flu season.</p> <p>City School Advisory Committee Inquiry: Who currently sits on the committee is it staff?</p> <p>Staff to look this back for further investigation.</p> <p>Communication Barriers: PIAC is requesting a written action plan from staff to address communication barriers to parents.</p>		
Strategic Planning WG	<p>This group monitors the PIAC work plan and focuses on capacity building for its members.</p> <p>Change Leader Training: A full-day training session is scheduled for Sunday, January 11 (9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.). The training focuses on leadership skills, storytelling, engagement strategies, and coaching.</p> <p>Inclusivity & Barriers: Emily (Ward 7) noted that full-day weekend sessions can be prohibitive for parents of young children, regardless of childcare. The group is exploring future virtual or alternative options to ensure all members can participate.</p> <p>A motion regarding Improving Clarity and Accountability in communications between PIAC and TDSB staff was introduced to ensure a more consistent written record of requests and follow-ups.</p>	<p>Motion by Mercy C seconded by Aaron K. The motion passed by consensus.</p>	
Special Events WG	<p>Parent Conference</p> <p>Date & Time: February 7, 2026, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.</p> <p>Venue: West Humber Collegiate (confirmed).</p>)

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	<p>Call for Volunteers: The WG is specifically looking for PIAC rep pairings to lead workshops on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● School Council Operations (The Basics). ● Financial Roles (The Role of the Treasurer). 		
Community Group – MOTIVATE Motion	<p>Rahel Gettu and members of the MOTiVATE community group shared powerful stories presented a motion regarding the equity gap faced by newcomer families.</p> <p>They requested that the TDSB Implement a consistent procedure where every family receives a comprehensive orientation package upon registration, followed by a school-specific orientation annually.</p> <p>Staff Response: The board is currently exploring tools (website) and hard-copy handbooks to ensure every parent can navigate the system.</p>	<p>Motion by Rahel G (MotiVate) 2nd by Emily A (W7). The motion was passed by consensus.</p>	
Staff Update	<p>Communication Channels: Staff confirmed that PIAC can use TDSB Connects (a monthly newsletter) to reach parents. The Parent School Council Guide will be featured in the January 2026 edition. For urgent matters, School Messenger may be requested, subject to staff approval.</p> <p>Food Handling Certificates: Staff clarified that certification is not required for simple events like pizza days. It is only mandatory for those directly preparing or handling raw food (e.g., snack programs). In those cases, only one certified person (staff or volunteer) needs to be on-site.</p> <p>Action Item: A "cheat sheet" regarding food handling requirements will be created for principals and school councils to clear up existing confusion.</p>		

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New Business	None		
Adjournment	Motion to adjourn the meeting by Nicole W (W12) was passed, and the meeting concluded at 9:30 PM.		