

WORKING GROUP REPORT

Membership

Date: April 7, 2026
Co-leads: Emily Abrahams and Andrew Waters

DESCRIPTION/OBJECTIVES

To support PIAC representatives and parent/caregiver members to encourage active participation in PIAC purpose “to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being.”

UPDATE

PIAC Membership Dashboard – March 2, 2026

Item	#	Comments		
A	Committee Seats	50	44 Ward Co-representatives (WCR), 1 Community Group Representative (CLGR), 5 Officers and 0 Ex officio members)	
B	Voting Members	38	32 WCR, 1 CLGR, 5 Officers	
C	Vacancies	12	Reason for Vacancy: 4 Term Ended, 6 Resignation, 2 Declared Vacant	
D	Quorum	17	40% of voting members +1 (round down)	
E	Votes Available per Regular Motion	26	One vote per Ward, one vote per CLGR, one vote per officers, and one vote for ex officio members): 20+1+5+0	
F	Newly Re-/Elected or Appointed Members	0		
G	Representative Elections	13	Elections in process for the following Wards where there are either 1 or 2 vacancies existing: 1, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 20 and 22.	
H	Officers	5	Co-chairs: Sarah Ali and Katrina Matheson; Treasurer: Mercy Charles; Secretary: Andrew Waters; and Officer At-large: Prasanna Jagannathan	
Working Groups (WG) [Descriptions] https://torontopiac.com/get-involved/#piac-meetings				
I	Type	Name	Co-leads	Next Meeting
	Governance (open to voting members)	Strategic Planning	Mercy Charles & Aaron Kucharczuk	Thursday, April 9 @8pm
		Membership	Emily Abrahams & Andrew Waters	Tuesday, April 28 @7:30pm
		Operational Effectiveness	Prasanna Jagannathan & VACANT	Monday, April 23 @7:30pm
	Non-governance (open to all parents/ caregivers of TDSB & community members)	School Council Support	Crystal Stewart & Farheen Mahmood	Wednesday, April 21 @7:30pm
		Consultations	Susan Lee (Interim) & Nicole Wu	Thursday, April 23 @7:30pm
		Advocacy	Mercedes Lee & Noel Morgan	To be scheduled
		Events	Moosa Alloo & VACANT	Monday, April 20 @7:30pm
		Communications	Vinita Goel & Susan Lee	Thursday, April 30 @7:30pm

Sign Ups:

- PIAC WG Sign-up for 2025-2026: All current PIAC and parent/caregivers of the TDSB and community members can register their interest in joining specific Working Groups using the PIAC WG Sign-up Google Form ([2025-26 Working Group Sign-up Form](#)). One must re-register every fall for continuing or new WGs.
- PIAC Whatsapp group chats: email andrew.waters.piac@gmail.com for access.

PIAC Membership WG Meeting – March 24, 2026, at 7:30pm via Zoom

Present (6): Andrew Waters, Emily Abrahams, Katrina Matheson, Majda Eltayan, Reem Jabi, Mercy Charles, and Latha John (staff); Regrets (0): N/A; Absent (0): N/A

Minutes (Generated by LLM (AI) and edited by Co-leads)

1. WhatsApp Guidelines

Discussion:

- Consideration of formal WhatsApp usage guidelines.
- Proposal to limit activity during certain hours (e.g., after 11 PM) and during breaks (March, Christmas).
- Concerns raised about strict weekend rules due to cultural and personal differences.
- Emphasis on inclusivity and managing message volume.
- Adopt flexible guidelines rather than strict rules.
- Encourage a “right to disconnect” approach.

Action Items:

- Draft guidelines including:
 - Suggested quiet hours.
 - Use of mute/notification controls.
 - Moving substantive discussions to working groups.
 - Admin role in moderating and redirecting conversations.

2. Meeting Scheduling & Religious Observances

Discussion:

- Need to accommodate religious and cultural observances (e.g., Ramadan).
- Proposal to designate certain holy days as no-meeting days.
- Current meeting adjustments (e.g., 7:30 PM during Ramadan) noted.
- Scheduling process (set annually in June) requires clarification.
- Support flexible scheduling accommodating observances.
- Consult membership on key dates to avoid.

Action Items:

- Develop a list of no-meeting dates based on member input.
- Clarify and document the annual scheduling process.

3. Working Group Scheduling

Discussion:

- Planning upcoming meeting dates (May review timeline).
- Need for flexibility across working groups.
- Proposed reordering of working group cycle to support committees workflows:
 1. Strategic Planning
 2. School Council Support
 3. Consultation
 4. Advocacy
 5. Events
 6. Communications
 7. Membership
 8. Operational Effectiveness

Action Items:

- Circulate proposed dates for feedback.
- Staff to vet proposed schedule.

4. Election Communications & Eligibility

Discussion:

- Delay in election communications due to IT issue (now resolved).
- Simplification of eligibility criteria proposed (focus on child-school relationship).
- Issue identified with nomination form (ward/school mismatch).

Action Items:

- Implement simplified eligibility criteria for future cycles (part of bylaws review).
- Address nomination form usability issues.

5. Voter Confirmation Process

Discussion:

- Lack of automated confirmation emails (Qualtrics limitation).
- Existing manual verification option available.

Action Items:

- Communicate to users that confirmation can be requested via email.

6. Governance Working Group Processes

Discussion:

- Working group and sub-working group creation should flow through Membership WG.
- Requests from community groups to be reviewed.
- Need for clearer process on sub-working groups under Advocacy.

Action Items:

- Draft guidelines for:
 - Working group and sub-working group formation and approval.

7. Community Group Participation & Voting

Discussion:

- Clarification on role of community groups as voting members.
- Distinction between:
 - Voting membership in PIAC
 - Participation in sub-working groups
- No geographic (ward) restriction.

Action Items:

- Review bylaws to align sub-working group rules with main WG structure.

8. Governance Working Groups & Elections

Discussion:

- Current governance WGs: Strategic Planning, Operational Effectiveness, Membership.
- Need for formalized co-lead election process (issues noted previously).

Action Items:

- Develop:
 - Standard nomination form.
 - Election procedures for co-leads of working groups.
 - Requirement for WG registration prior to voting.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- None

QUESTION(S)

- None

NEXT STEPS & ACTION ITEMS

Next steps

- Co-leads: Ensure that Co-representative elections are completed prior to the PIAC general meeting occurring May 12, 2026 so the elected candidates can be seated at that meeting.
- Replace PIAC Bylaws on website with properly formatted document. Add PIAC Meeting Rules of Order to the website.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – PIAC Membership 2025-2026 (January 27, 2026)

Position/Ward	PIAC Member	Term End Date	Email
Officers			
Co-Chair	Sarah Ali	1 st Meeting Fall 2026	info@torontopiac.com PIAC.Chair@tdsb.on.ca
	Katrina Matheson	1 st Meeting Fall 2027	
Treasurer	Mercy Charles	1 st Meeting Fall 2026	
Secretary	Andrew Waters	1 st Meeting Fall 2026	andrew.waters.piac@gmail.com
Officer At-large	Prasanna Jagannathan	1 st Meeting Fall 2026	
Ward Co-Representatives			
1	Nabil Hadbun	November 2026	PIAC.Ward01@tdsb.on.ca
2	Noel Morgan	December 2027	PIAC.Ward02@tdsb.on.ca
	Uthman Quick	December 2027	
3	Maira Riaz	December 2027	PIAC.Ward03@tdsb.on.ca
	Rehab Aly	December 2027	
4	Tamasha Grant	November 2026	PIAC.Ward04@tdsb.on.ca
5	Carly Cohen	April 2027	PIAC.Ward05@tdsb.on.ca
	Aaron Kucharczuk	April 2027	
6	Crystal Stewart	November 2026*	PIAC.Ward06@tdsb.on.ca
7	Emily Abrahams	January 2027	PIAC.Ward07@tdsb.on.ca
8			
9	Frida (Gili) Zemer	March 2027	PIAC.Ward09@tdsb.on.ca
	Sarah Brager	March 2027	
10	Mark Unger	March 2027	PIAC.Ward10@tdsb.on.ca
11	Reem Al Jabi	December 2027	PIAC.Ward11@tdsb.on.ca
	Hilla Gutman	December 2027	
12	Susan Lee	October 2026	PIAC.Ward12@tdsb.on.ca
	Nicole Di Wu	October 2026	
13	Majda Eltayan	December 2027	PIAC.Ward13@tdsb.on.ca

	Colleen Harper	December 2027	
14	Mohammad Saleem Khan	November 2026	PIAC.Ward14@tdsb.on.ca
15	Kristen Boyd	October 2027	PIAC.Ward15@tdsb.on.ca
	Farheen Mahmood	October 2027	
16	Mercedes Lee and Marycarmen Lara Villanueva	December 2027	PIAC.Ward16@tdsb.on.ca
17	Thanuja Sankar	February 2027	PIAC.Ward17@tdsb.on.ca
18	Olivia Hetherman	December 2027	PIAC.Ward18@tdsb.on.ca
	Marissa Hill	December 2027	
19	Moosa Anwar Alloo	December 2027	PIAC.Ward19@tdsb.on.ca
	Chantal Gayle	December 2027	
20			
21	Sundus Meer	December 2027	PIAC.Ward21@tdsb.on.ca
	Neerajah Ponnampalam	December 2027	
22	Jennifer Sparks	December 2027	PIAC.Ward22@tdsb.on.ca
Community Group Representatives			
MOTiVAtE	Rahel Gettu	June 2027	

*Or until an election is held, switch ever occurs first as per 3.1.8(a)(ii) Term of Office for Acting Appointments.