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P/VP Interview Process-Parent Involvement

- P/VP Interview Process training for parents took place on Tuesday February 13, 2018. There were approximately 35 parents trained. Parents have been assigned to interview teams and notified of interview details. Interviews will take place on:
 - Tuesday, February 27, 2018-Elementary
 - Tuesday, March 6, 2018-Secondary
- The Board has organized a refresher training session for parents who have been previously trained to highlight a few new areas that align with the Board's new direction. The session is scheduled for Monday, February 26, 2018, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm, North York Civic Centre, 5100 Yonge Street, Committee Room 1

Permit Fee Waiver for School Council Events

- At its December 2017 meeting, PIAC was provided an update from staff on its. Staff requested further details as to the request for the Board to waive permit fees for council events/meetings (e.g. event planning, executive or committee meetings etc.) that are beyond 6 pm and the availability of the Principal.
- Staff has been advised that PIAC has deemed the request unreasonable and would like to move forward with the waiving of permit fees.

Teleconference for School Council Meetings

The PCEO and Principals are receiving multiple requests/inquiries regarding teleconference for school council meetings. The following options are being explored:

- Utilization of existing CISCO phone system to support conference calling



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- Google/Google hang out for calls
- Skype

More information will be provided.

School Generated Funds/Fundraising Policy

- The Board is presently preparing the fundraising policy for consultation in the spring. The policy is to include clear guideline for School Generated funds. PIAC will be provided with the opportunity for consultation.

Enhancing Equity Task Force-Family Engagement Follow-Up

- The Directors response to the Task Force had a number of family engagement recommendations, including the development of family engagement standards for the TDSB. To review the full response visit: www.tdsb.on.ca/About-us/Equity

CAC Training

- A social media training session has been scheduled for CAC Co-chairs on Feb 28th, 2018 6:30-8:30 pm, 5050 Yonge Street, 5th Floor-Trustee Meeting Room.

National Anthem

On January 27th, Bill C-20 received Royal Assent. Effective immediately schools and any other TDSB department that plays the National Anthem must use the new anthem, and any resources available to schools (such as anthem recordings) should have the updated anthem lyrics. The lyrics were changed from “in all thy sons command” to “in all of us command”.



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If you are interested in hearing the new anthem versions of the National Anthem recorded by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in 12 different languages can be downloaded at this link: <https://soundcloud.com/torontosymphony/sets/our-shared-anthem-notre-hymne-a-tous/s-vWdVN>.

Early Development Instrument (EDI)

Beginning in March 2018 at the Toronto District School Board, Kindergarten teachers will be working to complete individual questionnaires for Senior Kindergarten students in all elementary schools and Junior and Senior Kindergarten students in Model Schools for Inner Cities.

The Ministry of Education has asked regional school boards and school authorities to complete this questionnaire to collect information about how well children are prepared for success in school. The Offord Centre for Child Studies at McMaster University has been contracted by the Ministry to lead the data collection and analysis.

The questionnaire is not a test or a tool for diagnosing a particular child's learning challenges. It will not become part of your child's school record and the results will focus on groups of children only, not individual children

Parents/families who do not wish their child (ren) to participate in the EDI exercise, should contact the Principal.

Updating Individual Education Plans (IEPs)

- During the third reporting period for elementary schools and Semester 2 for semestered secondary schools just beginning, all schools were reminded that all IEPs need to be updated.
- Modified and alternative learning expectations described in an IEP must be reviewed, and updated as necessary, at least once in every reporting period. Adjustments to any annual program goals, learning expectations, teaching strategies, individualized equipment, and levels



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of human support should be noted as they occur and shared with both the parent and the student.

- If certain strategies cease to be effective, it is imperative that the staff working with the student seek out and implement new teaching methods and accommodations. For revisions resulting in significant changes to the student's learning expectations and/or types or level of accommodations, there must be consultation with the parents and student before the changes are implemented. It is most important for parents to understand the significance of modifying learning expectations, particularly how modified learning expectations will affect the credit-bearing status of secondary school courses.
- **The date and** outcome of parent/student consultations must be recorded in the Parent/Student Consultation section of the IEP. It is recommended that use of this section be reserved for recording parent-school interactions about matters relating to the student's Individual Education Plan.

School Council Funds, Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants & Other Grants

- School Councils are *allocated funds by the Board to support their work*. The Board has allocated \$1.25/student with a *minimum of \$300.00 and a maximum of \$1,000* to all councils. The funds can be accessed by contacting the Principal
- The **Ministry allocate \$500.00 each year** support activities that are geared to reaching parents who are not accessing council/school activities. These funds will be arriving in the school by December and can be accessed by contacting the Principal
- **Approved 2018 PRO Grant funds have been uploaded** to school budgets. Councils are encouraged to commence implementing their projects Funds can be accessed by contacting the school
- *TDSB Business Services has researched a number of grants that councils may explore. To access this list of grants school council chairs must request that the school activate the school council TDSB e-mail account. Once the account is activated councils may visit:*
<https://oursite.tdsb.on.ca/org/DOM/pages/Contests,%20Grants,%20Scholarships.aspx> for a list of grants.



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- **Continuing Education provides financial & in-kind support to** schools hosting educational workshops/information sessions for parents of students in Grades 1 to 12. Funding in the amount of \$3.00 per parent participant (based on parent sign-in sheet). Schools/councils may also access door prices/TDSB promotional items. For further information contact:

Elementary/JHS Schools: maria.mihajlovic@tdsb.on.ca

Secondary Schools: winsome.brockett@tdsb.on.ca

NOTE: IPRC meetings, Parent-Teacher Interviews, and curriculum nights are not eligible for this funding.

School Council & CAC E-mail to Gmail Process

- The PCEO and IT pilot will continue until year end. The pilot is enabling immediate supports to school council chairs and staff that face challenges with the school council e-mail account.
- The feasibility of a Gmail roll out for spring 2018 is being reviewed.
- Council accounts will continue as a shared mailbox
- Passwords will be extended to one year
- Password management (ability to change own password) continues to be explored for council supports for 2018

Enhancing Equity Task Force-Family Engagement Follow-Up

- There are a number of Family engagement recommendations outlined in the draft report. One which focuses on the need for the Board to draft standards of family engagement in the future.