



Statutory Committees

**Parent Involvement Advisory
Committee (PIAC)
2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT**



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Co-Chair's Message

The 2018-2019 school year for the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee has been one of change and learning as well growth and a commitment to continuing in building relationships, and connections with all our stakeholders in the community. Our year started with our own wards and members just like other members of the community being affected by the changes to ward boundaries and the election of a new co-chair soon followed by the election of another new co-chair and over 14 new ward representatives. With all the new changes internally the important work of parent involvement and outreach, and opportunities to advise the Board on process and policy through consultation and conversation took place. The Annual Parent Conference was a very well attended event with parents gaining knowledge and the space to engage in what supporting their child's learning can look like. Our Annual School Council Appreciation Dinner was a celebration and appreciation of all the tireless time and works given by school councils in their communities to support the well being and learning of all in their school communities. The event saw record attendance of school council chairs as well as trustees who were able to meet, and have meaningful conversation and fostering partnerships that will strengthen and support the three main foci of the multi-year strategic plan of the TDSB and work together to face challenges school councils and parents may encounter in the future and celebrate together.

With a year of challenges and the awareness of new challenges in the future PIAC, it needs to be recognized that a lot of hard work has been done and there is a lot to be celebrated.

About PIAC

Education is a partnership involving students, parents, teachers, principals, staff, trustees, school boards, government, and the community. The Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) is committed to strengthening this partnership and is committed to assisting parents, and school councils.

Vision

Supporting parents as partners in education.

Mission

To aid access to information and resources for parents, especially that of the Toronto District School Board (TDSB) and Ontario Ministry of Education, in support of more effective parent engagement in their child's learning to improve student achievement and well-being, and enhance accountability of the education system.

Membership

PIAC Members are elected parent volunteers who form an Advisory Committee of the TDSB. Each TDSB Ward has two PIAC Members, a Representative and an Alternate. A current list of PIAC members can be found [here](#). Ward Representatives and Alternates are advocates who

- provide information and advice on parent engagement to the TDSB;
- communicate with and support school councils of schools; and
- undertake activities to help parents of pupils of the board support their children's learning at home and at school.

Historical Perspective

In 2010, Parent Involvement Committees (PICs) within school boards such as the TDSB were formally established under the Ontario [Education Act R.S.O 1990](#) “to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement in order to improve student achievement and well-being” [R.330/10, s.27 (1)]. Ontario [Regulation 612/00](#) outlines how PICs are to be structured and operated.

Governance

PIAC is governed by a series of [bylaws](#) based on guidelines set out in the Ontario Education [Act R.S.O 1990](#), [Regulation 612/00](#) .

Member Roles and Responsibilities

PIAC's mission as described above is fulfilled through the following roles and responsibilities:

- Acquire the skills and knowledge needed to fulfill PIAC's mission;
- Communicate information from the Ontario Ministry of Education and/or the TDSB, to school councils and parents of TDSB students;
- Share best practices with school councils and support partnerships between school councils to share effective practices with each other;
- Identify and reduce barriers to parent engagement;
- Develop strategies and initiatives that effectively communicate and engage parents in improving student achievement and well-being; and
- *Recommend how funding for parent involvement, provided under the Education Act as described in [Ontario Education Act R.S.O 1990](#), [Regulation 612/00](#), is to be used.*

Advisory Committee Activities

Special Event(s)

Hosted the PIAC Annual Parent Conference on November 17th at Earl Haig Secondary School.

Hosted the PIAC Annual School Council Appreciation Dinner on February 21, 2019 at the Montecassino Hotel and Suites.

Additional Activities of PIAC

Participated in the School Improvement Plan consultation

Participated in a focus group for the student dress code policy P042

Participation in the focus group for the Caring and Safe School Policy P051

Recommendations

- SUPPORTING PRINCIPALS IN STRENGTHENING SCHOOL COUNCIL AWARENESS:
 1. The TDSB distributes PIAC's Quick Guide "Fall Tips for Principals" to principals via their Superintendents at the beginning of each school year beginning 2019/2020. This guide is a convenient fact sheet on how principals can support their school council.
 2. That PIAC's School Council Outreach Plan is used in schools identified as having no school councils. Superintendents can assist their principals in building school councils where they do not exist, by sharing and working through PIAC's School Council Building Quick Guides for principals and parents. PIAC suggests principal outreach occurs at year-end (June) to start identifying potential parents for school council for the following school year. We further recommend Superintendents attend a school council meeting in these schools by January of that school year. The TDSB be held accountable to this process by providing PIAC & the PCEO with annual follow-up including an updated list of schools without school councils each November to allow for timely support of schools struggling with building their school council.
 3. The TDSB be held accountable to this process by providing PIAC & the PCEO with annual follow-up including PIAC Co-Chair(s) in collaboration with the PIAC Executive Committee wrote and sent a letter on behalf of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC), to express concerns to the Minister of Education regarding education funding reductions.
 4. PIAC Communications Best Practices and Guidelines document was adopted as a communications guide for all PIAC Members and Co-chairs.
 5. **Toronto Public Health Student Consent for Immunization**

That PIAC Co-Chairs sent the attached letter as amended as per discussion to John Malloy, Director of Education, Chair Robyn Pilkey, Trustee Rachel Chernos-Lin and all trustees expressing PIAC concerns about report Toronto Public Health: Student Consent for Immunization which is going forward to Board on June 19th for approval on the consent agenda. • That PIAC requests the Board remove the item from the June consent agenda and maintain the current practices in school immunizations clinics until further consultations can be done with families' • That PIAC sends the letter as amended consistent with the language as discussed by the committee out prior to the June 19th, 2019 Board meeting
 6. PIAC requested that Business Services develop a "Quick Reference Guide", including reference to O.Reg.612 (Regulations Governing School Councils) and the TDSB's accounting processes. This guide will provide on how to access and process school council funds for the start of the 2019-2020 school year.
 7. Move School Council Info & Appreciation event to November & redesign it to

emphasize School Council Capacity Building and Networking

8. PIAC requested that Business Services develop a “Quick Reference Guide”, including reference to O.Reg.612 (Regulations Governing School Councils) and the TDSB’s accounting processes. This guide will provide on how to access and process school council funds for the start of the 2019-2020 school year.

Meetings

Meetings for 2018-2019 took place the third Tuesday of the month with a few exceptions in the Boardroom at 5050 Yonge Street. Members were also able to call into the meetings to participate if needed.

Meeting dates for 2018-2019:

September 25 at 7pm

October 16 at 7pm

November 20 at 7pm

December 18 at 7pm

January 15 at 7pm

February 19 at 7pm

March 19 at 7pm

April 16 at 7pm

May 21 at 7pm

June 15 at 7pm

An annual planning session for the 2019-2020 school year took place on Saturday June 15 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at 5050 Yonge Street.

Committee Members

Ali Mohamed	Ward 1 Representative	Syed Sumar Alam	Ward 13 Alternate
Erin Goto	Ward 1 Alternate	Nazerah Shaikh	Ward 14 Representative
Vivek Rao	Ward 2 Representative	Jenny Gannon	Ward 14 Alternate
Shafoli Kapur	Ward 2 Alternate	Cori MacFarlane	Ward 15 Representative
Felicia Lau	Ward 3 Representative	VACANT	Ward 15 Alternate
Saira Somani	Ward 3 Alternate	Kate Leuschen Millar	Ward 16 Representative
Sharon Grant	Ward 4 Representative	VACANT	Ward 16 Alternate
Lia Christensen	Ward 4 Alternate	VACANT	Ward 17 Representative
Jess Hungate	Ward 5 Representative	VACANT	Ward 17 Alternate
Jaimala	Ward 5 Alternate	Seema Mitchell	Ward 18 Representative
Mirian Turcios	Ward 6 Representative	Mark Ramcharan	Ward 18 Alternate
Dean Gray	Ward 6 Alternate	VACANT	Ward 19 Representative
Loen Hansford	Ward 7 Representative	VACANT	Ward 19 Alternate
Helena Matteer	Ward 7 Alternate	Christopher Levien	Ward 20 Representative
Kaydeen Bankasingh	Ward 8 Representative	Zuojun (Echo) Han	Ward 20 Alternate
John Bakous	Ward 8 Alternate	Kabirul Mollah	Ward 21 Representative
D.Williams	Ward 9 Representative	VACANT	Ward 21 Alternate
Chetna Dickerson	Ward 9 Alternate	Jennifer Sparks	Ward 22 Representative
VACANT	Ward 10 Representative	VACANT	Ward 22 Alternate
Sylvester Witter	Ward 10 Alternate		
Wilmar Kortleever	Ward 11 Representative		
Hafsa Esmail	Ward 11 Alternate		
Haniya Sheikh	Ward 12 Representative		
Eva Rosenstock	Ward 12 Alternate		
Aretha Phillip	Ward 13 Representative		

Member Survey Results

1) All committee members understand the goal and purpose of our committee

*The majority of the responses suggested that not all committee members understand the goal and purpose of our committee.

2) The committee members agree on the goals and purpose of the committee.

*The majority of the responses suggested slightly more agreeable that committee members agree on the goals and purpose of the committee.

3) There is alignment between our goals and purpose and the actions taken and/or the decisions made by the committee.

*The majority of the responses suggested slightly more agreeable that there is alignment between the purpose and the actions taken and/or the decisions made by the committee. Although those that did not agree gave a close to strongly disagree response. Support for the Committee

4) Our committee has adequate resources (for example, budget, people) to support its function.

*The majority of the responses suggested slightly more agreeable that our committee has adequate resources (for example, budget, people) to support its function.

5) Our Committee has the respect and support of key stakeholders within our organization.

*The majority of the responses suggested slightly more agreeable that our committee has the respect and support of key stakeholders within our organization. Although those that did not agree gave a close to strongly disagree response. Time and Location of Meetings

6) Our meetings are held regularly and with appropriate frequency.

*The majority of the responses suggested that our meetings are held regularly and with appropriate frequency. There was only one response that did not agree and gave close to a strongly disagree response.

7) Our meetings begin and end as scheduled.

*The responses was almost evenly split of those who agreed and disagreed that our meetings begin and end as scheduled.

8. The length of our meetings is appropriate and respectful of the agenda.

*The majority of the responses suggested that the length of our meetings appropriate and respectful of the agenda.

9. We receive the meeting agenda and materials in advance of the meeting to allow for appropriate review and preparation.

*The majority of the responses suggested that members received materials in advance of the meeting to allow for appropriate review and preparation

10. We consistently use our meeting time well. Issues get the time and attention proportionate to their importance.

*The majority of the responses suggested that PIAC used the meeting time well. As well that issues received the time and attention appropriate to their importance.

11. The location where our meetings are held is conducive to positive group interaction and discussion.

*The majority of the responses suggested that meetings were held and were conducive to positive group interaction and discussion.

12. Attendance at our meetings is consistent and members arrive on time.

*The majority of the responses suggested that attendance at meetings were consistent and most members arrived on time.

13. Attendance at our meetings is evaluated as a criterion for continued membership on the committee.

*The majority of the responses suggested that the attendance at meetings is evaluated as a criterion for continued membership on the committee.

14. The minutes of our meetings are accurate and reflect the discussion, next steps and/or action items articulated by the members.

*The majority of the responses suggested that the minutes of our meetings are accurate and reflect the discussion, next steps and/or action items articulated by the members.

15. Our membership represents the talent and skill set required to fulfill the goals and purpose of the committee.

*The majority of the responses suggested that the membership of PIAC represents the talent and skill set required to fulfill the goals and purpose of the committee.

16. Our members treat each other with respect and courtesy.

*The majority of the responses suggested that members treat each other with respect and courtesy.

17. Our members come to meetings prepared and ready to contribute.

*The majority of the responses suggested that members come to meetings prepared and ready to contribute.

18. As a general rule, when I speak I feel listened to and that my comments are valued.

*The majority of the responses suggested that as a general rule members feel when they speak they feel listened to and their comments are valued.

19. What I like the most about our meetings?

*The friendliness of members along with the diversity of opinions shared. The respect for other members with ample time was spent discussing issues.

20. What I would like to see improve at our meetings?

Freshen up the agenda and keeping better awareness of the length of discussions so meetings did not run late.

PIAC 2018-2019 Budget

Description			Revised Budget	Actual	Commitments (not paid yet - amounts may change once)	Variance
Revenue			-			
	8700	"For profit" Vendors fees @	2,200	2219.0		
		PRO Grant allocation	8,000			
		TDSB Allocation	5,000			
Allocation		Allocation (Ministry)	46,320			
			61,520	2,219		
General -						
	11600	Monthly Teleconference & Media	2,905	3,415.00		
	13830	Translation/Interpretation	159			
	13970	Child Minding	500	147.89		
	31500	PIA Conference	100			
	31700	Education - P4E Conference	400			
	33050	Special Events	69	3010.00		
	33600	Printing & Photocopying	1,000			
	40500	Communications/Website	250			
	40600	Vesta (Teleconferencing)	1,364	1,512.65		
	41000	Supplies: Grand & Toy, couriers	345	557		
	42100	Marketing and Branding	7,500	10,026.00		0
	61100	Rental	-			
	72500	Misc				
	41003	Catering: Monthly meeting costs	5,000	3,292.00		
		Subtotal: General	19,592.00	21,960.54		- 2,369
Parent Conference - 40105001						
Expenses	11600	Media Support (projector, staffing)	614	396.54		
	13830	Temp Interpreters *	700	1,176.08		
	13970	Child Minding *		2,517.55		
* Expenses includes \$8,000 from PRO Grants	19140	EA Spec Ed *		2,806.93		
		Child care assistants -25				
		Special Needs assistants -10				
		Total Child Minding	637	5,324.48		
	33000	Math Kits	600			
	33600	Printing Costs	913	735.51		
	36300	Buses to Parent Conference *	2,362	1,930.15		
	40600	Walkie Talkie rental	209			
** Budget includes \$8,000 from Pro grant	41000	Supplies **	9,811	465.76		
	41003	Catering	-	7,287.66		
		Kids (breakfast & lunch)				
		Adults (breakfast & lunch)				
		Total catering	5,438	7,287.66		
	60100	Rental Equipment (tables, chairs	1,400	1,585.52		
	63000	Permit Costs	1,605	1,604.52		
	65300	Speaker for Parent Conference *	500	500.00		-
	65300	Child Minding Coordinator	1,800	1,300.00		
	72200	Reimbursements	-			
		Subtotal: Parent Conference	26,588	21,806.22		- 4,782
PIAC Appreciation Event - 40105002						
	11600	Media Support (projector, staffing)	240	361.00		
	13970	Child Minding	500	1010.56		
	33050	Venue Rental-Montecassino	11,731	11,738		-
	33600	Printing Costs	373	575.44		-
	36300	Busing				
	41000	Supplies: Grand & Toy, couriers	400	46.00		
	70500	Prizes & Trophies	225			
		Subtotal: PIAC Appreciation	13,469	13,731.00		- 262
PIAC Planning Meeting - 40105003						
	33050	Venue Rental-Novotel	1,767			
	41003	Meeting Exp	104	1147.00		
		Subtotal: PIAC Planning Meeting	1,871	1,147.00		- 724
Total Expenditures			61,520	58,645		- 2,875
Net Position				2,875		- 2,875