

PIAC Working Group REPORT

Working Group	Consultations
Date	May 13, 2017
Description/Objective	<i>The Consultations Working Group was formed to prioritize, summarize, and disseminate information to PIAC, and where applicable the TDSB parent community, regarding Policies and Procedures under review by the TDSB. Dissemination of information will be coordinated with PIAC Ward Representatives and the Communications WG. Where applicable the Consultations WG, along with all PIAC members, will coordinate review and/or provide feedback and/or make recommendations regarding review and revision of TDSB Policies and Procedures to the PIAC Co-chairs.</i>
Update	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Consultation WG co-leads and PIAC Co-chairs met with Vitali Plotnikov (Policy Coordinator, TDSB) on May 1, 2017 to discuss the TDSB Policy review process and open channels for communication between TDSB staff and PIAC. Vitali outlined the TDSB Policy review process and Identified stages where PIAC could provide feedback on specific policies. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. PIAC should be able to identify the policies we want to be involved with then consult with Trustees ahead of the Phase 1 Work Plan approval. At this point PIAC can indicate how and when we want to be involved (Phase 2 co-construction or Phase 4 consultation) and then depute at the GPC Phase 1 approval meeting. b. There are minimal requirements for external consultation on policies outlined in Policy 078 but Trustees can add to or modify these requirements for specific policies c. Staff are required to respond to input from CACs when that input is outlined in the workplan. 2. The Consultations WG met on May 11th, 2017 to discuss the following items <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Potential outcomes from meeting with Vitali <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Add timeline to contact Trustees on specific policies to WG workflow documents. b. TDSB Equity Ward Forums <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Forums collect little actual input from attendees. Revamped forums are improved from the early versions but direction to schools is still unorganized and only delivered at the forum rather than as a direct communication with school staff. c. PIAC Consultations Web page <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. ongoing development ii. discussed format, information, and toolkit that will make it easiest to engage both PIAC members and parents d. PIAC strategic planning meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Summary from Aretha on format and expectations. e. Next GPC meeting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. need identify whether draft policies will be tabled (fundraising) or presented for phase 5 review (Equity). PIAC to depute on Equity Policy consultations. f. Equity Survey <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. External Consultation (Survey) has not been sufficient. Most parents are unaware of the draft policy or the survey. This policy provides the framework for all other policies and is too important to be rushed. (see May 11th Executive meeting minutes for further discussion). There is also confusion

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	<p>between the draft Equity Policy and the proceedings of the Equity Task Force which undermines the consultation process on the policy itself.</p>
<p>Motion(s)</p>	<p>The Consultations Working Group is authorized to depute, through the PIAC Co-Chairs or as they may determine, at the meeting of the TDSB's Governance and Policy Committee at which amendments to the Equity Policy (P037) are tabled for consideration. PIAC will strongly encourage the TDSB to postpone adoption of the Equity Policy amendments until after the current Equity Task Force consultations and subsequent TDSB discussion are concluded, so that any further changes to the Equity Policy arising from that work can be included in a single set of amendments, to be considered and adopted in a single process that is both transparent and understandable to the TDSB's various constituencies, and specifically to the parent community that PIAC is mandated to be involved with. Among other things, PIAC will express its concern with the potential confusion in the school community arising out of the concurrent activities involving the Equity Policy amendments and the Equity Task Force. PIAC will record its understanding that equity issues are very important not only to the TDSB but within the parent community, and that understanding how the extremely broad language of the Equity Policy will actually be applied to managing the system for which the TDSB is responsible is important to parent confidence in and respect for that system. PIAC will request that it be involved in development of any further parent consultation strategies in relation to equity policy, to maximize parental awareness, involvement and knowledge, regarding the equity aspects of the TDSB's operations into the future.</p>
<p>Question(s)</p>	<p><i>[This section is for less formal questions to pose to the PIAC group.]</i></p>
<p>Next Steps and Action items</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to develop WG tools and procedure documents 2. Continue to develop consultations web page. 3. Contact TDSB staff regarding status of Fundraising Policy revisions.
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