



**Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC)  
Minutes**

January 16, 2013  
Time: 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Present:** Eva Rosenstock (Co-Chair, Ward 12); Jerako Biaje-Wendt (Co-Chair, Ward 10); Virginia Ludy (Ward 2); Laurie Green(Ward 3); Tina Chan Kim ( Ward 3); Norman Perry (Ward 4); Ricardo Francis(Ward 6); Jane Withey (Ward 7);Dagmar Grasser(Ward 8); Allen Schacht (Ward 11); Diane Enhorning (Ward 13); Kainani Dana(Ward 14); Gary Lochhead (Ward 17); John Trafananko (Ward 17); Steve Chatzibasile (Ward 18); James Rycman (Ward 19); Sudershan Singh (Ward 20); Hilary Wollis (Ward 22); Saida Sabrie (SPLC); Samy Ramachandran (Canada Tamil Parents Association); Mirian Turcios (SSEN); Trustee Sotiropoulos attended by phone.

**Observer:** George Ramos (Ward 6)

**Regrets:** Vivek Rao (Ward 1); Jim Spyropoulos (TDSB, Coordinating Superintendent); Trustee Chris Glover; Michelle Munroe (TDSB, PCIO Central Coordinator); Cathy McCulloch (PIAC Coordinator).

**Recorder:** Linda Mendonca (Committee Assistant)

Item	Information/Discussion	Action/Recommendation
<b>1. Welcome &amp; Introductions (Co-Chairs)</b>	Jerako called the meeting to order @ 7:09 PM. All members and guests were welcomed.  Jerako reiterated the following Meeting Rules for the committee as there have been some concerns regarding the flow of and interruptions during past meetings: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) Speak to the Chair</li> <li>2.) Turn off all cell phones</li> <li>3.) If you need to have a side conversation, please tap the person on the shoulder and go out of the meeting room to have your conversations.</li> <li>4.) If you are allotted a specific amount of time to speak on the agenda, please pay attention to the time and try not to go over. You will be asked to stop if you exceed the time.</li> <li>5.) If the meeting is running longer, and you have to leave, please let ONLY Sude (who is filling in for Vivek) know so that he can keep an eye on quorum. Avoid disrupting the rest of the meeting.</li> </ol>	
<b>2. Approval of Quorum(Co-Chairs)</b>	Jerako confirmed quorum for the Committee. Approved by consensus.  George Ramos (Ward 6) joined the meeting today.	

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<p><b>3. Approval of Agenda (Co-Chairs)</b></p>	<p>The agenda was reviewed and approved, with the following amendments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Item #6:</b> Delete “Need PIAC Rep as Liaison”. John is the PIAC Rep for the Pools AWG</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #6:</b> Add “John Trafananko” and delete “Janet Dabrus”</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #6:</b> Add: P/VP Process, and Ward 2/3 Announcement, and “Laurie Green” as the Lead for these items.</li> <li>▪ Add after Item #8, “Superintendent’s Report” – Eva will give a brief message from Superintendent Spyropoulos and Trustee Glover</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #7:</b> Remove Hilary W., Steve C., and replace with Mirian T.</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #9:</b> Delete</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #10:</b> Add “Eva” as a lead with Gary</li> </ul> <p><b>*Motion</b> to approve the agenda with the above amendments were moved by Virginia, seconded by Gary, all favor, motion carried.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Linda will revise the agenda and post it on the website.</li> </ul>
<p><b>4. Approval of December 6 minutes (Co-Chairs)</b></p>	<p>The following amendments and clarifications were suggested regarding the December 6<sup>th</sup> minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Item # 6:</b> Jerako requested that names be specified as in the case of “Eva” replaced by “Co-Chair</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #8:</b> Jerako requested replacement of the word “doing” with “leading” in reference to her “leading” the PIAC Orientation</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #8:</b> Jerako expressed concerns regarding PCIO changing of the word from “e-mails” to “access” and requested it be changed back to “e-mails”</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #8:</b> Gary requested a clarification regarding the PIC handbook with reference to the distribution of all minutes to all school councils? Eva advised Gary that if Superintendent <del>Sp</del> Spyropoulos comes back before the meeting ends that he could speak to it, if not; it will have to wait until the next meeting.</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #9:</b> In reference to the Committee Report that was submitted on behalf of PIAC to the Chair of the Board to request PIAC representation on the F&amp;M Committee, Jerako clarified that the Addendum to the Minutes referenced the By-Law which prohibits Advisory Committee reps from participating on the F &amp; M Committee, and the answer to the question she posed to PCIO to advise where specifically in the By-Laws it says that CAC Reps are not allowed to participate on the F&amp;M Committee.</li> <li>▪ <b>Item #9:</b> In reference to Motion to have a PIAC representative participate on the F&amp;M Committee, Hilary, Virginia and Laurie voted against the motion. This change is to be reflected in the minutes.</li> </ul> <p>Virginia expressed frustration with the Co-Chairs regarding the review of minutes taking up meeting time and recommended that the Co-Chairs go back and review and edit the minutes, and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Co-Chairs/Linda will go back and revise the minutes accordingly and come back with revised version for approval at the next meeting.</li> </ul>

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	<p>recommended that the approval of the minutes be deferred to the next meeting.</p> <p>***Motion to defer the approval of the minutes to the next meeting to ensure that minutes are accurately reflected was moved by Virginia. All approved to defer the approval of the minutes to the next meeting.</p>	
<p><b>5. Budget Update (Eva Rosenstock)</b></p>	<p>With the recent resignation of Director Chris Spence, Eva informed members that she has not heard anything new regarding the re-instatement of the 2011/2012 unspent allocation of funds which was re-instated back to PIAC. Eva has the email confirming the re-instatement</p> <p>Eva told everyone that the funds need to be spent by August 31, the fiscal year end for the School Board. Working Groups need to get their budget proposals in sooner than later.</p> <p>Eva presented the Project Budget Request Form for the Outreach &amp; Parent Engagement &amp; Communication for posters, and 5000 pamphlets to be printed and kept by PIAC. The approval was deferred.</p>	
<p><b>6. Update on TDSB Committees (Consultation Procedures/ AC Review, School Year Calendar ( Co-Chairs)</b></p>	<p><b>The Consultation Working Group(Eva Rosenstock)</b>  Eva is the PIAC rep for the Consultation Working Group. The CWG is reviewing the procedures to go with the consultation policy which was passed last June by the Board of Trustees. The group has had one meeting, and another one is planned for the new year. There are 3 types of procedures for Consultation; Co-Construction, Info Sharing, and Consultation. The group is trying to flush out what kinds of consultation to use, and how to implement the consultation process. The committee is looking at preparing a chart for Trustees.</p> <p><b>CAC Review (Hilary Wollis)</b>  As a result of the motion to review all of the Advisory Committees, the CAC Review Steering Committee is brainstorming the big picture and asking specific questions such as how committees are resourced, determining whether it is a good use of volunteers' time, who our audiences will be, and whether the information you receive from the Board is valuable, etc. The next meeting is on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Reps were told that some of the meetings for the CAC Review meeting may happen in the day time. Members can e-mail Hilary if they have any questions or concerns regarding the CAC Review. Ricardo asked for information regarding the efficiencies of CACs and what the purpose of the group is and knowing whether we are serving groups effectively and it not, why not. Are voices being heard, and how will that continue with some measurability, and accountability.</p> <p><b>School Year Calendar Committee</b>  Diane reported that the School Year Calendar Committee has not met yet, and that no meeting date as of today.</p>	

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<p><b>7. Advocacy Working Group – Pools (John Trafananko)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ P/VP Process (Laurie Green)</li> <li>▪ Ward 2/3 Announcement (Laurie Green)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Advocacy Working Group – Pools Update(John Trafanako)</b>  John provided a brief update on behalf of Janet regarding an AWG meeting that happened in November. The minutes from the meeting were forwarded to Trustees, and schools. The template is ready. Mona reported that of the 13 pools at risk of closure, the following do not have a pool captain: Carlton Village (Ward 9); No pool captain at Downsview SS (Ward 5); George Harvey CI (Ward 6); Kensington Community School (Ward 10); West Centennial SS (Ward 7); Gordon A Brown (Ward 16). The template does not have to be filled until June. 5 pools that do not have City representation need to fill out the template and send it to AWG.</p> <p><b>P/VP Process (Laurie Green)</b>  Laurie reported on the P/VP Selection Process, and informed everyone that there are two parts to the new policy; one is parents being involved in P/VP hiring process by filling out survey on the website and the 2<sup>nd</sup> piece is parents being involved in the process of interviewing teachers.</p> <p>Parents wanting to get involved are required to participate in a mandatory training on Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm, at 5050 Yonge St. There is only one session for the year. Feb 26<sup>th</sup> is for Elementary &amp; Feb 28<sup>th</sup> is for Secondary. They are asking every ward to put forth 2 names of parent volunteers. Commitment is required for two days form 8-4pm. The training location is around Burnamthorpe/427. Even if people have done training before, they can still come, and be available for the next pool of candidates. They are short 14 people. John confirmed his availability. Training covers the qualifications a principal needs, and discussion of each candidate and grading. Laurie informed members that parents need to complete an Expression of Interest form which was e-mailed out to everyone.</p> <p><b>Ward 2/3 Announcement (Laurie Green)</b>  Laurie informed members that Ward 2 &amp; 3 will be holding a joint Work Forum, with a focus on Annie Kidder from P4E on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, at Lampton Kingsway Elementary School. Tina will put this in the mail to everyone.</p> <p><b>Advocacy Working Group – Allan Schacht (Security Motion)</b>  Eva had asked the Advocacy Group to propose a motion re school safety systems. The question was raised as to why some schools have buzzer systems, and some do not, as it was reported in Ward 12’s newsletter-that 70% of schools have safety measures in place, and 30% of them do not. We need to ensure that if the government is going to provide funding formulas to provide safety measures for schools, that funding is provided for all schools. Allan recommended that in light of the recent tragic events in Newtown, that PIAC put forward a motion to write to the government to request a system wide audit of security measures currently in place, and to put a request that they provide adequate levels of funding to provide security measures for all schools.</p> <p><b>***Motion:</b> Allan moved a motion in light of the recent tragic events in Newtown that a system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ask PCIO to have TDSB Security to do a presentation to provide Security measures in place in schools.</li> </ul>

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	<p>wide audit of security measure in place in schools needs to be undertaken to determine current standards with the intent to determine what additional measures may be required and to develop funding levels that will be required as the Ministry has indicate that funding for security measures will be made available.</p> <p>***Motion: Gary put a motion forward to table the above motion, and to ask for the TDSB Security to do the presentation on Security measures in place in schools. Virginia seconded the motion, Ricardo and John voted against, motion carried.</p>	
<p><b>8. Outreach/School Council 411(Saida S. &amp; Mirian T.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>PIAC Orientation (Jerako B.)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Outreach Working Group</b></p> <p>Mirian and Saida presented three separate budget requests; one for Outreach &amp; Resource Development for Somali Parents Liaison Group (SPLC), and two for the Outreach Event for Parents in the Communities with Students at Risk.</p> <p>Saida reported that SPLC represents African, Black, South American, and Asian communities who have a lot of need. The Forum that they plan to do will build capacity for the CLG Group to meet concerns and needs of parents and provide awareness on how parents can help their students to bridge gaps in student success. The budget presented for this forum is \$13,900.00, and includes 8 workshops.</p> <p>Mirian reported that the goal of the Outreach Event for Parents in the Communities with Students at Risk is to targets parents with language barriers in those communities. Most of the people that come to the annual PIAC conference already understand the language. The group wants to use the funds that are currently available to plan and deliver the conference, and provide posters, brochures, and flyers in several languages.</p> <p>Members expressed the following concerns regarding the proposals that were presented by the Outreach Working Group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members of the Outreach Working Group have not met yet and were not aware of the details of Saida’s budget until today.</li> <li>▪ Outreach has met to discuss the request from Mirian, and had a discussion about it with Michelle at the beginning of last year.</li> <li>▪ Saida’s request needs to go to the Outreach Working Group first</li> <li>▪ Both Mirian and Saida must combine their proposals to avoid duplication and cross-over of resources required to deliver their events.</li> <li>▪ OWG needs to provide more details of how they are going to do the conference and what the outcomes are going to be, and</li> <li>▪ Provide detailed descriptions of each of the workshops being offered</li> </ul> <p>Virginia expressed that she fully supports what OWG is trying to do; however, members are getting mixed messages with the 3 different proposals presented today. The focus appears to be</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The OWG will go back and review the 3 proposals presented by Mirian and Saida, and report back to the committee with one proposal and reflective budget.</li> <li>▪ Jerako will send an e-mail with the details for the PIAC Orientation.</li> </ul>

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	<p>on CLG's, and a lot of cross-over and duplication exists with the proposals. Virginia also recommended that the OWG should have a workshop on how to present a request to the committee. Ricardo expressed that he supports the OWG Request, but does not want it to be a one-off thing, and is concerned about the goals and the information that is going to be provided during the conference, and lost afterwards. He recommended maybe having link to a website for follow-up.</p> <p><b>***Motion:</b> Virginia moved a motion to have the Outreach Working Group go back and review the proposals submitted today on behalf of the OWG, and come back with one reflective budget to the next meeting. Allan seconded the motion, all approved.</p> <p><b>PIAC Orientation</b> Jerako informed everyone that the PIAC Orientation will be held on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, and will send an e-mail to everyone with the details.</p>	
<p><b>9. Superintendent's Report</b> ( Jim Spyropoulos)</p>	<p>Eva reported that Jim and Michelle have been working with the IT department regarding communication with School Councils. Every school council will be getting a designated e-mail address. A request has been put to Michelle to have someone from IT to come and discuss email addresses for school councils.</p>	
<p><b>10. Trustee Report – Update on TDSB Budget Consultation Process and Capital Gain</b> ( Eva Rosenstock)</p>	<p>Eva provided a brief Trustee Report on behalf of Trustee Glover. Trustee Glover wanted PIAC to know that the Board of Trustees just met on Friday, and a new search team will be put together to fill Chris Spence's position.</p> <p><b>***Motion:</b> Jane put forward a motion that PIAC make a request to the Trustees that there be parent involvement and representation in the selection of the new Director of TDSB. All in favor, motion carried.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ PCIO will put forward a request to Trustees to request PIAC representation on the Selection Committee for the new TDSB Director.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. Update - Advocacy Special Education Sub Working Group ( Virginia Ludy)</b></p>	<p>As one of the Reps for the Special Education Working Group, Gary reported that he made a deposition at the SEAC meeting. Gary expressed that he would like to have input on content for the SEAC conference, and not have content dictated to us by SEAC. PIAC and SEAC have agreed to work together.</p> <p>Ricardo is concerned about meetings happening with SEAC and about the tone being used to refer to how SEAC does their conference. It should be a partnership and the essence of partnership is to deliver for the needs of students in Special Education and other students that would benefit from knowing about Special Education. The Special Education Working Group was not aware of the Gary's meeting with SEAC. Eva suggested that we all meet together and not individually with SEAC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Spec. Ed Working Group will meet to discuss the schedule of events, and date for the conference, and report back at the next meeting.</li> </ul>

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	<p>Virginia reported that the Special Education Working Group is working on a draft schedule of events for the SE Conference, with the hope that they can look at how they can engage SEAC to work on this event. PIAC &amp; SEAC have not been able to get together yet. There are a couple of concerns now regarding the conference date. It is confirmed for April, however, it is suggested that the Special Education conference be moved to the fall. Dagmar raised concerns about the change in dates to the fall as it is a busy time for parents getting children back to school, and also because the Annual Parent Involvement Conference then.</p> <p>***<b>Motion:</b> Virginia moved a motion to move the SE Conference to the fall, Kainani seconded it, After some valid concerns were raised about changing the date to the fall, Virginia <i>withdrew</i> her motion.</p> <p>Allan is the Lead for Special Ed. Working Group. If anyone is interested in participating on the Working Group, they are asked to e-mail Allen. When Eva sends out an update from the meeting, she will send the Working Groups, so that people know who is on which working group.</p> <p>Eva reported that in May 2012, \$12,000 approved for the Forum, however, an additional \$8000 is required. Virginia said that budget requests needed to be vetted by respective working groups, and that we need to tighten up this process.</p>	
<p><b>12. Special Events Working Group Update (School Council Chair Event Update) – Eva Rosenstock</b></p>	<p>Eva reported that the Chair dinner is scheduled for <b>Thursday, February 21</b> at Montecassino. Please confirm with Cathy if you can attend and if you can help out on the evening (this applies to anyone not on the chair dinner planning group). Emails went out to schools, 2 copies to each school, and copies to all trustees. The working group is meeting next week to flush out the agenda. Catering has been taken care of. Lloyd Mckell is coming to talk about School Councils. Buses will be available at Downsview. Will put out call for help, as volunteers are needed (maybe teenagers).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Eva will put out call for volunteers.</li> </ul>
<p><b>13. Other Business ( N/A )</b></p>	<p>Eva told everyone that the “HOPE” brochures that were handed out today are for a request from Superintendent Pfeffer which was put forth to Michelle to have them come and speak to PIAC. Eva asked everyone to review the brochure and let her know if they would be interested in having them come to a PIAC meeting.</p> <p>Hilary commented that she understands that Trustees are meeting right now, and that the Board and staff have been in crisis management mode for more than a week, and have been meeting almost constantly. However, she expressed that this was a pivotal PIAC meeting for a Trustee and Senior Staff representatives to attend for just a few minutes, to speak to parent representatives from across TDSB. Just a few minutes of their time would have ensured that parents are provided with good quality, up to date information regarding recent events. PIAC members are deserving of their time. Without that, parents can rely only on the media, and what they tell one another in</p>	

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	<p>conversation. Hilary also noted that in not attending this evening, Trustees AND Staff missed a key opportunity to inform TDSB parents of important changes in the District at a critical moment in time.</p>	
<p><b>14. Adjournment (Co-Chair)</b></p>	<p>* <b>Motion</b> to move the rest of the items to the next meeting agenda was moved by Virginia; seconded by Gary, all in favor; motion carried.</p> <p>Eva asked if there was consensus to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 pm, all approved.</p> <p>The next meeting is on Tuesday, <b>February 12</b>; the Executive will meet on <b>February 5</b> to set the agenda – anyone is welcome to attend as an observer although we note that the P/VP training is on the same night</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Linda will add the rest of the items to the agenda for the next meeting.</li> </ul>