

PIAC Working Group REPORT

Working Group	Annual Parent Conference (2018)
Date	May 10, 2018
Description/Objective	<p>PIAC hosts an annual Parents Make a Difference Conference each year in the fall. The goal of the conference is to promote and support parent engagement in their children’s education.</p> <p>The conference offers workshops, networking, and information from various educational organizations to all parents/guardians with children in the TDSB and community members.</p>
Update	<p>*This meeting took place on Thursday May 10, 2018 from 6:30pm-8:00 at 5050 Yonge Street, Committee Room C. Conference calling was available and members of the group attended in person and on the phone.</p> <p>Guests in attendance: Nazerah Shaikh (W13 Rep) Sima Komeilinejad (Community)</p> <p>*Date--Based on new information of when the People for Education was is to be having their conference as well as a PA Day in November as well as the U.S. Thanksgiving long weekend that may prevent parents from attending on a Saturday the two dates at this time that are now being considered are December 1st as a first choice and November 17th as a second choice. The date will be confirmed based on the availability of a venue.</p> <p>*Location--The intention is to have the conference in a different site this year. We are considering TDSB high schools, post secondary sites, as well as meeting facilities in convention halls or libraries. TDSB High schools that are being considered are: York Mills Don Mills John Polyani North Toronto Northern Central Tech</p> <p>*Conference format--We are considering changing the format of the conference to shortening the day, and reorganizing when workshops are taking place to make it easier for participants to make the most effective use of their time. The group is currently gathering ideas for workshops.</p>

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	<p>*Workshops--Last year 29 workshops were presented, our goal is to keep within the same number if possible. Suggestions are welcome please reach out to working group members to contribute ideas. Suggestions made so far were: More workshops with a focus on mental health and well being including workshop topics that will be highlighted in the PRO Grant currently being prepared that will be requesting funds for the PIAC conference this fall. The consultations working group would like to have sessions around policies that are going to be reviewed by the Board. How fathers can continually engage in their child's learning and school environment "What About Math?" Topics supporting school councils</p> <p>*Vendors--Look into the same model as last year where for profit vendors paid a small fee for a table for a full or half day as well as a small fee to have their information/swag placed in our delegate bags if they (the vendor) were not going to be at the marketplace. There was a income generated of just over \$2,600 to put towards that overall costs for the conference. A new venue will hopefully have a larger or better configured space for vendors to gain even more walk around traffic. New not for profit or for profit vendors could be added as long as there is enough time to have them vetted by the Board</p> <p>*Keynote speakers--We will want to start thinking of some suggestions for keynote speakers now so we don't miss out on their availability. Suggestions are welcome please reach out to working group members to contribute ideas.</p> <p>*Bussing--Looking for ways to improve the logistics of the bus arrivals to the pick up locations and the arrival of the delegates once at the conference site.</p> <p>*Next WG meeting is still to be determined.</p>
<p>Motion(s)</p>	<p>The PIAC Fall Conference is asking PIAC for an allocation of funds in the PIAC 2018 budget (location and date to be determined). It is understood that the final amount to be allocated may be revised based on the outcome of the PRO Grant that is being submitted for 2018/19.</p> <p>The amount being asked for is \$27,000 and is based on the spend of the 2017 PIAC Fall Conference. The costs for the conference increased from previous years with in the areas of temporary staff interpreters, catering and childminding. The working group will be looking for ways to reduce this costs where possible for the 2018 conference.</p>

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Question(s)	What workshops would you like to see at the conference? Are there any particular keynote speakers the group should look into?
Next Steps and Action items	*Confirm a date and venue for the conference *Review budget for 201 *Start to gather ideas for workshops and a keynote speaker
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