**Item 1**



**WARD FORUMS – SAVE THE DATE**

The TDSB is kicking-off a two-part public consultation process where we will be sharing information and seeking advice from parents, students, staff, and the broader community that will help the Board improve equity in Toronto’s public school system. The Ward Forums are the first part of the consultation. They will take place in May and June, and will focus on understanding people’s experience today with equity in TDSB schools. The second part of consultation will take place this fall to share and seek feedback on the draft recommendations developed to address the feedback received.

* **This is an opportunity for SEAC members and all parents who have children receiving special education supports to provide good and bad feedback about what’s working and what’s not. It is very important that the Equity Task Force hears the stories and understands the personal experiences that people have with special education at the TDSB. These Ward Forums are open to all parents and community members. I encourage you to get to one or more of them. You can find a complete list of the locations and dates in this report.**

**WHAT’S EQUITY?** It is the provision of opportunities for equality for all by responding to the needs of individuals. This means removing biases that exist depending on a person’s race, colour, creed, culture, ethnicity, linguistic origin, disability, socio-economic class, age, ancestry, nationality, place of origin, religion, sex, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, family status, and marital status

**WHAT DO WE WANT TO KNOW?** We want to know: What is working? What are the things we need to protect expand or spread for greater impact? What is not working? Where do barriers and systemic discrimination remain despite our best efforts? What bold and courageous actions must we now take to achieve greater equity for all?

**WHAT’S THE BIG PICTURE?** The TDSB is always striving to treat students fairly and that all students achieve their full potential. At the same time we know we must continue to identify and remove barriers and bias in the school system that can hurt students’ ability to succeed. We know some things are going well – like many of the Model Schools that are now celebrating 10 years in 150 communities across the city – however we know many challenges persist. To make sure we continue our efforts to improve, TDSB Trustees have created an Enhancing Equity Task Force that will be providing advice to the Board in the Fall of 2017. The Task Force will be working closely with Trustees, teachers, staff, parents, students, and the broader community to do its work.

**WHAT WILL CHANGE BECAUSE OF THIS?** The public consultation advice will directly inform the recommendations that the Enhancing Equity Task Force will make to the Board in the Fall of 2017. The recommendations will lead to changes in how the Board directs its efforts in classrooms, in hallways, during and after school hours to improve equity. It will also likely lead to changes in how the Board allocates resources.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?** A summary of all public consultation feedback from the Ward Forums will be posted online in early July. Draft recommendations from the Enhancing Equity Task Force (based on this feedback) will be shared publicly in the early Fall, with the second round of public consultations immediately following,

**Meeting Dates and Times:**

Wards [7](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward7/Ward7.aspx), [9](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward9/Ward9.aspx), [10](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward10/Ward10.aspx)
May 1, 2017
6:30-8:30
[Bloor CI](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/FindYour/Schools.aspx?schno=5505), 1141 Bloor St. W.

Ward [19](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward19/Ward19.aspx), [21](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward21/Ward21.aspx)
Wednesday, May 3
6:30-8:30 pm
140 Borough Dr., Room E 3,4

Wards [1](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward1/Ward1.aspx), [2](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward2/Ward2.aspx), [3](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward3/Ward3.aspx), [6](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward6/Ward6.aspx)
May 4, 2017
6:30-8:30
[Kipling CI](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/FindYour/Schools.aspx?schno=2803), 380 The Westway

Ward [18](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward18/Ward18.aspx), [22](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward22/Ward22.aspx)
Monday, May 8
6:30-8:30 pm
140 Borough Dr., Room E 3,4

Wards [14](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward14/Ward14.aspx), [15](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward15/Ward15.aspx), [16](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward16/Ward16.aspx)
Tuesday, May 9
6:30-8:30 pm
[Danforth CTI](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/FindYour/Schools.aspx?schno=5615), 800 Greenwood Ave.

Wards [8](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward8/Ward8.aspx), [11](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward11/Ward11.aspx), [13](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward13/Ward13.aspx)
Monday, May 15
6:30-8:30pm
[John Polanyi CI](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/FindYour/Schools.aspx?schno=3437), 640 Lawrence Ave. W.

Ward [4](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward4/Ward4.aspx), [5](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward5/Ward5.aspx)
Tuesday, May 23
[Oakdale Park Middle School](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/FindYour/Schools.aspx?schno=3209), 315 Grandravine Dr.

Wards [12](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward12/Ward12.aspx), [17](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward17/Ward17.aspx), [20](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/ward20/Ward20.aspx)
May 25, 2017
6:30-8:30 pm
[Georges Vanier SS](http://www.tdsb.on.ca/FindYour/Schools.aspx?schno=3446), 3000 Don Mills Rd.

**Item #2**



**TDSB Policy Review: Accessibility Standards**

At the Governance and Policy Committee meeting on April 26th, work plans to review and revise two policies concerned with accessibility were approved by trustees. The policies are:

* **REVIEW OF P084 AND P069, INTEGRATED ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS (P084) AND ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE (P069) Policy Review (Phase 1)**

Staff proposes that the TDSB’s policies on Integrated Accessibility Standards (P084) and Accessibility Standards for Customer Service (P069) be consolidated into one and referred to as the Integrated Accessibility Standards Policy (P084). In order to better align the consolidated policy with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with* *Disabilities Act* and Ontario Regulation 165/16;

* **Policy Review Work Plan for policy P083, Accessibility for Persons With Disabilities (Phase 1)**

The current Accessibility for Persons with Disabilities Policy is in compliance with the *Accessibility for Ontarians* *with Disabilities Act*. However, due to some changes including the consolidation of *Ontario Regulation 429/07 – Accessibility Standards* *for Customer Service* and *Ontario Regulation 191/11 – Integrated Accessibility Standards*.

**(*Both draft policies are attached in the email)***

A work plan outlines the steps to be taken in reviewing a policy including internal and external consultations, length of time to post on the TDSB website, revisions and further direction.

SEAC will be consulted on both policies in Phase 4 of the policy review process – External Consultations. I have also included a chart of the Policy Review Process to help you understand the process that the TDSB uses to review all policies. (Attached with this report in email)

I would like to ensure that SEAC’s input on these policies is comprehensive and I have included them here so that you can review in advance of the TDSB external consultation process.

There will also be an opportunity for SEAC members to attend the Governance and Policy Committee meeting to provide deputations when the final drafts of the two policies are presented for discussion and approval before going to the board for final approval. As the chair of the Governance and Policy Committee, I will provide an update when the final draft of the policies will be on the agenda of the Governance and Policy Committee.

**Item #3**

**Boardroom Audio-Visual Replacement and Webcast Hub for Multi-User Groups [3089]**

In the recent past, SEAC has requested through the Chair that our meetings be recorded and/or live-streamed to the public. Currently, the technology in the TDSB board room allows us to do this; however, due to the age of the system, we have been experiencing all sorts of technological problems that prevent us from doing this easily and without all numerous glitches. I’ve included an excerpt from the Planning and Priorities committee report:

*Recently, the Special Education Advisory Committee requested using the Boardroom A/V system to webcast and/or video record their meetings to improve participation, communication, transparency and the ability to archive meetings for post meeting viewership. No doubt other advisory committees will follow suit and express interest in doing the same.*

*The current A/V system cannot support this additional use. Its current tenuous status and unreliable functionality means that any added use could contribute to a catastrophic system failure.*

**At the April 19th Board meeting the Board Decided:**

|  |
| --- |
| * That a proposed plan to upgrade the existing Boardroom equipment to provide a multi-user audio- visual hub for Board, committee, community and staff use **that is compliant with the *Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities’ Act (AODA)*,** as presented in the report, be approved.
* (b) That the Director be authorized to issue a Request for Proposal for both audio-visual equipment and modular work stations for the Boardroom, as presented in the report.

The decision means that we will have access to a new, modern and interactive system that will allow us to live-stream, record, provide both audio and visual aids to people with disabilities, access agendas and other printed material from screens mounted on the desks and a number of other useful features. The modular furniture will allow us to reconfigure the room and create a more intimate and interactive environment to meet this and other committee’s needs. It will be available to all TDSB Advisory Committees. We are aiming to install the system over the summer and have it up and running sometime before or early in the new school year. **Please review the attached report from the April 16th, Planning and Priorities Committee meeting. I will be requesting a report on the accessibility features of the system and I will share that with SEAC as soon as I have it. I will provide an update from the Director when a status report is provided.**I have attached the report that was approved at the Planning and Priorities meeting on April 16th, 2017. (attached in email) |

**Item #4**

This is an event that people might be interested in attending. The title is misleading – it is not an event focused on discussion about Inclusion in the classroom but inclusion in society and how teaching can influence that. It might be an excellent opportunity for SEAC members or others who can attend to bring up the topic of inclusive classrooms/schools/teaching for children who receive special education services and how that can be a driver for more inclusion in society.
 **"Teaching for Inclusion"**
**An intimate conversation with the Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Ontario's Minister of Education and MPP for Scarborough -Guildwood, and**[**Andreas Souvaliotis**](https://www.facebook.com/souvaliotis)**, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of CARROT, and board member of the**[**Institute for Canadian Citizenship Institut pour la citoyenneté canadienne**](https://www.facebook.com/ICC.ICC.Canada/)

This conversation will reflect on some of the main questions that came out of 6 Degrees Den Haag and 6 Degrees Vancouver on the importance that education plays in the development of inclusive societies.

How can education policy promote active citizenship, encouraging a more cohesive, engaged province? How do we effectively invest in a pedagogy that builds and maintains respect for every citizen? How can education serve as an active tool towards reconciliation?

Join us at 5:30pm EST (sharp) for a fireside chat with Minister Hunter and Andreas Souvaliotis. A cocktail reception will follow.

**This event is free: Friday, May 12 at 5:30 – 7:30 PM; Location: 200 Bay Street, Toronto**

Facebook registration available: [**https://www.facebook.com/events/123935171489440/**](https://www.facebook.com/events/123935171489440/)

Information about 6 Degrees:[**http://www.6degreesto.com/splash/**](http://www.6degreesto.com/splash/)

6 Degrees is the global forum on inclusion and citizenship.