



**Name of Committee:** Parent Involvement Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** November 17, 2020

A meeting of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee convened on November 17, 2020 from 7: 00 p.m. to 10:28 p.m. via Zoom with PIAC Co-chairs D.Williams & Zena Shereck

**Attendance:** Shafoli Kapur (W2 Rep), Vivek Rao (W2 Alt), Felicia Lau (W3 Rep), Sarira Somani (W3 Alt), Sharon Grant (W4 Rep), Patricia Seedial (W4 Alt), Jess Hungate(W5 Rep), Mirian Turcios (W6 Rep), Dean Gray (W6 Alt) Alice Romo (W7 Rep), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8 Rep), John Bakos (W8 Alt), Andrew Waters (W9 Rep), Cecile Farnum (W9 Alt), , Wilmar Kortleever(W11 Rep), Janice Barnett(W11 Alt), Hanniya Sheikh (W12 Rep),Aretha Phillip (W13 Rep), Nazerah Shaikh (W14 Rep) Jenny Gannon (W14 Alt), Sharleen Ahmed (W15 Rep), Neil Faba (W15 Alt), Kate Leuschen Millar (W16 Rep), Seema Mitchell(W18 Rep), Mark Ramcharan (W18 Alt), Abdullah Mamun (W19 Rep), Chris Levien(Ward 20 Rep), Zuojun Han(W 20 Alt), Nicole Marshall (W22 Rep), Nadia Judunath(W22 Alt), Towhid Noman(CLG), D.Williams (PIAC Co-Chair), Zena Shereck (PIAC Co-Chair), Trustee Trixie Doyle,

**Staff:** Associate Director Karen Falconer, Latha John (Committee Assistant);Michelle Munroe (Central Coordinator, PCEO), Exec Superintendent Uton Robinson

**Regrets:** Shanti Chand ( W19 Alt)


**Absent:** Faduma Qalinle (Ward 1 Alt), , Jaimala(W5 Alt), Syed Sumar Alam(W13 Alt), Pargat Mudher (W17 Rep), Glenna Wellington (W17 Alt), Sylvester Witter (W10 Rep)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
Welcome & Introductions Approval of Quorum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledgement of Traditional</li> </ul>	Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands was done by Chair Williams. The committee was reminded of the code of conduct at meetings.	Quorum was achieved.	

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Lands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declarations of Membership</li> <li>• Code of Conduct</li> </ul>			
Declarations of Membership			
Declaration of Actual Perceived, or Potential Conflict of interest	None		
Approval of Agenda	<p><b>Consent Agenda</b></p> <p>The committee discussed the motion for consent agenda to approve the agenda and minutes together.</p>	<p>Motion by Andrew W that the committee approves consent agenda for the approval of agenda and minutes. The motion was seconded by Cecile F All in favour, motion carried.</p> <p>Motion to approve the consent agenda to approve November Agenda and October 20 minutes by Nazerah S, 2nd by Wilmar K. All in Favour, Motion carried</p>	
PIAC Co-Chair's Update	<p><b>PIAC conference</b></p> <p>PIAC members were requested to participate and support the first virtual conference on November 21</p>		

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	<p>and 22<sup>nd</sup>.</p> <p><b>Working groups</b></p> <p>PIAC members are encouraged to sign up for the working groups</p> <p><b>Programs and School Services Committee (PSSC)</b></p> <p>Co-Chair D.Williams attended the October 29<sup>th</sup> PSSC on behalf of PIAC.</p> <p><b>PIAC Trustee Liaison</b></p> <p>Trustee Trixie Doyle is the Trustee Liaison for PIAC and was welcomed to the committee.</p>		
PIAC Co-Chair Elections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The nominations working group reported that only one nomination was received for the PIAC CO-Chair position.</li> <li>• Felicia Lau was acclaimed as the new PIAC Co-Chair election for the two-year term of 2020-2022.</li> <li>• Members of PIAC thanked and appreciated Co-Chair Zena Shereck for her role as PIAC Co-Chair for the last two years.</li> </ul>		
Strategic Plan WG report	<p><b>Strategic Goals</b></p> <p>The strategic goals and recommendations as outlined in the strategic work plan were discussed by the members of the committee.</p> <p>The committee noted the following amendment to the document, the text 'Parent/guardian' be used instead of 'Parent'.</p>	<p>Motion by Aretha for PIAC to agree on the objectives and adopt the work plan and Strategic plan and include the amendments recommended by PIAC members. The motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sharleen.</p> <p>In Favour : 18, Abstain</p>	

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		: 1, Opposed : 0 Motion carried.	
Working Group (WG) Reports			
Budget WG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Budget WG reported that there were no budget requests apart from the \$10,000 for the PIAC virtual conference.</li> <li>• All budget requests to be sent to Budget leads Andrew W and John B.</li> </ul>		
PIAC Event WG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIAC members were requested to participate and make the event a success.</li> <li>• All PIAC members to participate in the ward breakout rooms and network with parents/guardians in their ward, a Google form to be sent out to PIAC members to sign up.</li> <li>• Two Keynote speakers for the event - Michelle Munroe from the Parent and Community Engagement Office TDSB and Mante Molepo an advocate for diversity and engaging parents.</li> <li>• Event WG leads thanked all WG members and staff for all the work and support provided for the event.</li> </ul>		
Consultations WG	The WG requested staff on the status of the Board's public consultations on policies.		

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Virtual Engagement WG	<p>The working group had held three working group meetings and received input and feedback from parents. The committee presented the recommendation and discussed extensively.</p>	<p>Motion by Wilmar K Whereas, at its meeting on October 20, 2020, PIAC struck an ad hoc PIAC Virtual Engagement Working Group which has received feedback and input from Virtual School stakeholders including parents /guardians and caregivers, community support workers, and school administrators.</p> <p>we move that PIAC make the attached recommendations to the TDSB Trustees and Director of Education.</p> <p>Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jess H.</p> <p>All in favour, motion carried.</p>	 2020-11-17_TDSB_PIAC_Recommendations
Communications and Outreach WG	<p>The Communications &amp; Outreach WG reported on their ongoing work:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIAC Documents – School Toolkit for school councils</li> <li>• Letter for new PIAC members to send to school councils in their wards.</li> <li>• PIAC website with changes and updates</li> <li>• Publicity for the conference on both social media and email blast</li> </ul>		
Membership WG	<p><b>Working Groups</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIAC members to sign up for working groups.</li> </ul>		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Status and description of WG Reg 612. The WG have yet to meet and leads to be determined to lead the work.</li> </ul> <p><b>Ward Elections</b> Eight wards have vacancies. Ward 10 to hold elections on December 3, 2020, and Ward 16 is also in progress to hold an election. The election process for wards needs to be clarified.</p> <p><b>Staff Response</b> <i>Staffs are looking at recommendations from PIAC membership WG and put together a package with simplified tools that will be shared with shared services and Trustees.</i></p> <p><b>Email access</b> Several concerns from PIAC members regarding access to their TDSB emails.</p>		
Trustee Report	<p><b>Policy review schedule</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many of our consultations from last spring were put on hold because of COVID.</li> <li>Policy reviews that are upcoming-fund raising, parent and community involvement, student attendance and safe arrival, transportation to students, advertising distribution display of materials for students and parents from external groups; and optional attendance.</li> </ul> <p><b>International Bacculaureate fee</b> The Board has decided to continue the</p>		

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	<p>pause on the IB program fees due to COVID</p> <p><b>Budget Process 2021-2022</b></p> <p>Public consultation planned in January 2021.</p> <p><b>Board organizational meeting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Brown was acclaimed as chair again.</li> <li>• Trustee Mammoliti was elected as the Board’s vice-chair.</li> <li>• Former PIAC Trustee Liaison Trustee Rachel Chernos Lynn is the chair of Programs and School Services Committee(PSSC ), current PIAC Trustee Doyle is the vice-chair.</li> </ul> <p><b>Governance and Policy Committee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trustee Li is the chair of the Governance and Policy Committee, Trustee Aarts is the vice chair.</li> </ul>		
Director of Education Report	<p><b>Staffing and reorganization</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Superintendents Ian Allison and Shirley Chan will provide leadership to virtual school leadership.</li> <li>• Around 41 elementary vice-principals had been added, ten principles have moved into the virtual school while being connected to their home schools.</li> <li>• Staffing reorganizations were done with minimal impact to learning centres.</li> <li>• Reorganization of support staff and early childhood educators to the virtual environment to serve</li> </ul>		

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	<p>families.</p> <p><b>Fundraising for tech devices</b> The Board is committed that all devices remain in the school that has been fundraised for.</p> <p><b>COVID update</b> Staff tracking and reporting as per direction from Toronto public health. TDSB has 356 confirmed cases of COVID-19 (288 among students and 68 among staff)</p> <p><b>School statement of needs (SSON)</b> Staff emphasized for the SSON document be used widely in all schools with parental involvement.</p> <p><b>Virtual schools exemptions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About 2% of students in the virtual schools have applied for an exemption from the ministry’s requirements of synchronous learning.</li> <li>• The greatest numbers of exemptions are from students in the early years where parents have expressed concerns about daily screen time.</li> <li>• It was observed 1/3 of exemption requests about 33% have come from LC4, 52% of applications are full exemptions. In total 1,529 exemption requests.</li> </ul> <p>Staff provided an overview of virtual schools exemptions and the information can be found on: <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/In-Person-Learning/Learning-and-Instruction/Exemption-from-">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/In-Person-Learning/Learning-and-Instruction/Exemption-from-</a></p>		



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	<p><a href="#"><u>Synchronous-Learning</u></a></p> <p><b>Local Secondary Virtual School</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the quadmester beginning on November 23, 8500 students have requested to switch from in-person to virtual.</li> <li>• Students will be instructed from their local school to avoid reorganization.</li> <li>• Teachers will be teaching both in-person and virtual students at the same time.</li> <li>• Teachers will receive ongoing training and technical assistance.</li> <li>• Students will receive timetables electronically on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup> with customized information on the localized secondary school model.</li> </ul>		
Q&A	<p>Access to virtual programs/courses in the local secondary school model for in-person students.</p> <p><i>Staff had a considerable discussion with Trustees on the secondary school leadership models, several schools opted to use simultaneous learning, staff to work collaboratively with their principals to best serve the kids in their schools with the teachers they know. Lack of choice of courses is a problem schools are choosing to address it in a variety of ways</i></p> <p>Can students in virtualized secondary model choose to come into the localized secondary model to be with their peers? Is there a possibility to merge the two models rather than</p>		

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	<p>having two separate and distinct secondary school models?  <i>Staff will do the best to meet student needs.</i></p> <p>Technology devices in the schools            Inequity among schools if reviewed by devices purchased by school council funds and devices purchased with by school board budget allocation funds. Board needs to review the process and the fundraising potential of schools. An equitable process for all schools to have access to technology for learning. All the budget and devices information must be transparently shared with PIAC and school councils.</p> <p>Can parent fund for water bottle filling stations in schools?  <i>Yes parents can find more information on the link <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Fundraising/Donations">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Community/How-to-Get-Involved/Fundraising/Donations</a></i></p> <p>French as a second language instruction for virtual students.  <i>Virtual French as a second language students is at a considerable disadvantage to their peers in school. Staffing for French teachers is an ongoing issue for the Board, staff to ensure that the number of French learning hours is compliant.</i></p> <p>South Asian group and East Asian group</p>		

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	<p>the predominant group who are in the virtual school environment.</p> <p><i>Staffs are working on culturally relevant topics in teaching and learning.</i></p> <p><i>Staff don't know why there is a higher proportion of students from families where English is not the first language in the virtual school environment</i></p>		
<p>PCEO Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCEO office welcomed Trustee Doyle to PIAC as Trustee Liaison</li> <li>• Thanked and appreciated previous Trustee Liaison to PIAC Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin for her leadership.</li> <li>• Welcomed the new PIAC Co-Chair Felicia Lau.</li> <li>• Thanked and appreciated PIAC Co-Chair Zena Shereck for her leadership to PIAC.</li> </ul> <p><b>School council email accounts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was a security breach impacting some school council accounts, PIAC accounts and community advisory committee accounts.</li> <li>• Due to the security breach, the feature for forwarding emails to an external account has been disabled and will not be made available.</li> <li>• The TDSB email account can be uploaded on a shared device is being made available.</li> <li>• TDSB helpdesk support only TDSB staff.</li> <li>• Parent and Community Engagement office (PCEO) with a staff of 17.5 hours per week in collaboration with the helpdesk</li> </ul>		

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	<p>for supporting all parent accounts is challenging.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It also needs to be noted that not all parent/ caregivers are fluent in terms of the technology with basic logging instructions.</li> </ul> <p><b>PIAC members email access</b>  The significant issue with PIAC members who are also school council chairs with accessing their TDSB email account. What is the protocol for email accounts to get generated for volunteers and PIAC members who may also be school council chairs?  <i>The issues are based on the account type created for the parents - volunteer account or school council account or PIAC account.</i>  <i>IT staff and PCEO are working on resolving the issues and clarifying the process.</i></p> <p><b>School zoom accounts</b>  School councils have begun activating their Zoom accounts. The number of school councils who are using their zoom accounts is increasing slowly.</p> <p><b>School Messenger</b>  Roll out of school messenger very soon. Staffs are working on providing steps of how school council chairs can access school Messenger.</p> <p><b>Parent reaching out grants 2020-2021</b>  Recommendation to be reported to</p>		

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	<p>Trustees on the allocation of the grant for 2020 -2021.</p> <p>Percentage of the fund to be used to support school councils.</p> <p>PIAC members can provide feedback to Michelle Munroe by November 26<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>Feedback</b></p> <p><b>School council communications with their communities.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools councils are running into issues with Canada's anti-spam legislation (CASL).</li> <li>• TDSB email system gives parents to opt-out of around CASL related commercial messaging. Previously school councils send out CASL sensitive information through hardcopies which is not possible now due to COVID.</li> <li>• Electronic communication does not suffice for all families, a significant number of parents do not have access to email.</li> </ul> <p><b>School Council Email list</b></p> <p>Request that the school council email that has been activated be made publicly available on the TDSB school webpage.</p>		
Ward update			
New Business			
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 10:28 pm		