



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

**Meeting Date:** January 19, 2021

A meeting of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee convened on January 19, 2021 from 7: 04 p.m. to 9:41 p.m. via Zoom with PIAC Co-chairs D.Williams & Felicia Lau

**Attendance:** Vivek Rao (W2 Alt), Sarira Somani (W3 Alt), Sharon Grant (W4 Rep), Patricia Seedial (W4 Alt), Jess Hungate(W5 Rep), Jaimala (W5 Alt), Mirian Turcios (W6 Rep), Dean Gray (W6 Alt) Alice Romo (W7 Rep), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8 Rep), John Bakos (W9 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), Syed Sumar Alam(W13 Alt), Nazerah Shaikh (W14 Rep) Jenny Gannon (W14 Alt), Sharleen Ahmed (W15 Rep), Kate Leuschen Millar (W16 Rep), Glenna Wellington (W17 Alt), Seema Mitchell(W18 Rep), Mark Ramcharan (W18 Alt), Abdullah Mamun (W19 Rep),Shanti Chand ( W19 Alt),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), Felicia Lau (PIAC Co-Chair) , Trustee Trixie Doyle

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

**Regrets:** Neil Faba (W15 Alt)

**Absent:** Faduma Qalinle (Ward 1 Alt), Shafoli Kapur (W2 Rep), Pargat Mudher (W17 Rep),

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

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| Traditional Lands <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Declarations of Membership</li> <li>• Code of Conduct</li> </ul> |  | Quorum was achieved.  |                |
| Declarations of Membership  | Declarations of Membership were received from 26 PIAC members by Google form prior to the meeting, 5 members provided a verbal declaration during the meeting.   |   |                |
| Declaration of Actual, Perceived, or Potential Conflict of interest   |  |   |                |
| Approval of Consent Agenda (Agenda and December 15th Minutes)   |  | Motion for approval of the agenda by Janice B, 2nd by Towhid N.<br>All in Favour.<br>Motion carried |                |
| TDSB Governance and Policy Committee update   | The following six policies are under development. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I. Allegations of sexual harassment and misconduct</li> <li>II. Communications</li> <li>III. Enterprise risk management</li> <li>IV. Recognition of culturally significant observances</li> <li>V. Records and information management policy</li> <li>VI. Specialized schools and programs</li> </ol> In accordance to policy framework P001 policies are required to be reviewed every four years. Some policies are mandated to be reviewed |   |                |

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|      | <p>on an annual basis under the legislation. Policy reviews schedule is approved by the Board of Trustees and is updated annually.</p> <p>There are currently 75 active policies and 28 policies to be reviewed for the current school year. Due to the pandemic the policy review schedule was revised from 28 to the following 16 policies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising</li> <li>• Distribution and Display of materials.</li> <li>• Optional attendance</li> <li>• Records and Information management</li> <li>• Specialized schools and programs, Purchasing</li> <li>• Parent and Community Involvement</li> <li>• Communications policy.</li> <li>• Employment Equity</li> <li>• Human Rights</li> <li>• Workplace harassment prevention</li> <li>• Allegations of sexual harassment and Misconduct</li> <li>• Architect selection</li> <li>• Occupational health and safety policy.</li> <li>• Workplace Violence Prevention</li> <li>• Respectful Learning and Working Environment policy.</li> </ul> <p>Six phases in the policy review process.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Planning and Obtaining Trustee Directions</li> <li>2. Revision</li> <li>3. Internal reviews and Sign -offs</li> <li>4. External Consultations</li> </ol> |        |                |

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|                  | <p>5. Committee Board approvals<br/>6. Implementation</p> <p>Community members /PIAC members can be involved in the following phases.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase one through deputations at the Governance and Policy Committee.</li> <li>• Phase four external consultations with public</li> <li>• Phase five when the final draft is brought to the governance and Policy Committee for approval.</li> </ul> |        |                |
| Co-Chairs Update | <p>A written report was distributed to the committee with the following highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PSSC.</li> <li>• TDSB Strategic Budget Drivers</li> <li>• Ministry of Education PIC meeting</li> <li>• Ontario PIC Connection</li> <li>• PIAC Post</li> <li>• PIAC Working Groups</li> <li>• PIAC and School Council TDSB Emails</li> <li>• Covid -19 Pandemic Update</li> </ul>                        |        |                |
| Trustee Report   | <p>Trustee update was distributed to the committee, the highlights of the report are the following</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Director Search</li> <li>• Statement by Chair Alexander Brown on events in Washington DC</li> <li>• Special COVID Planning and Priorities Meeting -January 12</li> </ul>  |        |                |

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|                                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Results of Province’s Targeted Testing Pilot</li> <li>• Governance and Policy Committee (GPC)-January 13</li> <li>• Program and School services Committee (PSSC)-January 13</li> <li>• Upcoming Board and Committee meetings</li> <li>• Live Webcast of meetings Links</li> </ul>  |        |                |
| <p>Director of Education Report</p> | <p>Interim Director Falconer thanked the committee for the opportunity to work with PIAC and introduced Associate Director Curtis Ennis to the committee who will be attending PIAC meetings along with Exec Superintendent Uton Robinson.</p> <p><b>Remote learning update</b><br/> Staff are working as per the direction from the Ministry of education. Staff in preparation for remote learning are working to ensure elementary and secondary staff have resources such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Digital Learning Resources</li> <li>• opportunities to improve capacities for teachers.</li> </ul> <p>The resources focus on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Indigenous Education,</li> <li>• Outdoor Education</li> <li>• Special Education,</li> <li>• ESL French or French as a second language</li> <li>• Mental Health and Well Being.</li> </ul> <p>Work from home guidelines have been developed for staff well being and mental health.<br/> Resources for parents and students in each school<br/> Device access tips for parents</p> |        |                |

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|      | <p>Ongoing work to provide and support the device requirements for students.</p> <p><b>Parent Volunteers</b><br/>Staff are working on the granular details in terms of parent volunteers volunteering within a remote environment.</p> <p><b>Mental Health and Well Being.</b><br/>Staff are looking to have resources in supporting families such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Webinars with expert panelist</li> <li>• Open forum for families and students.</li> <li>• “Bell Let’s Talk day”</li> </ul> <p>Board resources:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disability case management resources for staff.</li> <li>• Parent and community involvement resources</li> <li>• Professional services resources</li> </ul> <p><b>Mental Health resources</b><br/>Staff are working on quicker easier access to mental health resources on TDSB’s landing page for students and families and communities.</p> <p><b>Conversation series</b><br/>Staff are working on series of conversations series around mental health.</p> <p><b>TDSB Physical Education Department</b><br/>Teachers and staff have access to the live early morning workout. The live sessions are not available to communities, the link can be accessed at the later part of the day by communities.</p> |        |                |

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|      | <p><b>Physical education for students</b></p> <p>Staff are committed and working on providing physical education in virtual schools. Staff must take into consideration safety and liability. Several online resources are available for physical activities, the activities may look different from school to school, from home to home in terms of the space allotment and engagement.</p> <p><b>Switching models</b></p> <p>A working group of staff is looking at the possibilities and proposed models for the switching models. The decisions are guided by recommendations from the Toronto Public Health, the needs of families.</p> <p>Staff have concerns with the growing number of COVID cases &amp; cohort mixing.</p> <p><b>Discussion/Feedback</b></p> <p>Board wide instructions/ rules regarding graduation and related activities.</p> <p><i>TDSB's operational guidelines committee group are working on the commencements, graduation certificate.</i></p> <p><i>During this pandemic staff will need to plan the events safely and differently for the safety of students and to recognize the milestones within their educational career.</i></p> <p><b>Mental health</b></p> <p>There's a lot of barriers for people to access the broad mental health</p> |        |                |

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|             | <p>resources. Building relationship between parents and making the classroom experience unique to the set of parents is going to be a key element in combating this mental health epidemic.</p> <p><b>High school students</b><br/>High school students who may not access or intentionally seek the mental health resources and are struggling, Is there a way for teachers to keep track of students intentionally in classroom through a wellness check?</p> <p><b>Sports</b><br/>Any opportunity for virtual way to have sport competitions and engage students.</p>   |        |                |
| PCEO update | <p>The written report was distributed the following were highlighted:</p> <p><b>School Council Shared E-mail Account Update</b><br/>One on one support for PIAC members.</p> <p><b>School Messenger Update</b><br/>Staff &amp; School council chairs will be able to send direct messages to parents using the tool.<br/>Rollout to begin on January 25, 2021.</p> <p><b>Vice-Principal Interview Process</b><br/>A call out had gone out to parents, 150 parents have responded.<br/>Training is mandatory to participate in the process . The training is scheduled on February 9, 2021.</p> <p><b>Program Priorities Funding (PPF) – Parent Reaching Out Grant (PROG)</b></p> |        |                |



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|      | <p>Funds will be allocated to support the following initiatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. School Council Anti-Black Racism, anti-Indigenous and anti-oppression application initiatives (\$52,500@1,500/Council)</li> <li>ii. Virtual Parent/Caregiver engagement tools and supports (\$20,000)</li> <li>iii. Conversation Series 2.0-Going Deeper (\$35,000)</li> <li>iv. Enhanced Multi-lingual Supports (\$24,063)</li> </ul> <p><b>PIAC Orientation on</b><br/>February 9 before the PIAC Exec meeting</p> <p><b>Discussion/Feedback</b></p> <p><b>Food scarcity</b><br/>How can PIAC support the issue in the communities?<br/><i>PCEO – trying to identify resources for families to access food.</i><br/><i># Student Nutrition program work in collaboration Toronto foundation for Student Success have been able to distribute food gift cards for families.</i><br/><i># Model schools-The CSWs have actively supported parents coordinated in each LC links to agencies, food banks, picking and dropping off food for families. Collaborating with student nutrition coordinators, teachers and community workers.</i></p> <p><b>High school Pantry</b><br/>Some high schools have a pantry where students and their families can shop or pick up food.</p> |        |                |

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|                            | <p><b>Parents as Partners Conference videos</b><br/>The conference workshops are all uploaded by Margaret Horvath on the TDSB website</p> <p><b>TDSB shared email access</b><br/>Request to staff on the discontinuation of the forwarding and web mail access feature in TDSB shared email PIAC /school council accounts.</p> <p><b>PRO Grant application process and timelines for schools to apply</b><br/>Staff are working on simplify the application process for the grant with a review committee to review the process as per the Ministry of Education criteria.</p> <p><b>Ward 4 Appreciation to PCEO</b><br/>Michelle Munroe and her team were thanked for all the support received for the conversation on school council By-laws in Ward 4.</p> |   |                |
| Working Group (WG) Reports |   |   |                |
| Budget WG                  | <p>The Budget WG is looking at the following expenses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To have the otter transcription for two PIAC's two accounts-\$300</li> <li>• Increase the zoom storage</li> </ul>  | <p>Motion by Andrew just to expand funds on purchasing otter for the two zoom accounts for approximately \$300, seconded by, by Wilmar K.</p> <p>All in favour. Motion is carried</p> |                |

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| Consultations WG      | <p>The WG to work on the following and report at the next PIAC meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIAC consultation webpage to be updated</li> <li>• Review of policy review scheduled and on the next steps for public outreach in new consultations.</li> </ul>   |        |                |
| Virtual Engagement WG | <p>System Superintendents of Virtual schools Ian Allison &amp; Shirley Chan – attended the WG group meeting to provide updates and also addressed a few of PIAC’s recommendations.</p> <p>The following were reported by staff :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsiveness and communication have increased within the virtual schools</li> <li>• More staff have been assigned in virtual schools.</li> </ul> <p>The outstanding items are</p> <p><b>Parent volunteering-</b><br/>PIAC was asked to contribute or suggest activities that parent volunteers could do in a virtual school.</p> <p><b>Parent request</b><br/>Parents have requested to get in touch with other parents in virtual schools to create that feeling of community and increase the parent engagement level.</p> <p><b>Thought Exchange</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The virtual engagement working group would like to do a thought exchange with all parents and caregivers in virtual school.</li> </ul> |        |                |

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|                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents can share about what kind of parent family or community engagement activities they would like, to see in the virtual school.</li> <li>• Also an opportunity for parents to share any engagement activities that have already worked well in the virtual school.</li> </ul> <p>Feedback</p> <p>Concerns regarding communication among families of virtual school:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of communication among parents due to confidentiality issues</li> <li>• Families not wanting to share email address and could be excluded.</li> <li>• Lack of support for parents among parents is alarming.</li> <li>• There needs to a shift in thinking by staff regarding communications restrictions among parents and staff for virtual schools as virtual school setting is different from bricks and motor school setting.</li> </ul> |   |                |
| Communications and Outreach WG | <p>The written WG report to be distributed to the committee.</p> <p>The WG is requesting for feedback on the strategic work plan that are designated to communications and outreach WG.</p>   | <p>Motion by Wilmar K</p> <p>To increase access to, and visibility of, PIAC Representatives, PIAC requests that the names of the Ward’s PIAC Representatives be added to school TDSB websites, adjacent or below the existing</p> |                |

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|               |   | <p>PIAC logo and link.<br/>For now, the names will link to the PIAC Membership list that is regularly updated on the TDSB website, which will eventually have clickable links to e-mail addresses.</p> <p>All in Favour , Motion carried</p> <p>Seconded by Sharon G</p> |                |
| By-Laws WG    | The WG was not able to meet.  |  |                |
| Membership WG | <p>A written report was submitted.<br/>The WG to bring a motion forward to budget for alumni gifts.<br/>The WG looking forward to welcoming new PIAC members to the committee at the next PIAC meeting as elections are being scheduled to be held at couple of wards.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b><br/>Request to Membership WG to clarify the role of PIAC Representative and Alternate for parents that can be presented by Trustees at ward forums.</p> |  |                |
| Ward update   | <p><b>Ward 4</b><br/>Ward forum workshop on School Council By-Laws for parents, the event was successful, 100% attendance. Great support from Trustee, Superintendents, Michelle Munroe and CSWs.</p>   |  |                |

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|              | <p>All 22 schools were represented in the event.</p> <p><b>Ward 7</b><br/>Ward forum was well attended, and there was equity focus discussion, discussion on how school counselors can do more on disciplinary measures on boosting equity measures and the equity needs for their school.</p> <p><b>Ward 14</b><br/>Appreciation for Trustee Doyle and Trustee Chernos Lin for taking the lead on petitioning and standing their ground on a cannabis store in the neighborhood of Ward 11 &amp;14.<br/>Many letters of petitions went from many parents, city councillors, MPP superintendents, several teacher’s community organizations private citizens including students also wrote letters of petition.</p> <p><b>Ward 11</b><br/>Virtual ward forums are well attended Ward 11 is doing a virtual ward forum meeting next week on Monday January 25.</p> <p>PIAC calendar list all parent engagement activities for PIAC members</p> |        |                |
| New Business |   |        |                |
| Adjournment  | Meeting adjourned at 9:41 pm.   |        |                |