

PIAC Working Group REPORT

Working Group	By-laws
Date	February 16, 2021
Description/ Objective	A governance working group. Revise and update PIAC's By-Laws as required.

Update

- 1) By-laws change process
 - a. Provide opportunity for all PIAC members to provide by-law amendment ideas [Feb]
 - b. By-laws WG review of proposed changes [late Feb]
 - c. Stakeholder input/review/feedback [March]
 - d. PIAC Membership Survey [April]
 - e. Drafting by-laws language [May]
 - f. Brought to PIAC Meeting for Approval [May/June]
- 2) By-law change proposals or governance issues
 - Elected PIAC Members
 - Proposal
 - 2 Representatives (each with a vote) per Ward (eliminate rep/alt distinction)
 - Term of Office: 2 years
 - Discussion
 - Eliminates second-class status of half the members of PIAC (i.e. the alts)
 - Continue with 2-year term starting once election occurs
 - Due to large Wards, put practices in place to attract diversity of reps
 - Appointed PIAC Members
 - Proposal
 - Ward Vacancies
 - Appointed members must be eligible to be elected members
 - Appointed members serve out the term of the vacancy created
 - Appointment Process
 - Interested parents/caregivers in the Ward with vacancy will be given the opportunity to submit a nomination form to PIAC
 - PIAC will vote on nominations where there are more nominees than Ward vacancies available
 - At-large PIAC positions
 - Appointment Process
 - Interested parents/caregivers will have until a week prior to the PIAC meeting in October to submit a nomination form
 - PIAC will vote on nominations where there are more nominees than at-large positions available
 - Term of Office
 - 1-year from date of appointment
 - Discussion
 - No election is not democratic
 - Currently elections for PIAC reps/alts usually have less than 30 parents/guardians voting at a Trustee Forum. How democratic is that given that each ward has approximately 15,000 parent/guardians?
 - Ward vacancy appointments ensure that vacant wards have representation

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- Allowing at-large PIAC positions allows for increased engagement with TDSB parents/guardians/caregivers
- An unsuccessful PIAC candidate at a ward forum who still wants to be involved could be appointed for 1-year thereby retaining their engagement and efforts
- Equity issue: PIAC can have parents/guardians/caregivers who would not put themselves up for election due to a number of reasons
- Trustee Appoint PIAC Alternate
 - Proposal
 - Where a ward meeting occurs and the PIAC approved elections process is not available at the time of the meeting, due to any circumstances unforeseen, the host Trustee may appoint an alternate member to serve as if elected in section (a) if eligible and based on reasonable merit of the appointee known in the ward at the time of the meeting
 - Discussion
 - Concern it gives too much power to Trustees, PIAC needs to control its own election/appointment process
- Simplify bylaws
 - Proposal
 - Reduce administrative clauses
 - Create Policies/Guidelines to compliment/support bylaws
 - Discussion
 - Broad support from WG members
- Attendance/Participation of PIAC members (i.e. absences)
 - Attendance/Participation of PIAC members (i.e. absences) in PIAC meeting and WGs. Revise attendance/participation clause to encourage attendance/participation and where necessary remove inactive PIAC members to make PIAC positions available for parents/guardians that will contribute to PIAC Objectives
- PIAC Alts can run for Co-chair
 - Proposal:
 - add language to bylaws to make this clear
 - Discussion
 - Broad support from WG members
- Governance WG Co-Lead Positions
 - Proposal
 - Limit the number of Governance WG Co-lead positions that a single PIAC member can occupy
 - Discussion
 - Important to ensure that leadership of WGs is shared by largest part of PIAC membership as possible
- PIAC Term Limits
 - Proposal
 - Establish term limits for PIAC members (ex. 3 or 4 2-year terms); balance the concern of allowing the refreshment of membership with maintaining institutional memory.
 - Discussion
 - Why deny actively engaged parents/guardians/caregivers who want to serve

Motion(s)	• N/A
Question(s)	• N/A

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Next Steps and Action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide opportunity for all PIAC members to provide by-law amendment ideas
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