

# PIAC TRUSTEE UPDATE

December 15, 2020

## BOARD MEETING - December 9, 2020

### Full summary of decisions

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca//Leadership//Boardroom//AgendaMinutes.aspx?Type=M&Year=2020&Filename=201209+Summ.pdf>

### Motion regarding reimbursement of pandemic related costs

The Board decided:

Whereas, the Toronto District School Board was committed to do everything possible to open schools safely for its students and staff for the 2020-21 school year; and

Whereas, in order to do so, the Board used working fund reserves and other reserves that had been set aside for specific purposes; and

Whereas, since budget estimates continue to be revised and based on actual enrolments which have declined due to the pandemic, there are significant changes from the original budget projections as well as the potential of ongoing risks to the board's financial forecast;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- i. That the Chair write to the Minister of Education to advocate for the full reimbursement of reserve funds and other pandemic-related costs that the TDSB and other school boards were required to spend to safely open and operate schools;
- ii. That the letter at Part (a) be copied to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association.

### Use of Outdoor Spaces for Instructional Time

The Board passed a motion to have the Director:

(a) present a report to the Program and School Services Committee in the January 2021 cycle of meetings, on the feasibility and implementation plan of the following:

- i. in the short term, provide consistent and clear messaging, protocols, and program resources to all schools, in-person and especially virtual schools, elementary and secondary, that support use of the outdoors in day-to-day learning and support timely approaches to the use of outdoor spaces for

learning, and include messaging and healthy living resources for families that highlights the importance of outdoor activities;

(b) present a report to the Program and School Services Committee and the Finance, Budget and Enrolment Committee outlining a long-term plan for encouraging and supporting all schools, both elementary and secondary, to use outdoor spaces for instructional time throughout the day and that the plan:

- i. be based on approaches used in the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) program successfully piloted at TDSB schools;
- ii. consider the use of pilots distributed across learning centres for an initial group of up to 24 schools (six per Learning Centre) as soon as possible, using an equity lens, including the use of disaggregated, race-based data, to determine which schools will be eligible, and depending on the timing of implementation include an outdoor learning program for virtual schools;
- iii. include collaboration between the Sustainability Office and Outdoor Education in supporting schools with this work;
- iv. include concrete steps for how outdoor learning can be encouraged at the secondary level as well;
- v. include costs and funding source for implementation.

(c) ensure that the concerns raised by employee groups in written delegation to Planning and Priorities meeting of December 8, 2020 are considered in the development and execution of parts (a) and (b);

(d) provide an update in the February-March 2021 cycle of meetings.

## **OTHER UPDATES**

### **Director Search**

The search for the permanent Director has been extended. Next steps in the recruitment process for a permanent Director of Education including timelines are being worked on. The TDSB's Director Search [website](#) will be updated with new timelines as soon as they are available.

In the meantime, the Board has reconvened the Interim Director of Education Search Committee which is responsible for recommending to the Board an Interim Director until a permanent one can be appointed. The Board will announce details on an Interim Director before December 31, 2020.

Until that time, [Dr. Kathy Witherow](#) will continue to serve as the Board's Interim Director of Education.

### **Integrity Commissioner's Annual Report 2019-2020**

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca//Leadership//Boardroom//AgendaMinutes.aspx?Type=A&Folder=Agenda%2f20201111&Filename=IC+report.pdf>

To learn more about the role of the Integrity Commissioner please visit <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Integrity-Commissioner>