

PIAC Executive Committee Motion(s)

	PIAC Executive Committee
Date	March 9, 2021
Description/Objective	<p>The mandate of PIAC is prescribed by the Education Act, Ontario Regulation 612/00 School Councils and Parent Involvement Committees. The purpose of a parent involvement committee is to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the board level in order to improve student achievement and wellbeing. O. Reg. 330/10, s. 6.</p> <p>A parent involvement committee of a board shall,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) develop strategies and initiatives that the board and the board’s director of education could use to effectively communicate with parents and to effectively engage parents in improving student achievement and well-being; (b) advise the board and the board’s director of education on ways to use the strategies and initiatives referred to in clause (a); (c) communicate information from the Ministry to school councils of schools of the board and to parents of pupils of the board; (d) work with school councils of schools of the board and, through the board’s director of education, with employees of the board to, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) share effective practices to help engage parents, especially parents who may find engagement challenging, in their children’s learning, (ii) identify and reduce barriers to parent engagement, (iii) help ensure that schools of the board create a welcoming environment for parents of its pupils, and (iv) develop skills and acquire knowledge that will assist the parent involvement committee and school councils of the board with their work; <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (e) determine, in consultation with the board’s director of education and in keeping with the board’s policies, how funding, if any, provided under the Education Act for parent involvement as described in section 27 and clauses (a) to (d), is to be used. O. Reg. 330/10, s. 6.
Rationale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The PIAC Strategic Plan has an equity focus and PIAC members are having ongoing conversations in our Working Groups regarding equity, anti-oppression and anti-racism. • The recently released TDSB Human Rights Annual Report 2018 – 2020 https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes/Type/A?Folder=Agenda%2F20210217&Filename=6.pdf is the first of its kind in the TDSB and beyond. It includes data from the recent Student and Parent Census along with the Staff Census and Well-being surveys. The data clearly indicates that the Board continues to have a serious racism problem. Race or race related grounds is the most frequent ground of complaint received by the Human Rights Office making up 54% of all complaints of human rights violation. Disability is the second most frequently cited ground making up 20% of complaints. Specifically, incidents citing Anti-Black racism exceeded all other incidents reported by a wide margin. Incidents of Anti-Semitism have risen at an alarming rate as have incidents of homophobia.

Motion(s)	<p>I MOVE THAT the PIAC Co-Chairs with assistance from the PIAC Executive Committee, draft a PIAC Equity and Anti-Racism Statement which includes PIAC’s commitment to equity, anti-oppression and anti-racism (including the commitment to oppose anti-Black racism, anti-Asian racism, anti-Semitism, anti-Indigenous racism, Islamophobia and homophobia).</p> <p>FURTHER I MOVE THAT that the PIAC Co-Chairs and PIAC Executive Committee work with the Board and the Parent and Community Engagement Office (PCEO) to facilitate equity training for PIAC members (including anti-oppression, anti-racism and AODA compliance training) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) raise awareness and understanding about human rights, discrimination and racism; (ii) develop strategies to address racism and oppression; and (iii) develop best practices for accountability in addressing racism and discrimination.
Question(s)	N/A
Next Steps and Action items	Request that the motion be seconded, open to discussion and voted on by PIAC members.
PIAC Co-Chairs	D. Williams and Felicia Seto-Lau
PIAC Executive Committee Members	<p>As per the PIAC By-laws revised June 20, 2017:</p> <p>SECTION 3.3 Composition of Executive Committee</p> <p>3.3.1 The Executive Committee shall be comprised of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The Co-Chairs; (b) All members who serve as Lead or Co-lead of a Working Group; (c) The Trustee representative; (d) The Director of Education or his/her designate; and (e) The PCEO representative.