

PIAC Working Group REPORT

Working Group	Communications & Outreach
Date	25 April 2019
Description/Objective	<p>Priority Areas of the Communications & Outreach Working Group 18/19:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. FAQ 2. Consistent updated communications (PIAC POST) 3. Outreach/PR material update 4. SC consultations toolkit (with Consultations WG) 5. Slide decks (Onboarding, intro to SCs, consultations, PIAC rep role) 6. PIAC Members toolkit
Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion around content of SC Quick Guides (Outreach). Nicole Herbert then designed the following quick guides: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fall Tips for Principals 2. How to Build a School Council: A Quick Guide for Principals 3. Why Does My School Need a School Council? Answers for Parents
Motion(s)	<p>MOTION ON SUPPORTING PRINCIPALS IN STRENGTHENING SCHOOL COUNCIL AWARENESS:</p> <p>Given that the PCEO has identified that there are schools operating without school councils, to better support family engagement within school councils in the TDSB, PIAC makes the following recommendations to the Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The TDSB distributes PIAC’s Quick Guide “Fall Tips for Principals” to principals via their Superintendents at the beginning of each school year beginning 2019/2020. This guide is a convenient fact sheet on how principals can support their school council. 2. That PIAC’s School Council Outreach Plan is used in schools identified as having no school councils. Superintendents can assist their principals in building school councils where they do not exist, by sharing and working through PIAC’s School Council Building Quick Guides for principals and parents. PIAC suggests principal outreach occurs at year-end (June) to start identifying potential parents for school council for the following school year. We further recommend Superintendents attend a school council meeting in these schools by January of that school year. 3. The TDSB be held accountable to this process by providing PIAC & the PCEO with annual follow-up including an updated list of schools without school councils each November to allow for timely support of schools struggling with building their school council. <p style="text-align: center;">Attached, see PIAC Quick Guides 1, 2 & 3</p> <p>RATIONALE:</p> <p>The TDSB’s Multi-Year Strategic Plan action goal for Community Engagement supports the “enhance[ment] and functioning of school councils” and is driven to “build strong relationships and partnerships within school communities to support student learning and well-being.” The <i>Ontario Education Act</i> outlines the responsibility of the principal to ensure that every school has a school council, and they supports that council, and mandates that PIAC supports parents and school councils.</p> <p>We know that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Family engagement = student success 2. Feedback from school councils has identified a gap in the operations of and information sharing of administration around School Councils

PIAC Working Group REPORT

Working Group	Communications & Outreach
Date	25 April 2019
	<p>3. The 2016 Snapshot of School Council Operations in the TDSB (PCEO) – survey recommended: <i>“User-friendly on-line and reference documents and professional learning/ capacity building strategies in areas of support, needs and topic areas identified by School Councils are embedded in Learning Centre professional development strategies. System, Trustee, and LC staff professional development planning includes training on the connection of family engagement to student achievement and strategies for aligning and supporting School Councils”</i></p> <p>Therefore, PIAC’s Communications & Outreach Working Group developed the following Quick Guides to support the mandated roles of principals and PIAC in supporting school councils and building stronger school communities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fall Tips for Principals 2. How to Build a School Council: A Quick Guide for Principals 3. Why Does My School Need a School Council? Answers for Parents
Question(s)	
Next Steps and Action items	
Co-lead(s)	Loen Hansford: loen.hansford@gmail.com
Working Group Members at meeting/apologies	<p>Felicia Seto-Lau (W3): Yes (minutes/tonight’s lead) Lia Christensen (W4): Yes Jaimala (W5): Yes Loen Hansford (W7) (lead): yes (late) John Bakous (W8): Yes D. Williams (Co-chair): Yes Wilmar Kortleever (W11): Yes Nicole Herbert (W15) (community): Yes Kate Leuschen Millar (W16): Yes Seema Mitchell (W18): Yes Dean Gray (W6): No (apologies) Zena Shereck (Co-chair): No (apologies) Latha John (PIAC admin):Yes</p>