

Working Group	Virtual Engagement (Parent Engagement for families in the Virtual Schools)
Date	Nov.17, 2020
Description/Objective	This ad hoc Working Group aims to provide recommendations on Parent/Family Engagement in the Virtual School. Areas of interest are Responsiveness, Communication, Community, Accountability, and relation with Home School Councils.
Update	<p>The Working Group met 3 times October 17 - November 12, organized a Round Table on November 15, and developed ideas and first recommendations for parent(/caregiver/community) Engagement for families in the Virtual Schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Oct.17 (attendance: Felicia Lau (W3), Sharon Grant (W4), Patricia Seedial (W4), Jess Hungate (W5), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8), John Bakous (W8), Sylvester Witte (W10), Wilmar Kortleever (W11), Nazerah Shaikh (W14), Seema Mitchell (W18), Shanti Chand (W19), Chris Levien (W20); D Williams (PIAC Co-Chair), Zena Shereck (PIAC Co-Chair); TDSB: Michelle Munroe (PCEO), Latha John (PCEO, Committee assistance), Hugh Keane (CSW)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elected Kaydeen Banks (Ward 8) & Wilmar Kortleever (Ward 11) as Co-Leads - Discussed the membership of the Working Group. Considered organizing an Open Forum (Town Hall) type event, and/or a smaller Round Table, and/or a Survey or ThoughtExchange, and/or Conference sessions. Resolved to make sure to involve CSWs in public outreach. - Discussed Areas of Engagement (Communications, Access to Staff, School Council communications, Access to resources - Discussed Levels of Engagement (class, grade, division, Virtual School levels, as well as home (brick & mortar) school level - Discussed Areas of Focus for Virtual Engagement: 2-way communication with the Board, Understand the application of the Parent Concern Protocol, Curriculum delivery. - Discussed mis-alignment of Home (b&m) School Councils with the Virtual School - Discussed various parent engagement ideas: Virtual School newsletters, instructional webinars, class parents/list, parent volunteering, Survey, Home School Council support, Virtual Ward Forums - Discussed the Workplan & Timeline of the Working Group. Aim to provide first recommendations at the Nov.17 PIAC meeting – many of which will be directed at Staff and the Virtual School more than at the Trustee’s Policy level. - Discussed some concrete suggestions, like Virtual School Contact information on the home school websites; the need for the Virtual School to communicate with parents/caregivers a.s.a.p. through newsletters, callouts, video messages, and other; Clarification of the applicability of the Parent Concern Protocol in the Virtual School; Practical Workshops. • Meeting Nov.5 (attendance: Saira Somani (W3), Sharon Grant (W4), Jess Hungate (W5), Mirian Turcios (W6), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8, Co-Lead), John Bakous (W8), Andrew Waters (W9), Wilmar Kortleever (W11, Co-Lead), Kate Leuschen-Millar (W16), Seema Mitchell (W18), Shanti Chand (W19), Towhid Noman (CLG); D Williams (PIAC Co-Chair), Zena Shereck (PIAC Co-Chair); TDSB: Michelle Munroe (PCEO), Latha John (PCEO, Committee assistance), Rachel Chernos Lin (Trustee), Denise De Paola (Centrally Assigned Principal, VS Secondary)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation/overview/impressions from Denise De Paola, Centrally Assigned Principal in the Virtual School (Secondary)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussed Working Group outreach to Virtual School Parents. Decided to organize a Round Table on November 15, with a Town Hall at a later date. - Discussed various proposed & preferred ideas of Virtual Parent Engagement – as per distributed ‘kick off document. - Discussed the functioning of Home (brick & mortar) School Councils. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting Nov.12 (attendance: Saira Somani (W3), Mirian Turcios (W6), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8), Andrew Waters (W9), Wilmar Kortleever (W11), Kate Leuschen-Millar (W16), Seema Mitchell (W18), Shanti Chand (W19), Abdullah Mamun (W19), D Williams (PIAC Co-Chair) TDSB: Michelle Munroe (PCEO), Latha John (PCEO, Committee assistance), Kim Pividor & Rodrigo Fuentes (VS Principals), Ian MacPherson (CSW)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation/overview/impressions from Centrally Assigned Principals Kim Pividor (VS, Elementary) and Rodrigo Fuentes (VS, Secondary) - Further discussed various VS Parent Engagement ideas - Discussed preparation of the November 15 Round Table • Round Table Nov.15 (Attendance: Felicia Lau (Ward 3), Alice Romo (Ward 7), Kaydeen Bankasingh (Ward 8), Wilmar Kortleever (Ward 11), Kate Leuschen-Millar (Ward 16), D. Williams (PIAC Co-Chair); Michelle Munroe (PCEO); Parents: Sarah Ehrhardt, Peter Hasek, Crystal Stewart, Heather Pun, Jennifer Alexander, Bobby Persad, Teela Persad, Ryan Watts, Sheema Hashmi, Nadine Henry)) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide Background of the Working Group, PIAC, and process - Went around the table for impressions of the first few months of Virtual School, and Parent Engagement successes (few) and challenges (many). - Discussion of a few specific Virtual Engagement ideas
Motion(s)	<p>Whereas, at its meeting on October 20, 2020, PIAC struck an ad hoc PIAC Virtual Engagement Working Group which has received feedback and input from Virtual School stakeholders including parents /guardians and caregivers, community support workers, and school administrators.</p> <p>We move that PIAC make the attached recommendations to the TDSB Trustees and Director of Education.</p>
Question(s)	
Next Steps and Action items	Continue the work of the Working Group, and develop further Virtual Engagement Recommendations, especially in the area of Accountability.
Co-lead(s)	Kaydeen Banks (Rep, Ward 8) Wilmar Kortleever (Rep, Ward 11)
Working Group Members (Name and Email Addresses)	<p>PIAC: Felicia Lau (W3), Saira Somani (W3), Sharon Grant (W4), Patricia Seedial (W4), Jess Hungate (W5), Mirian Turcios (W6), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8), John Bakous (W8), Andrew Waters (W9), Sylvester Witte (W10), Wilmar Kortleever (W11), Nazerah Shaikh (W14), Kate Leuschen-Millar (W16), Seema Mitchell (W18), Shanti Chand (W19), Abdulla Mamun (w19), Chris Levien (W20); Zuojun Han (W20), Towhid Noman (CLG), D Williams (Co-Chair), Zena Shereck (Co-Chair);</p> <p>TDSB: Michelle Munroe (PCEO), Latha John (PCEO, Committee assistance), Trustee Chernos Lin (Ward 11, PIAC), Hugh Keane (CSW); Ian MacPherson (CSW)</p>