



**Name of Committee:** Parent Involvement Advisory Committee

**Meeting Date:** December 15, 2020

A meeting of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee convened on December 15, 2020 from 7: 00 p.m. to 9:53 p.m. via Zoom with PIAC Co-chairs D.Williams & Felicia Lau

---

- Attendance:** Vivek Rao (W2 Alt), Sarira Somani (W3 Alt), Sharon Grant (W4 Rep), Patricia Seedial (W4 Alt), Jess Hungate(W5 Rep), Jaimala (W5 Alt), Mirian Turcios (W6 Rep), Dean Gray (W6 Alt) Alice Romo (W7 Rep), Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8 Rep), Andrew Waters (W9 Rep), Cecile Farnum (W9 Alt), Wilmar Kortleever(W11 Rep); Janice Barnett(W11 Alt), Hanniya Sheikh (W12 Rep), Aretha Phillip (W13 Rep), Syed Sumar Alam(W13 Alt), Nazerah Shaikh (W14 Rep) Jenny Gannon (W14 Alt), Sharleen Ahmed (W15 Rep), Neil Faba (W15 Alt), Kate Leuschen Millar (W16 Rep), Glenna Wellington (W17 Alt), Seema Mitchell(W18 Rep), Mark Ramcharan (W18 Alt), Abdullah Mamun (W19 Rep), Shanti Chand ( W19 Alt), Chris Levien(Ward 20 Rep), Nicole Marshall (W22 Rep), Nadia Judunath(W22 Alt), Towhid Noman(CLG), D.Williams (PIAC Co-Chair), Felicia Lau (PIAC Co-Chair) , Trustee Trixie Doyle,
- Staff:** Exec Officer Marisa Chiu, Associate Director Karen Falconer, Latha John (Committee Assistant); Michelle Munroe (Central Coordinator, PCEO), Exec Superintendent Uton Robinson, Associate Director Craig Snider
- Regrets:** John Bakos (W 9 Alt)
- Absent:** Faduma Qalinle (Ward 1 Alt), Shafoli Kapur (W2 Rep), Pargat Mudher (W17 Rep), Zuojun Han (W 20 Alt)
- 

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
Welcome & Introductions  Approval of Quorum	Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands was done by Chair Williams. The committee was reminded of the code of conduct at meetings.		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands</li> <li>• Declarations of Membership</li> <li>• Code of Conduct</li> </ul>		Quorum was achieved.	
Declarations of Membership	Google form was completed by PIAC members declaring membership prior to the meeting.		
Declaration of Actual, Perceived, or Potential Conflict of interest	Wilmar K declared as occasional employee of the board and will refrain from any discussions if perceived as a conflict.		
Approval of Consent Agenda (Agenda and November 17th Minutes)		Motion for approval of the agenda by Wilmar, 2nd by Cecile F. All in Favour. Motion carried	
TDSB Budget Update 2021-22 Budget Strategic Drivers Feedback Form	Budget update and 2021-22 Education Funding Consultation Guide were distributed. Staff to get feedback by end of January from the committee and highlighted the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• COVID-19 outbreak response,</li> <li>• online learning adjustments due to the virtual school arrangements,</li> <li>• the priorities and partnership funding.</li> <li>• reducing administrative burden and red tape,</li> <li>• school board administration and government grants,</li> </ul>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• managing information for student achievement,</li> <li>• census data and secondary class size compliance.</li> </ul> <p>Survey form to collect responses on education funding topics that are not outlined in the guide.</p> <p>Feedback</p> <p>Is the survey open to the public?</p> <p>Staff are working on posting the guide and survey on TDSB external website.</p>		
Co-Chairs Update	<p>PIC Chairs meeting with Ministry of Education</p> <p>PIAC Co-Chair D. Williams attended on behalf of PIAC .</p> <p>The main points of discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• successes of our school board</li> <li>• promising practices to support parents and families.</li> <li>• new challenges to children and families in the new school year</li> <li>• sharing what parents have communicated</li> <li>• reaching out to connect with parents and families.</li> <li>• supporting the work of PICs, school councils and parents during these unprecedented times.</li> </ul> <p>PIAC Co-Chair D. Williams shared PIAC’s recommendations to TDAB director on virtual engagement and the feedback of TDSB parents on virtual school on challenges around communication and the need for support with technology, the issues of equity, increasing ministry funding, modernizing of the funding formulas for public education.</p>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<p><b>PIAC Conference</b>  PIAC Chairs thanked all PIAC members and PCEO office for the support to the first ever virtual conference was very successful despite a few glitches.</p>		
Trustee Report	<p>Motions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Motion regarding reimbursement of pandemic related costs.  This year the Board had several extra costs - personal protective equipment and cost for supply teachers.</li> <li>• Motion on the use of outdoor spaces for instructional time.  The Board is looking to implement outdoor learning plan in schools and the motion was updated to include virtual learners as well.</li> </ul> <p><b>Director Search</b>  The search has extended and will be posted on the TDSB Website.</p> <p><b>Integrity Commissioner Report</b>  The report is available in the Trustee report.</p>		
Director of Education Report	<p>Mental Health and Well being  System lead Shameen Sandhu briefed the committee on the mental health and well being strategies of the Board for students and staff.</p> <p><b>Automatic pathways</b>  Virtual students can connect to their home school student support team.</p> <p><b>Virtual zoom groups</b>  Students to be connected and socialize.</p> <p><b>Social workers</b>  Six social workers dedicated to virtual school space to support students and families.</p>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<p><b>PD for staff</b>            PD supports to teaching staff</p> <p><b>Discussions</b>            Metal health programs for staff            Social workers support to staff with cohorts of Gr 2 &amp; 3.            Developing the culture of care amongst the administrators and the teachers and build wellness.</p> <p>What accommodation for students who need in person support?            The supports can be accommodated with finding a classroom space, or other space where the distancing and the PP are appropriate and comfortable.</p> <p><b>Parent Feedback</b>            Equip and training for staff and students with practicing different forms of mindfulness.</p> <p>What is TDSB's commitment to ensure consistency in virtual school.            The Board had a huge challenge with running a brand new system of 60,000 students in elementary with over 2000 classes.            It is very challenging for staff to address the issue of consistency within the constraints of collective agreements and learning conditions.            Superintendent Ian Allison or Superintendent Shirley Chan are responsible to ensure stability in virtual schools.</p> <p>What supports for secondary students in virtual schools?</p>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<p>The secondary school students have the same pathways and same level of support from professional support services- Child and Youth care, Social Workers.</p> <p><b>Vaccinations</b> Students can receive their vaccinations at Toronto Public health clinics by appointment. The following three vaccines are available for free:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meningococcal quadrivalent</li> <li>• Human Papilloma virus</li> <li>• Hepatitis B</li> </ul> <p><b>Fundraising</b> Funding is available for HEPA filters, so fundraising is not required.</p> <p><b>Fundraising for technology</b> Fundraising for technology to enhance student learning is allowed and the devices are to stay in school. No in person fundraising activities. Virtual Engagement recommendations Recommendations from PIAC are going to PSSC in January. Virtual Engagement- Superintendents have reviewed the PIACs recommendations and noted that some communication concerns have been addressed e.g. social media updates, newsletters, meet and greets, etc. Parents/caregivers are being provided with information on the Parent Concern Protocol. The issue of responsiveness of VS staff remains a challenge due to the volume of students/parents/caregivers in Virtual School.</p>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<p><b>Parent teacher conferences</b> Technology issues with issuing of report cards. Six classes where the teaching had not been consistent enough due to few issues and those classes received individualized letters explaining when they would be getting the progress report how the parent teacher conferences would occur.</p> <p><b>Special education IEPs and resource support.</b> Work continues to address IPRC/IEP requirements. Leadership positions specifically to support for students with special needs are being assigned.</p> <p><b>Ward Forums</b> Online ward forums, five were held and well attended, though there were some technological challenges at one of them it was a success.</p> <p><b>Switching Communication</b> Letter shared with parents/caregivers on the switching request for January 2021.</p> <p><b>Provincial Testing</b> Provincial Testing in TDSB-Random testing by TPH has resulted in ten schools being closed for various factors. For system update on school, closures visit TDSBs COVID Advisory page.</p> <p><b>Inclement weather</b> Remote learning will not be provided when schools are closed due to inclement weather.</p>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<p>Many of parents who have children to care for at home would find it challenging to pivot to remote learning.</p> <p><b>Remote learning</b>  Staff are preparing for the possibility of remote learning following the winter break.  Staff are working on the communication for parents, ensuring students access to a working device and resources for students.</p> <p><b>Discussion/ Feedback</b>  When will parents be notified about remote learning?  PIAC’s Recommendation on Virtual engagement for more staffing  Communication and responsiveness in virtual school should be the same as bricks and mortar schools.  Inclement weather –Why should Board treat virtual and bricks and mortar the same for this situation when there has been disparity in teaching hours between the bricks and mortar and the virtual.</p>		
PCEO update	<p><b>School council shared email accounts.</b>  Concerns on shared email accounts were received by staff. Staff are trying to resolve those issues as they emerge. There is a backlog of 70 schools.</p> <p><b>Inactive school councils</b>  As per data collected from 400 responses, 21 schools did not have elections yet and is scheduled to held by the end of December or in the first weeks of January 2021.  13 schools indicated not having an active school council.</p>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<p>PCEO to follow up with the schools to build capacity of school councils.</p> <p><b>PIAC shared accounts status</b>  23 members have logged into their account.  7 members have not logged in at all  7 account have not been activated  6 Reps have contacted staff on issues and staff are working on resolving the issue with limited staffing capacity.</p> <p><b>Timeline the rollout of School Messenger</b>  The tool will be rolled out in the 2nd week in January 2021.</p> <p><b>Discussion/Feedback</b>  Staff need to communicate and acknowledge email regarding TDSB shared email issues.  Train the trainer for PIAC members and CSW on School Messenger roll out to support school councils.  Information on TDSB email access on Personal Device was requested to staff.</p>		
Working Group (WG) Reports			
Budget WG	<p>The WG looked at the following ideas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Otter.ai for live transcriptions.</li> <li>• Supporting transporting cost for Parents for PVP to engage parents in future.</li> <li>• A spending plan to be presented in January</li> </ul>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
PIAC Event WG	<p>The Ready Set Engage, conference held on November 21st and 22nd 2020 reached many parents/caregivers and School Council members.</p> <p>A special thanks to all Trustees who attended the Networking session on Sunday evening.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b>  Recommendation for another virtual conference in Spring.  Staff requested that the conversation on the Spring event should involve staff for the staff capacity required to support the event.</p>		
Consultations WG	<p>The WG report was distributed.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b>  The deadline for feedback on policy is December 31 and PIAC members was advised to provide feedback on the policy.</p>		
Virtual Engagement WG	<p>The working group presented two recommendations in the WG report. Friendly amendments that PIAC can make recommendations to the Director were discussed and accepted.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b>  PIAC need to be mindful that the school experience is different for parents of students that are in bricks and mortar as well.</p>		<p>Motion (i) &amp; (ii) by Wilmar K, seconded by Abdullah M  Motion (i)  Whereas PIAC can make the recommendations directly to the Director as per REG 612, whereas PIAC is eager to learn more about the Engagement priorities that Parents/Guardians/C</p>

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
			<p>aregivers in the Virtual School have, PIAC ask TDSB/Virtual School Leadership to distribute a ThoughtExchange among Parents/Guardians/C aregivers in the Virtual School. Its proposed Question would be: "What kind of Parent/Family/Community Engagement activities would you like to see in the Virtual School"</p> <p>Motion (ii) PIAC moves that the ad hoc Working Group Virtual Engagement, together with the PIAC Co-Chairs and the Parent &amp; Community Engagement Office, explore and organize PIAC-facilitated Conversations with Virtual School parents/guardians/c aregivers. All in Favour, carried.</p>
Communications and Outreach WG	The WG had provided a written report The WG to bring forward the motions in January.		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	<p><b>Discussion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PIAC Website to redesign, PIAC post, documents, branding redesign.</li> <li>• The WG highlighted the priorities website redesign, social media, and documents visuals and branding.</li> <li>• Can Event WG take the management of Outreach event.</li> <li>• IT Governance framework for permissions, access and password.</li> </ul>		
By-Laws WG	The WG had provided a written report there was no new discussion by the committee.		
Membership WG	The written report was distributed to the committee. All members were requested to sign up for working groups and be involved.		
PVP WG	The report was distributed so there was no new discussion by the committee. Around 150 parents have signed up for the PVP 2021.		
Ward update	<p>Ward 9- Requesting for support and guidance on school council conversation on Equity, Race and Anti-Racism.</p> <p>Ward 11 Ward Forum with guests from Toronto public health it was well attended over 250 registered for the vent.</p> <p>Ward 4</p>		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
	Bi- annual ward forum executive summit to be held on January 16th. PCEO office to train on By-laws and templates for elementary and high school.		
New Business			
Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 9:53 pm.		