

PIAC Co-Chairs Report

June 2021

PROGRAM AND SCHOOL SERVICES COMMITTEE (PSSC)

PIAC Co-Chairs attended the PSSC meeting on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 and D. Williams presented the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) Report of May 18, 2021. The following PIAC recommendation was amended by the Board to have PIAC work with TDSB Staff (Research) to solicit data/info to improve the virtual student experience in addition to parent engagement with purpose for the use of the data and timeframes.

“PIAC Recommends that the Toronto District School Board organize a survey or other consultation to ask all parents & families in the Virtual School for their feedback on parent/(guardian/caregiver) engagement during the past school year, including but not limited to:

- general impression of the year
- parent/family engagement that supported them (best practices)
- parent/family engagement that was lacking (lessons/ideas to learn for next year)
- parent/family engagement to implement in the 2021/2022 school year.”

Minutes and agendas for all Board Committee meetings can be found on the TDSB website on the agenda and minutes page. <https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes>

PILOT VOTING PROCEDURE AT PIAC MEETINGS

As the Co-Chairs did not solicit formal feedback on the pilot voting procedure trialed last meeting, we will continue with the procedure for the June 15, 2021 PIAC meeting. A reminder of the following voting procedure:

- After a vote has been called for on **a motion that does not involve amending bylaws, change to meeting procedures, or budget allocation and it has been seconded the following steps will occur:**
 - i. PIAC Co-Chair will ask if there are any members that wish a recorded vote.
 - ii. If three (3) or more PIAC members request a recorded vote, then a recorded vote will occur (i.e., following the current roll-call voting procedure of calling on Wards one at a time for their vote).
 - iii. If less than three (3) PIAC members request a recorded vote, the motion is considered passed by unanimous consent.
- Co-chairs invite members to provide their feedback on this voting procedure to be continued moving forward.

ONTARIO PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEES ASSOCIATION (OPICA)

This group has formalized as the Ontario Parent Involvement Committees Association (OPICA) with the OPICA Co-Chairs being D. Williams (PIAC Co-Chair, Toronto District School Board) and Crystal Bevens-Leblanc (PIC Co-Chair, Limestone District School Board). The PIAC Co-Chairs continue to collaborate with fellow Ontario PIC chairs of OPICA:

- On May 31, 2021, the PIAC co-chairs met with other PIC Chairs to formalize the formation of the Ontario Parent Involvement Committees Association (OPICA) with the goals including supporting PICs and to be recognized by the Ministry of Education. Draft terms of reference and bylaws were worked on and will be finalized for discussion with the Ministry of Education.
- On June 14, 2021, PIAC Co-Chair (D. Williams) attended the OPICA meeting.

MOE CONVERSATION WITH PIC CHAIRS AND SCHOOL BOARD LEADS

On June 8, 2021 PIAC Co-Chair (D. Williams) attended the Ministry of Education (MOE) “**Parent Engagement Meeting**”. The meeting sought advice on policies in development from the ministry and provided opportunity for PIC Chairs and Board Leads to provide feedback. A focus of the meeting was to enable participants to network with peers about their experiences within the year and considerations for preparations for the next school year. The agenda included EDU Updates (Programs for Underserved Students; Equity Supports; PRO Grants); EDU Policy Development (Anti-Sex Trafficking); and Looking Forward Student Well-Being and School Year 2021-2022.

PIAC POST

The PIAC Communications and Outreach WG published the June 2021 PIAC POST. Please look out for this monthly newsletter in your email and share it with those in your communities (ensure your email accounts are updated with our Committee Assistant, Latha John). Please send any updates or ideas for future PIAC POST editions to the PIAC Communications and Outreach WG co-leads (Seema Mitchell and Wilmar Kortleever).

PIAC GOOGLE DRIVE RE-ORGANIZATION

The PIAC Google Drive Sub-Working Group with the PIAC Co-Chairs have been working on a framework to re-organize the documents in the PIAC Google Drive to better allow access for PIAC members. The group is working with the Membership WG to finalize a Google Drive User Agreement. Please SAVE **WEDNESDAY JUNE 23, 2021 at 7:00pm** for a Google Drive orientation/training session for all members at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83168399515>. The working group co-leads will be provided access to the working group Google folders with the emails provided on the PIAC membership list.

PIAC STRATEGIC PLAN 2021-2022

Thank you to all the members who joined the **PIAC Strategic Planning Session** held virtually on **Saturday, June 5, 2021 (9am-1pm)**. There was a meaningful session by a trainer to allow each of us to review our voice and we celebrated achievements made by the work of PIAC members. PIAC priorities for the 2021-2022 school year.

PARENTS & CAREGIVERS AS PARTNERS VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 2021

The planning for Parents & Caregivers as Partners Virtual Conference 2021 has begun. Save the date of **Saturday, October 23 and Sunday, October 24, 2021**. Soon the www.parentsaspartners.ca website will have a space for submission of workshop proposals by presenters wishing to present. The thematic areas are:

- Anti-Oppression & Inclusion
- Mental Health, Well-Being & Social/Emotional Learning
- Resilience through Transitions
- Learning & Literacy
- Parent/Caregiver Engagement & Leadership

Please submit your ideas/proposals for parent/guardian/caregivers and school council workshops for consideration by the planning committee. We encourage PIAC members wishing to present workshops concerning positive parent/guardian/caregiver engagement and leadership.

THANK YOU & APPRECIATION

It has been a year full of challenges due to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic.

Thank you to all PIAC members who have participated this years' learning, sharing and furthering PIAC's work. The PIAC Co-Chairs hope that you have found your participation meaningful. Also, thank you to all the community members you participated on PIAC working groups.

We have two PIAC members graduating from PIAC this year. **Jess Hungate (Ward 5) and Wilmar Kortleever (Ward 11)** and look forward to seeing you at their **Virtual Appreciation/Celebration Party on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 8:00pm.**

REGISTER >

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYvfu6tqjwoHNLXWc-HnAD0P6gph8kyK3L6>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the celebration.

A special note of thanks to former PIAC co-chair Zena Shereck for her work as co-chair from 2018-2020. We would have celebrated Zena's work with PIAC at the end of her term but were unable to share an appreciation package due to public health protocols and provincial pandemic health and safety measures. With the provincial reopening plan starting, we are able to now!

Thank you to Trustee Rachel Chernos Lin, Trustee Trixie Doyle, Interim Director Karen Falconer, Interim Associate Director Curtis Ennis, Executive Superintendent Uton Robinson, Michelle Munroe (Central Coordinator, PCEO), Latha John (Committee Assistant, PCEO); Margaret Horvath (Office Administrator, PCEO), and all the TDSB staff who have provided information and support to PIAC during the 2020-2021 school year.

PROPOSED PIAC MEETING DATES 2021-2022

Please note the following proposed dates for PIAC monthly meetings. Along with the noted TDSB calendar dates of significance.

September 21 *Sukkot	2021
October 19 *Mawlid-al-Nabi	2021
November 16 *Louis Riel Day	2021
December 21 *Yule - Winter Solstice	2021
January 18 *Mahayana New Year	2022
February 15 *Parinirvana Day	2022
March 8 *International Women’s Day	2022
April 19	2022
May 17	2022
June 21 *National Indigenous Persons Day in Canada	2022

**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER AND SEE YOU TUESDAY
SEPTEMBER 21, 2021!**

See the **PIAC Calendar** for links to meetings and events > <http://www.torontopiac.com>