



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

**Meeting Date:** April 20, 2021

A meeting of the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee convened on April 20, 2021 from 7: 00 p.m. to 9:48 p.m. via Zoom with PIAC Co-chairs D. Williams & Felicia Lau

**Attendance:** Sharon Grant (W4 Rep), Patricia Seedial (W4 Alt), Jess Hungate(W5 Rep), Jaimala(W5 Alt), Mirian Turcios (W6 Rep), Alice Romo (W7 Rep), John Bakous (W8 Alt), Andrew Waters (W9 Rep), Cecile Farnum (W9 Alt), Wilmar Kortleever(W11 Rep), Janice Barnett(W11 Alt), Susan Lee(W 12 Rep) ,Albert Wong(W 12 Alt), Aretha Phillip (W13 Rep), Jenny Gannon (W14 Rep), Nazerah Shaikh (W14 Alt), Kate Leuschen Millar (W16 Rep), Madelaine Hamilton(W 16 Alt), Seema Mitchell(W18 Rep), Mark Ramcharan (W18 Alt), Chris Levien(Ward 20 Rep), Zuojun Han (W 20 Alt), Abdul Azeem Mohammed (W21 Rep), Anees Munshi (W21 Alt), Nadia Judunath(W22 Alt), D.Williams (PIAC Co-Chair), Felicia Lau (PIAC Co-Chair), Trustee Trixie Doyle

**Staff:** Exec Sup Shirley Chan, Associate Director Curtis Ennis, Michelle Munroe (CTRL Coord, PCEO), Exec Supt Uton Robinson

**Regrets:** Kaydeen Bankasingh (W8 Rep), Abdullah Mamun (W19 Rep), Shanti Chand (W19 Alt),

**Absent:** Vivek Rao (W2 Alt), Saira Somani (W3 A), Dean Gray (W6 Alt), Denese Gascho (W10 Rep), Charlotte Schwartz (W 10 Alt), Syed Sumar Alam (W13 Alt), Sharleen Ahmed (W15 Rep), Neil Faba (W15 Alt); Glenna Wellington (W17 Alt), Nicole Marshall (W22 Rep), Towhid Noman (CLG)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	MOTION	RECOMMENDATION
Welcome & Introductions Approval of Quorum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands</li> <li>Declarations of Membership</li> <li>Code of Conduct</li> </ul>	Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands was done by Chair Felicia Lau. The committee was reminded of the code of conduct at meetings.	Quorum was achieved.	
Declarations of Membership	Members submitted an online declaration of membership.		
Declaration of Actual, Perceived, or Potential Conflict of interest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wilmar K (W 11 Rep) declared conflict of interest as a parent, PIAC member and an employee of the Board (as Shared Services Liaison) occasionally support Board Trustees.</li> </ul>		

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Approval of Consent Agenda	Consent Agenda is brought up when items can be approved without any discussion.	Motion to approve the consent agenda approval April Agenda and March minutes. All in favour, motion carried.	
PIAC Co-Chair's Update	<p>A written report as distributed to the committee and following were highlighted:</p> <p><b>Priority Programs Fund (PPF)</b> PIAC's Consultation WG's letter to the Ministry of Education was presented at PSSC stating PIAC's support on the importance of the Priority Programs Fund (PPF) [formerly known as the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants] to school councils and regional parent engagement initiatives.</p> <p><b>TDSB Human Rights Policy P031 Consultation</b> A consultation session presented by PIAC and the TDSB Human Rights Office on Wednesday April 21, 2021 at 7:00pm.</p> <p><b>Spring Event WG – Breaking Barriers by Changing Biases May 1 &amp; 2</b> Kevin Carrington is the Keynote for the event.</p> <p><b>PIAC Google drive</b> The Google drive to be made available to all PIAC members. A survey to be send out to PIAC members to identify the comfort level of all members in terms of access and the need for training.</p> <p><b>Ontario PIC connection</b> Ongoing discussions on terms of reference and draft bylaws. The proposal to the ministry, to have an association of PIC's as recognized by</p>		

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	<p>the ministry. The challenges that PIC’s are facing and the opportunities and best practices.</p>		
Trustee Update report	<p>A written report was distributed, and the following were highlighted.</p> <p><b>Pivot to Virtual Schooling</b> Staff and schools had to pivot to virtual schooling after the April break. Schools for Special education are open.</p> <p><b>GSN Budget</b> The Board is waiting on the funding information from the ministry. Staff and Trustees to hold special FBEC meetings and will be available to watch online.</p> <p><a href="#">Chair Letter to the Ministry</a> Letter regarding Reimbursement of Reserve Funds and Pandemic-Related Costs.</p> <p><b>Parent Reaching Out Grant Allocation</b> The Chair to send a letter to Minister of Education advocating and highlighting the importance of parent engagement activities done with the funding this year and in the past years.</p>		
Director of Education Report	<p><b>Preliminary Findings on the Impacts on Learning due to the Pandemic</b></p> <p>Staff looked at the impact on grade averages in North America. Differential grade averages across North America showing increased failure grades and increased higher grades were observed.</p> <p>The focus on student mental health and wellbeing’s could be a factor on</p>		

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	<p>the affect on the grade averages during the pandemic.</p> <p><b>Impacts on learning were reported</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 84% of TDSB students have indicated in-person learning was preferred.</li> <li>• Active participation has gone down by 37%</li> <li>• Staff looking at increasing digital capacity for potential opportunities in schools and more community engagement.</li> <li>• Average marks by TDSB Students from Grade 9-12 have gone up by four percentage increase in the average marks.</li> <li>• Increase by 3% in reading expectations in Level 3 and above in grade 1.</li> <li>• Reading levels assessments went down from 10%</li> </ul> <p><b>Graduation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board staff from legal, IT, business services, purchasing, elementary and secondary principals are working on a comprehensive plan to help schools plan a safe virtual graduation process.</li> <li>• Virtual graduation to be done live with only students in attendance and the graduation ceremony will be recorded, additional clips and movie clips can be included on Board approved platforms.</li> <li>• The Board has a list of approved vendors specializing in creating ceremonies and graduation caps or gowns.</li> <li>• Schools to determine the protocols on picking the certificate. The certificate will be not mailed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Extracurricular activities</b></p> <p>Staff are looking at partnership with e-sports activities for the extracurricular activities for students and IT staff are</p>		

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	<p>being consulted for the implementation in a safe and supportive manner.</p>		
<p>PCEO Report</p>	<p>A written update was distributed, and the following was highlighted.</p> <p><b>Program Priorities Funding (PPF) – Parent Reaching Out Grant (PROG)</b>  190 applications were received, and 80 applications were approved of which 6 were high schools, 11 Middle Schools, and 63 elementary schools. PPF Grant supported 61 were supported for a total of \$76, 563.00 and 19 by PIAC allocated funds for a total of \$25,000.</p> <p><b>School Messenger</b>  Staff is working with the vendor on the breach and more updates to follow.</p> <p><b>School Council Townhalls</b>  The Townhalls were well attended and It was noted that many school councils had issues of equity.  A thought exchange was designed and shared with the school councils that attended to share on equity issues and to find ways to be more inclusive on addressing equity.  Conversation series to continue in April, May, and June.</p> <p><b>P023 Review</b>  A report on reconvening PO23 policy review was approved by the Board. The first phase of the review was from the community advisory committees followed by community consultations.</p>		
<p>Q &amp; A</p>	<p><b>Feedback</b></p> <p>Follow up on Parent/Guardian and Student Online Survey – Report</p>		

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	<p>Concerns that the results of the survey could be biased to parents who have online access and have English as a second language.</p> <p><i>Staff are planning to do more follow up and census to be done next year where more information can be gathered by staff.</i></p> <p><b>Specialised Programs policy</b></p> <p>PIAC expressed concerns and requested staff for an update on resuming the consultation that was interrupted in spring.</p> <p><i>Virtual Consultation</i></p> <p><i>Staff are working on the virtual consultation protocols to continue the consultation.</i></p> <p><b>Ministry Relationships with PIAC</b></p> <p>Parent community should communicate and advocates through PIAC to the Ministry of education on concerns regarding educational decisions.</p> <p><b>Staff digital capacity</b></p> <p>Update on building educator’s digital capacity.</p> <p><i>Staff are provided learning opportunities on digital platforms with the support of IT.</i></p> <p><i>The digital learning and teaching capacity of staff has been built especially with staff who have been working virtually.</i></p> <p><i>Staff have been working on many platforms like Google platforms and platforms such as Brightspace can be connected to Trillium which enables</i></p>		

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	<p><i>more opportunities for engagement in the learning.</i></p> <p><b>Secondary school achievement averages.</b></p> <p>Does the data provided by staff on achievement averages of 76% include the three secondary school options - (i)bricks and mortar schools, (ii)local virtual school and (iii)Virtual school.</p> <p><i>Research staff will be providing more information.</i></p> <p><i>Secondary school model is an adaptive model and data is reflective of students who are both in school and or not in school at different times.</i></p> <p><b>Graduation</b></p> <p>Was students or parents engaged or participated in the virtual graduation process developed by staff.</p> <p><i>Discussions on the virtual graduation process at PIAC meetings were shared as parent voices by senior staff.</i></p> <p><i>School administrators brought in the feedback received from students in their schools to the committee.</i></p> <p><i>Directives from Ministry and guidelines form from TPH were all followed in the process.</i></p> <p>An award ceremony should be provided to all students who have registered in a school and should include the virtual students.</p> <p><i>Staff are committed to providing a full graduation ceremony to all students.</i></p> <p><b>Virtual Policy Schedule</b></p> <p>When is the virtual consultation process going to start?</p> <p><i>Staff are working with policy team and will be based on their schedule.</i></p>		

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	<p><b>PRO Grants</b></p> <p>Why were only 6 high schools that had got the grants?</p> <p><i>The applications were reviewed as per the criteria and not based on elementary or secondary but based on eligibility.</i></p> <p>Are additional funds available for the PRO grant applications that were received from school council?</p> <p><i>Staff are redirecting school councils on the funds that they have which have not been used.</i></p> <p>A summary report was requested to staff on the spending of the school councils' funds on the Parent engagement.</p> <p>An interim report went out to all school councils who applied for funds</p> <p><b>Participation of virtual school student</b></p> <p>There has been no communication to virtual school students regarding graduation and other activities.</p> <p>Virtual school students are not able to participate in activities or be part of clubs.</p> <p><i>Staff are working to include all graduates be part of the graduation ceremony and activities.</i></p> <p><b>School Calendar</b></p> <p>A broader conversation on how the Board can be inclusive of all communities and on observing the days of significance.</p> <p><i>It is a challenge for staff to have all days off significance within the 194 school learning days.</i></p>		

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	<p><b>Speakers for School events</b></p> <p>Can school councils use other speakers other than Board approved?</p> <p><i>A list of speakers was posted for school councils. For school councils who are using speakers for only one time need not be part of the approved list.</i></p> <p><b>Early Virtual School Planning</b></p> <p>How are staff planning for the school year 2021-2022?</p> <p><i>Staff are waiting for direction from the Ministry, trustees are advocating to the Ministry.</i></p>		
Working Group (WG) Reports			
Membership WG	<p>The Committee welcomed the following members who were elected to PIAC</p> <p><b>Newly Elected PIAC Members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Abdul Azeem Mohammed (Ward 21 Rep)</li> <li>• Anees Munshi (Ward 21 Alt)</li> </ul> <p><b>Returning members</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jenny Gannon (W14 Rep)</li> <li>• Nazerah Shaikh (W14 Alt)</li> <li>• Chris Levien(Ward 20 Rep)</li> <li>• Zuojun Han (W 20 Alt)</li> </ul> <p>Motion (ii) was discussed by the committee in length and was withdrawn. The motion to be tabled for a later date. PIAC members can use PIAC’s zoom account to schedule meetings with assistance from PIAC Co-Chairs and staff.</p>	<p>(i) Motion by Janice that funding for an initiative to recognize PIAC members “retiring” from PIAC in June 2021 be made available in the amount of \$300. Motion seconded by Kate All in Favour. Motion carried.</p> <p>(ii) Motion by Janice to move that all PIAC members be granted access to a TDSB zoom account to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Better support School Councils in their ward</li> <li>• Facilitate meetings with ward members</li> <li>• Encourage better communication</li> </ul>	

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		for Zoom accounts 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Sharon G	
Consultations WG	<p>The written report was distributed to the committee and the following information was shared.</p> <p><b>Human Rights Webinar- “Lets talk Human Rights”</b> TDSB ‘s Human Rights Office to do a Q&amp;A webinar on April 21, 2021. Staff will be doing a feedback on the procedure and on the consultation process.</p> <p><b>PRO/PPF Grant</b> A letter was sent to the Ministry on behalf of PIAC by the consultation WG for advocating on the PRO/PPF Grant. The letter was shared with the committee.</p>		
Virtual Engagement WG	The written report was distributed to the committee and no discussion followed.		
Spring Event WG	<p>The written report was distributed to the committee and the event leads requested to PIAC members to volunteer for the event.</p> <p>The WG requested to PIAC’s Budget WG to approve the cost for updating PIAC’s Zoom with increased meeting capacity using the PIAC’s general funds and the feature be made available for the event.</p>		

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	<p><b>Discussion</b> Members mentioned that more outreach for the event needs to be done.</p>		
Budget WG	The written report was distributed to the committee.	<p>Motion by Andrew W that PIAC approve a budget of \$4,500 for Zoom account enhancements including increase to 1,000 participants capacity and cloud recording 100GB. Motion seconded by Cecile F. All in favour. Motion carried.</p>	
By-Laws WG	<p>The written report was distributed to the committee and the following information was shared.</p> <p><b>WG Co-Lead</b> Sharon G was acclaimed as the new Co-lead to the WG as the previous Co-lead had to resign.</p> <p><b>Discussion</b> By-laws are important and require discussions between PIAC members and By-laws WG and decisions need to be voted on.</p> <p>The WG is working on editing the document and developing a survey that will be distributed to the PIAC committee.</p> <p>An in-depth discussion with the committee at the May meeting.</p>		
Strategic Planning WG	<p>The written report was distributed to the committee and was accepted. Annual Strategic Planning session (2020-2021)</p>		

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	<p>PIAC Members were reminded of the annual strategic planning session to be held on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021.</p> <p>Motion to extend the meeting by 15 mins.</p>		
Communications and Outreach WG	The written report was distributed to the committee and no discussion followed.		
Ward update	Ward 4-Saturday April 24th Training session on “Delegating to the Board”.		
New Business	<p><b>Communication protocols</b> Communication protocols need to be followed by PIAC members who represent parents in their wards.</p> <p><b>Distribution of meeting documents</b> PIAC WG documents for meetings should be distributed at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting</p> <p><b>Meeting process</b> PIAC members should be allowed to ask questions during important presentations and not made to wait to the end for discussion.</p>		
Adjournment	Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:48 pm.		