

May 21, 2024

School Council Support Working Group

Motion for transparent reporting of School Budget funds

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Whereas, pursuant to the Education Act, Ontario Regulation 612/00 (O. Reg. 612/00), “The purpose of a parent involvement committee is to support, encourage and enhance parent engagement at the board level in order to improve student achievement and well-being. O. Reg. 330/10, s. 6.” by supporting school councils of the schools of the board;

Whereas, pursuant to O. Reg. 612/00 , “The purpose of school councils is, through the active participation of parents, to improve pupil achievement and to enhance the accountability of the education system to parents. O. Reg. 612/00, s. 2 (1);

Whereas the TDSB requires [Principals to consult](#) with School Councils on the school budget;

Whereas [School Generated Funds](#) (SGF) are not clearly defined by TDSB as including both School Council raised funds (non-board SGF) **and** school staff raised funds (non-board SGF), the latter of which are not tracked by TDSB, resulting in a lack of accountability;

Whereas School Councils have protocols around [financial reporting](#) and those councils who use School CashOnline are reliant on office staff to provide the necessary School CashOnline report data;

Whereas Model Schools for Inner Cities funding allocation is part of the school budget but is not clearly communicated with School Councils;

Whereas school Nutrition Programs are school partners and often receive fundraised money from the parent/caregiver community and these programs’ financial records should be shared with School Council for greater transparency;

Whereas School Councils receive annual Operational Funds for council administration (\$1.25 per pupil: min. \$300 - max. \$1000) and for Parent Engagement (\$500 per school), found on GL 41500 of the school budget that many schools are unaware of, the spending of which is a School Council decision in consultation with the Principal;

Whereas there is a need for transparency and accountability of school funds, for system accountability;

Therefore, be it resolved that PIAC recommends that:

1. The Director provide a report on School Generated Funds (non-board funds) of schools which includes:
  - a. non-board funds raised by School Councils; and

- b. non-board funds raised by the schools (not including funds raised by School Councils)
- 2. PIAC be provided with a definition and the reporting criteria of School Generated Funds (non-board) that specifies:
  - a. School Councils' fundraising (non-board funds), and
  - b. schools' fundraising (non-board funds)
- 3. Principals regularly report to their School Councils on the school's fundraising of non-board funds.
- 4. Principals regularly report to their School Councils on the school's budget, including, but not limited to, Model School funding and school Nutrition Program funding.
- 5. That each fall information and training regarding the reporting of school budgets, including all fundraising of non-board funds be provided to:
  - a. Principals,
  - b. Office Administrators, and
  - c. School Councils.