

PIAC Co-Chairs Report

April 30, 2024

Welcome PIAC Co-Reps

Co-chairs Sharon Grant and Zena Shereck would like to give a warm welcome to our newly elected PIAC Co-Reps. Looking forward to connecting and working with each of you. We would also like to say welcome back to our re-elected PIAC Co-Reps. Thank you all for your willingness to support and be a voice on the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) for your parent community within your ward. Please do not forget that you're the parent voice at PIAC representing all the schools that your Trustee who is the elected official is representing within your ward.

Trustee – Thank You

Thank you to all the Trustees who hosted elections to support PIAC and to ensure that your ward will have a voice on the committee for your parent community.

PIAC General Meeting Cancelled – March 26, 2024

The March 26th, 2024, PIAC General meeting was cancelled due to the Finance Board Enrolment Committee (FBEC) meeting taking place on March 26, 2024, that will require the attendance of the PIAC Trustee representative. Regulation 330/10 (612/00) states (1) A parent involvement committee shall meet at least four times in each school year. O. Reg. 330/10, s. 6. (2). A meeting of a parent involvement committee cannot be held unless:

- (a) a majority of the members present at the meeting are parent members;
- (b) the director of education, or the person designated under subsection 46 (1), is present; and
- (c) the member of the board who sits on the committee, or the person designated under subsection 46 (2), is present. O. Reg. 330/10, s. 6.

Parent Involvement Advisory Committee Co-Chairs Letter dated Feb 28, 2024, and email message to FBEC – March 5, 2024.

The below message to the Trustees was also shared to the PIAC general membership through email. The below is a reminder of what was shared.

Dear Trustees,

As the body that advises you on parents/caregiver's engagement initiatives, we are fully aware that you have heard through consultations many recommendations from not only parents/caregivers/guardians but staff, students, and many other education enthusiasts on the importance of funding multiple student and staff priorities. We wanted to gently remind you that parents/caregivers are essential stakeholders in education and require support and resources to effectively engage in our Board. Hence, we encourage your consideration of our letter as you move through your deliberation process.

Program & School Service Committee Report (5 Day Schedule) – April 3, 2024

PIAC Co-Chairs, Sharon Grant & Zena Shereck presented the recommendation to the Program & School Service Committee (PSSC) regarding the 5 Day schedule for elementary schools. After the presentation, the Trustee on PSSC voted to defer this to the TDSB Director since the request falls under TDSB

Operations not Board of Trustee for a vote to become a policy. TDSB staff is expected to provide an update to this recommendation during our April 30, 2024, general PIAC meeting.

March Greek Heritage Month

TDSB proudly recognized and celebrated Greek Heritage Month during the month of March.

April 2024 Latin-America History Month

TDSB proudly recognizes Latin-America History Month

April 2024 Sikh Heritage Month

TDSB proudly recognizes Sikh Heritage Month

May Asian Heritage Month

TDSB proudly recognizes Asian Heritage Month in May each year.

May Jewish Heritage Month

TDSB proudly recognizes Jewish Heritage Month in May each year.

PIAC Input into an audit of TDSB

PIAC provided input into an audit of TDSB that wanted to understand parents' perspective of TDSB operations.

PIAC Working Groups Meeting Schedule

The working group (WG) meeting schedule dates was sent out to the PIAC general membership from the PCCEO, and we encourage each PIAC Co-Reps to join at least one working group. The work is done at the working group level which is then brought to the general meeting as an update or as a motion for the general membership to review and vote on.

PIAC Working Groups

The important work of PIAC happens as we support our school councils and school communities in person and direct communication as well in our PIAC working groups. As per our PIAC by-laws each PIAC member (Co-Rep) is required to sign up and participate in at least one PIAC working group. There are two types of PIAC working groups, the governance and non-governance working groups. The current governance working groups are; Membership, By-laws, Strategic Planning and Operational Effectiveness which includes Budget and operational matters and are open to all PIAC co-representatives and the CLG representative to PIAC. Our non-governance working groups are; Communications, Special Events, School Council Support and Consultations which are open to all PIAC co-representatives, members, TDSB Parents and Caregivers as well as persons from the community. Please look out for the link from the Parent Caregiver and Community Engagement Office (PCCEO) to sign up for a working group and read the working group descriptions. All of our working groups are supported by the TDSB PCCEO team. We're also hoping that as part of the PIAC Co-Reps outreach within their ward to encourage your parents/guardians/caregivers or community members to join one of the PIAC non-governance working groups as well.

PIAC Post Newsletter

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 Parent Caregiver and Community Engagement Office). Please send any updates or ideas for future PIAC POST editions to the co-chairs at info@torontopiac.com

PIAC Google Drive

We are encouraging all PIAC members to use the PIAC Google Drive for member resources and Working Group activities. Please complete the User Agreement to gain access to the drive: <https://bit.ly/PIACGOOGLE2021>. Thanks to all the members who have completed the PIAC Google Drive User Agreement.

To facilitate the important work which members are doing to be in compliance with security protocol, all Working Groups are to be using this shared PIAC Google Drive. If you are a PIAC Working Group lead/co-lead, please move your work into the WG Google folders created in the “!Start Here-PIAC Main Folder!” and make piac.toronto the owner of the folders/documents.

Thank you to all engaged PIAC members for their efforts in advocating for parent/guardian/caregiver voice and the continued push for student achievement and well-being improvements. It may not appear that our work is important and immediately impactful though changes are happening.

Sharon Grant & Zena Shereck
Co-Chairs, Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC), TDSB