

PIAC Chair Report

October 29, 2024

PIAC Meetings

A reminder to everyone online and in the Boardroom that PIAC general meetings are recorded and are attended by not only PIAC members but by Trustees, staff, and members of the general public. As well the general PIAC meetings are posted on the TDSB website to be accessed by anyone that visits the website. Let us all use respectful language, conduct during all PIAC meetings.

Code of Conduct

PIAC's code of conduct is available on the Google drive and is available for all members to read. Please make yourself familiar with the code of conduct, if you have any questions about the code of conduct please feel free to reach out to the co-chairs. PIAC's code of conduct is in place to remind all of us that our behavior is to be respectful, and allows all of us to feel safe in all PIAC spaces from small conversations to large general meetings.

This safety gives all members the space to do the great work that PIAC does, allows all of us to safely speak and share ideas. We all have to acknowledge that we may not always agree with each other all the time and understand that with those moments it provides us with the opportunity to have discussions and work through items we need to support school councils, parents, caregivers and students of the TDSB. Please understand that in a general meeting there may be times that a discussion may need to be taken back to a working group for further discussion, this will still allow voices to be heard and important issues to be discussed but still allow for the business of PIAC to take place at our general meetings.

Recognizing Past Co-Chairs

On behalf of PIAC I would like to take a moment to recognize and thank our past co-chairs Sharon Grant and Andrew Waters for their hard work and leadership to PIAC as co-chairs. Both these individuals provided support and feedback to all PIAC members and ensured the work of PIAC continued. Andrew's term as co-chair ended November 2023 and Sharon graduated out of PIAC in June 2024. Andrew was elected as the co-representative for ward 3 in the spring of 2024 and

Sharon continues to support her community in other ways to this day. On behalf of PIAC I would like to thank Sharon Grant and Andrew Waters for all their leadership and the best of luck in the future.

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 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, Operational Effectiveness which includes Budget and By-laws, and the Strategic Planning workgroups which 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 working groups 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 PCCE Office 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 (Parent Caregiver and Community Engagement Office). If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to the co-chair.

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, 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.

Board Committee Meetings

Your PIAC co-chairs will at times attend the Governance and Policy Committee as well as the Program and School Services Committee meetings. Co-chairs are invited to attend when PIAC has passed a motion to recommend an item to the Board. These committee meetings are welcome to members of the public to attend

and are also recorded and posted on the TDSB website. For more information about meeting dates or to listen to past committee meeting recordings and view documents please visit

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/Leadership/Boardroom/Agenda-Minutes>

Policy Reviews

TDSB policies are scheduled to be reviewed and PIAC is part of the process. Our Consultations working group is an active group that consists of PIAC members as well as community members and is able to contribute to the process of the policy being reviewed. For more information about the policy review process and the schedule of policies to be reviewed please visit

<https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Review>

Upcoming Events for Parents and Caregivers

Parents and Caregivers as Partners: Journey to Joy, Wellness and Wholeness Conference 2024

The Parents and Caregivers as Partners virtual conference will be taking place Saturday November 16th. This year’s theme is “Journey to Joy, Wellness and Wholeness” and will provide the opportunity for parents and caregivers to engage in workshops that will inform and explore how Equity and Truth and Reconciliation can allow us to break down barriers and to forge inclusive communities. For more information and register for this free online event please visit <https://www.parentsaspartners.ca/>

Recognizing Heritage and History in the TDSB for October

Islamic Heritage Month

Somali Heritage Month

Latin-America Heritage Month

Zena Shereck

Co-Chair, Parent Involvement Advisory Committee, TDSB