

## **2024 Nominees**

### **Gordon Richard Harvey**

I am a parent to a Kindergarten and a Grade 1 at Islington JMS. I am also Co-Chair of the School Council. I feel parents should have an active role and voice in Schools and at the TDSB as I feel that not all points of view are being represented. Parents bring their own experiences, expertise and points of view to issues that affect their children and the wider community. This is an invaluable source and should be respected. It is the purpose of PIAC and the School Councils and it takes a strong voice to ensure that all voices are heard, respected and listened to.

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### **Allison Johnston**

I am a parent of a high school student and a business owner in Toronto. I believe that caregiver and parent involvement enhances community, safety, and support for everyone. I think it is imperative to be involved in the school community to foster a healthy social and emotional situation for the students. The more the students feel supported, the better educational outcomes for everyone.

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### **Devon Pool**

I'm Devon Pool, a Marketing Professional residing in the Ward 3 community of Queensway-Stonegate. With three school-age children enrolled in the French Immersion program at Islington JMS and a background in French Studies, I recognize the significant value of French language education. I would welcome the opportunity to engage with parents, educators, and community members to explore ideas for enhancing FSL programs in the TDSB.

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### **Andrew Waters**

I am a father of 2 students in TDSB, a public servant with the City of Toronto for over 20 years, an Accountant (CPA), a Certified Teacher (OCT), actively involved with my community, my children's school and school council, and have been a PIAC Representative for 5 year including 2 years as Co-chair. Additionally I am a former student of TDSB, and have worked in TDSB as a Swim Instructor while attending post-secondary. These experiences have shaped me to be a person focused on public service, especially public education and have provided me multiple perspectives with the TDSB to support the continuous improvement of TDSB specifically around parent and caregiver engagement.

My qualities include integrity, problem-solving, transparent, compassionate, inspirational, communicative, dependable and forward-thinking. I am passionate about supporting “TDSB is committed to creating an equitable school system where the achievement and well-being of every student is fostered through rich, culturally authentic learning experiences in diverse, accepting environments where all are included, every voice is heard, and every experience is honoured.”

I would continue to improve PIAC by supporting its members to fulfill its purpose, specifically:

- 1) Enhance the accountability of the education system to parents and caregivers by holding the Board and its staff accountable by increasing the number formal recommendations to Board which raise the profile of parents/caregivers/PIAC Representatives concerns to ensure Board and staff review and address the issues and recommendations.
- 2) To advocate passionately for all concerns brought forward to PIAC by parents/caregivers/PIAC Representatives and the recommendations that PIAC recommends to the Board, Director of Education (staff), School Council and Ministry of Education.
- 3) To support parents/caregivers/school councils/PIAC Representatives in challenging the status quo, especially with a lens on equity, diversity and inclusion for all staff and families, and “to improve student achievement and well-being” of TDSB.