

## PIAC Consultations Working Group Report

<b>Working Group</b>	<b>Consultations Working Group</b>
<b>Date</b>	<b>January 18, 2022</b>
Description/Objective	<p>The Consultations Working Group was formed to prioritize, summarize, and disseminate information to PIAC, and where applicable the TDSB parent community, regarding Policies and Procedures under review by the TDSB. Dissemination of information will be coordinated with PIAC Ward Representatives and the Communications &amp; Outreach Working Group.</p> <p>Where applicable the Consultations WG, along with all PIAC members, will coordinate review and/or provide feedback and/or make recommendations regarding review and revision of TDSB Policies and Procedures to the PIAC Co-chairs.</p> <p>Priority Areas of the Consultations Working Group 21/22:  Re-organize meeting structure and align needs to strategic plan, communicate with PIAC and the parent community around policies undergoing review, according to the TDSB Policy Review Schedule, and address emerging issues as needed.</p>
Update	<p>The working group met on <b>Tuesday, January 4</b> and hosted guest, Superintendent Diana Panagiotopoulos regarding outreach for consultations on the potential establishment of permanent virtual school.</p> <p>The working group met again on <b>Thursday, January 13</b> to discuss emerging issues around the publication of the TDSB School Council By-Laws Template on January 10. Discussion included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A review of the consultations that occurred with PIAC volunteers in August 2021</li> <li>• Compliance of the published template with O.Reg. 612/00</li> <li>• Drafting of a motion regarding the most urgent concerns and a request to suspend the By-Laws Template use until compliance issues are resolved [see motion attached].</li> </ul>
Motion(s)	See attached motion on Support for the Suspension of the TDSB School Council By-Laws Template.

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Question(s)	
Next Steps and Action items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Action on Motion as dictated by PIAC vote</li> <li>● Review and documentation of consultation process when staff approach PIAC formally or informally for response.</li> <li>● Recruitment of Consultations WG members and formal cooperation with the School Council Support WG</li> <li>● Policy reviews at the consultation stage are posted on the TDSBwebsite:  <a href="https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Consultations">https://www.tdsb.on.ca/About-Us/Policies-Procedures-Forms/Policy-Consultations</a> </li> </ul>
Co-lead(s) <i>(Name and Email Addresses)</i>	Kate Leuschen Millar, ( <a href="mailto:kate.leuschen@gmail.com">kate.leuschen@gmail.com</a> ) and Cecile Farnum, ( <a href="mailto:cecile.farnum@gmail.com">cecile.farnum@gmail.com</a> )
Working Group Members <i>(Name and Email Addresses)</i>	Susan Lee ( <a href="mailto:susankim@hotmail.com">susankim@hotmail.com</a> )  PIAC Co-chairs ex officio

January 18, 2021

PIAC School Council Support Working Group & PIAC Consultations Working Group

Motion in Support of Suspension of the TDSB School Council By-Laws Template

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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.”;

Whereas, PIAC supports the on-going work of school councils in creating by-laws that are foundations of transparent governance, are reflective of their local community, and are built on the principles of anti-oppression, anti-racism, non-discrimination, equity, and inclusiveness, as defined in the TDSB’s [P037 Equity Policy](#);

Whereas, PIAC recognizes the necessary work invested in the creation of the TDSB School Council [By-Laws Template](#) and how school councils can benefit from a more cohesive by-law approach that includes community input, upon further review, PIAC has serious concerns regarding compliance deficiencies of the by-laws template to O. Reg. 612/00 and also with the inclusion of the additional by-laws which did not undergo consultation;

Whereas O. Reg. 612/00 requires the board to consult with school councils on policies and guidelines respecting conflict resolution processes for internal school council disputes, one of the three compulsory by-laws, PIAC is concerned that the TDSB limited its consultation on this by-law and did not fulfill the regulation’s directive to include councils;

Whereas, PIAC recognizes that the TDSB does not currently have a policy that requires the mandatory adoption of any school council by-laws, PIAC is concerned that the compulsory use of the template lacks board accountability to parents/caregivers.

**Therefore, be it resolved that PIAC recommends to the Director of Education and the Board of Trustees that the TDSB School Council By-Laws Template be suspended from use until:**

1. The by-laws are reviewed for compliance with O. Reg. 612/00;
2. The by-laws which are not required by O. Reg. 612/00 as well as the compulsory by-law on conflict resolution undergo fulsome and meaningful consultation with parents/caregivers and school councils;
3. The by-laws are edited for user-friendly, plain, and accessible language;
4. The by-laws be presented to PIAC prior to being made available to school councils for use, no later than April 2022.