## Name of Committee: IPS School Council Governance Committee

Meeting Date: April 8, 2021

• A meeting of the Island Public School Council convened on April 8, 2021 at 6:45 p.m. as a Zoom Meeting with Tara Peterson presiding.

Attendance Members:	The following participated by electronic means: Tara Peterson (Chair), Liz Alderson (Secretary), Diana Barbato, Lynda Jeffs, Lindsay Stephens, Scott Woolford, Laura Maria, Tempie, Derek Rayside, Tracy Jewitt, Cori McFarlane,
Demoster	
Regrets:	Johnny Tkach
Absence:	

AGENDA ITEM	DECISION / ACTION TAKEN	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE
Agenda	Meeting agenda for tonight was approved.	Tara
Conflict of Interest Declaration	No one declared a conflict of interest.	All
Follow-up from Mary LInton/ Michelle Munroe	Feedback was provided by Scott on the questions raised with Mary Linton and Michelle Munroe following the March 4th Meeting:	
	<ol> <li>Final draft of bylaws can be sent for feedback to Michelle Munroe. Would also go to the legal department as well. Code of Ethics has been sent already.</li> <li>Re: Training for school councils in leading meetings in zoom, specifically engagement in meetings: Tip sheets are available on the parent engagement website but only with respect to how zoom works, not how the meetings should be run. TDSB has not developed anything formal but the request has been put forward to the parent engagement co-ordinator and the communications department and they will look to support councils meetings with</li> </ol>	

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	presentations from communications.  3. Regarding the ability of the school council to go to the media when don't agree. The parents /guardians should address their concerns via the parent concern protocol - the route being teacher, principal, superintendent, etc.  4. Use of school council social media - encourage parents to go through parent concern protocolif something was tweeted from school council, would need to be labeled as school council.  5. Role of executive council: Not a decision making body - able to meet to set agenda, identify work priorities to bring recommendations to council.  6. Community definition - so long as the definition does not breach Reg 612 we can define community appropriately. If not 100% sure get clarification from Michelle as to the definition chosen.	
	As of yet, no answer has been received on platforms for communications. was suggested that "approved" communication platforms - hinges around support TDSB does not support other platforms than zoom. This may be interpreted as prohibited; another opinion is that they are not going to help if you use something else. Question: Does TDSB lack of support mean prohibited? Principal Scott to inquire.  Questions arose around which schools are using different platforms. If there is evidence, present a case that we can use other platforms to Michelle Munroe.  Action: Jeff & Lyndsay to share	Action: Derek
	information on schools polled with Scott.	Action: Jeff & Lindsay

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Conflict Resolution Discussion/Comparison	Line by line comparison run through: PIAC vs draft. Almost 100% of the document was walked through. Robust discussion took place.	
	Overall the committee could not agree on new suggestions outside original templates. This includes proposed clauses, procedures, wording.	
	No consensus obtained.	
	"Calm respectful tone" was removed in draft (based on the learning of the equity committee in Desmond Cole's book. Clauses may be applied may be discriminatory fashion. Discussion around whether other definitions make this one no longer required. MoE does define respect as important however definition of respect is in Code of Ethics - could use the same one.	
	No consensus reached.	
	"Reasonable amount time" was replaced with an objective quantitative criteria because the equity committee learned that clauses such as this have historically been applied in a discriminatory fashion.  Argued that it should remain to allow some leeway for chair to stop a conversation if it runs exclusively for one person and prevents other voices from being heard. Need to be able to hear different points of view. No agreement reached.	
	Draft: "Chairs are responsible for order" - chair should not be taking a position in a conflict. If they wish to take one side or the other they should step down from chairing, or a second chair should step in. This is the role of Vice Chair. If they too had a conflict then Governance Chair could step in. It was suggested	

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	that the language needs to be tightened to allow the Chair to express an opinion outside of a conflict. Language is too broad - should be restricted to "when in conflict".	
	No consensus reached.	Action:
	A number of PIAC guidelines are to be added back in.	Lindsay
	There is a clause in the draft that the motion can be made by anyone to have the chair step down. There was concern that the Chair could be asked to step down in the event of provocation, rather than a conflict, which is not the intent of the clause.	
	No agreement reached.	
	Reporting to Superintendent: PIAC template – uses Chair ",a report", draft says "shall report to Superintendent" There is also a big difference between the two.	
	There was a consensus that PIAC language was better, but that "Shall" should be used instead of "May".	Action: Lindsay
	Consensus not obtained.	
	Draft: "Tone and calm" - need to be redefined to something less subjective and be clear that the language is more important. Similar equity rationale to above - so no back language, personal attacks, threats etc. Suggested that same definition as Code of Ethics be used, and repeated here.	
	Consensus not obtained.	
	"Conflict Resolution when the School Councils operation is significantly impaired", specifically operational impairment. It should be noted that the clause regarding 20% of the parents was taken from Rancheview School Council, a School Council in Alberta.	

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		RESPONSIBLE
	Ministry of Ed in Alberta is different from Ministry of Ed in Ontario. MoE in Alberta can shut down a SC and then principal is able to appoint an advisory board. Also, the AB SC document uses 50% of School Council Members, not 20%. It was noted that this clause is about requesting a meeting so that a vote can be held regarding operational impairment. Significant discomfort with many aspects of the draft and the possibilities of the new concepts and procedures. Not comfortable giving a minority a voice, not democraticwho decides on operational impairment? TDSB has Parent Engagement Office. Any ONE personal can email them with any concern.	
	Consensus not obtained.  Noted by Lindsay that it was obvious that this clause would have to be removed.  It should be noted that it is not possible to vote someone off school council.	
	Action: Lindsay/Tempie: Update draft; send to Tara.	Action: Lindsay/ Tempie
	Meeting adjourned: 8:30 pm  Next Meeting to be held: approximate 2 weeks	