



P021, Fundraising Policy: Phase 5

To: Governance and Policy Committee

Date: 20 March, 2024

Report No.: 03-24-4670

Strategic Directions

- Provide Equity of Access to Learning Opportunities for All Students
- Allocate Human and Financial Resources Strategically to Support Student Needs
- Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being

Recommendation

It is recommended that the revised Fundraising Policy (P021), as presented in this report, be approved.

Context

The Fundraising Policy (P021) (the “Policy”) was adopted by the Board of Trustees on March 28, 2001, and last reviewed on June 26, 2003. On May 3, 2023, staff provided preliminary provisions at the Governance and Policy Committee before proceeding with public consultation.

A pre-consultation survey was conducted with the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) in Spring 2023 for one month to obtain initial feedback. An extended term of public consultations was initiated on May 29, 2023 and concluded on October 20, 2023. As part of the public consultations, the Policy was posted on the TDSB website and shared with various stakeholder groups (i.e., Community Advisory Committees, School Councils, Student Senate, professional associations/unions) for input and comments.

Revisions to the Policy (see Appendix A) include:

- Updated definitions;
- Commitment to equity through a proposed System Priorities Fund (formerly the Central Equity Fund);
- Alignment with Ministry guidelines; and

- Provisions regarding online donations.

Board staff also administered a survey to seek detailed feedback.

Survey Results:

323 respondents representing parents/guardians/caregivers, School Council members, employees, Statutory and Community Advisory Committees, trustees and students completed the online survey and 11 e-mails containing feedback were submitted. A number of anonymous respondents provided feedback as well.

Key themes:

Regarding the implementation of a System Priorities Fund:

- 54% agree or strongly agree with the implementation of a System Priorities Fund
- 30% disagree or strongly disagree with the implementation of a System Priorities Fund
- 16% no opinion regarding the implementation of a System Priorities Fund

Regarding whether surplus funds sharing should be voluntary or mandatory:

- 60% - Voluntary
- 30% - Mandatory
- 10% - No opinion

Respondents provided additional feedback in the following areas:

1. Fundraising activities involving the sale and/or consumption of alcohol, drugs or tobacco;
2. Fundraising and Fun Fair Vendor Program fees;
3. Tax receipts for “Gifts of Services” or “Services In-Kind”;
4. System Priorities Fund allocations - transparency and accountability;
5. School Council banking procedures;
6. Volunteer compliance - waivers, police record checks; and
7. Guidelines for school events held outside TDSB property.

In addition to the survey, Board staff held a focus group for PIAC’s Consultation Working Group on October 12, 2023, and the feedback received at that meeting is reflected in the revised draft Policy and will also be used for the review of the associated operational procedures.

The revised draft Fundraising Policy was reviewed and approved by Executive Council on February 27, 2024.

The revised Policy (see Appendix B) is presented for Committee’s consideration and approval.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Subject to the Governance and Policy Committee’s approval on March 20, 2024, the Policy will be presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration and final approval on April 17, 2024. Once approved by the Board, the newly revised Policy will come into

effect immediately. In addition, related operational procedures to support implementation of the Policy will be reviewed and/or developed as required.

Resource Implications

No additional resources will be required for implementation of the revised Policy at this time.

Communications Considerations

Following Board approval, the Policy will be communicated in accordance with the Policy Review Work Plan.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

- Advertising & Distribution of Materials Policy (P006)
- Board Member Code of Conduct Policy (P075)
- Employee Conflict of Interest Policy (P057)
- Fundraising Procedure (PR508)
- International Disaster Relief Procedure (PR609)
- Mission, Values and Goals Policy (P002)
- Purchasing (P017)
- Restrictions on Alcohol, Drug and Tobacco Use (P095)

Appendices

- Appendix A: P021 Fundraising Policy - Tracked Changes
- Appendix B: P021 Fundraising Policy – Clean

From

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