



## **P067, Learning Opportunities Index Policy Review, Phase 3**

**To:** Governance and Policy Committee

**Date:** 20 March, 2024

**Report No.:** 03-24-4678

### **Strategic Directions**

- Transform Student Learning
- Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being
- 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
- Embed the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in policies, bylaws and Board governance structures

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the (P067), Learning Opportunities Index Policy Review report, be received for information.

### **Context**

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees with recommended revisions to the Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P067) (see Appendix A) for information and feedback. The current Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P029) (see Appendix B) was adopted on February 11, 2009, and most recently revised on June 17, 2015. The Policy is being reviewed in accordance with the Policy Review Schedule and the Policy Review Work Plan approved by the Board of Trustees on November 1, 2023.

As per the approved Work Plan, the consultation for P067 will include:

- Establish an LOI Expert Working Group – which includes 1 member from ICCAC and nominated members from ICCAC and the Research and

Development department. The working group will offer feedback on the policy review and subsequent methodology review.

- Posting of the working draft policy on the Board's website for public feedback for 60 days.
- The consultation efforts will also include focus conversations with stakeholders and a call for delegations.

Proposed changes to the Policy are:

- Included new objective in supporting student learning experiences through equitable allocation of resources to schools.
- Added definition of *Equity* to align with the Equity Policy (P037)
- Added application and scope section to state that Policy applies to staff, including TDSB executives, administrators, principals, superintendents, and school personnel involved in the establishment, administration, resource allocation, and managing of the LOI.
- Incorporated new guiding principles:
- Provided equitable access to learning opportunities for all students;
- Committed to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples as a framework for reconciliation.
- Added in provision outlining that discretion be used by staff for equity related decisions and the LOI. Emphasized that school, community, and province context as well as staff expertise are important elements for decision making related to the index.
- Added a provision around exceptions surrounding the use of the LOI.
- Updated provision to state that individual school level variables will be shared when sharing the latest LOI with staff and the public.
- Included two appendices outlining the breakdown of variables included in the LOI and detailing guidelines on how to use the LOI. [\\*these will be reviewed as per the Policy being approved.](#)
- Updated provision to state that the factors and methodology used to calculate the index will be reviewed after the policy review (a minimum every five years). Ongoing research will reflect current research on external challenges to student success and take account of changing data.
- Added in provision related to sharing technical documentation of variables and calculations with the public after each review cycle of the LOI.
- Updated provision on the factors and methodology used to calculate the index will between review cycles, ongoing research will continue to

ensure that the LOI reflects current research concerning external challenges to student success and take account of changing availability of valid, reliable, and consistent data

- Added in Evaluation Section

The revised draft Learning Opportunities Index Policy (Appendix A) is provided for the Committee's information and feedback.

## **Action Plan and Associated Timeline**

Subject to Trustees' comments on the draft Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P067), staff will initiate public consultations for duration of 60 days.

The feedback will be used to inform revisions to the draft Policy. It is expected that the revised Policy will be presented for consideration to the Governance and Policy Committee on October 16, 2024, and subsequently, to the Board of Trustees for final approval by November 6, 2024.

## **Resource Implications**

N/A.

## **Communications Considerations**

Following Board approval, the revised Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P067) will be communicated in accordance with the Policy Review Work Plan.

## **Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)**

Policies:

- Equity Policy (P037)
- Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P067)

Procedures

- Learning Opportunities Index Procedure (PR526)

Legislative Acts and Regulations:

- Education Act

Other Documents:

- Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada: Calls to Action
- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

## Appendices

- Appendix A: Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P067) – Draft for Consultation
- Appendix B: Learning Opportunities Index Policy (P029) - Current

## From

Louise Sirisko, Associate Director, Instructional Innovation and Equitable Outcomes at [louise.sirisko@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:louise.sirisko@tdsb.on.ca) or 416-397-3187.

David Cameron, Senior Manager, Research and Development at [david.cameron@tdsb.on.ca](mailto:david.cameron@tdsb.on.ca) or 416-394-7404.