



Parent and Community Involvement Policy (P023) Review – Update

To: Governance and Policy Committee

Date: 08 January, 2020

Report No.: 01-20-3810

Strategic Directions

1. Transform Student Learning
2. Create a Culture for Student and Staff Well-Being
3. Build Strong Relationships and Partnerships Within School Communities to Support Student Learning and Well-Being

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Critical Path for review of the Parent and Community Involvement Policy, as presented in this report, be received.

Context

The Parent and Community Involvement Policy (P023) (the “Policy”) was adopted on November 25, 1998 and most recently revised on February 3, 2010. The Policy outlines the framework for building and supporting parent and community involvement in the TDSB, including through establishment of the Board’s community advisory committees.

The Policy is being reviewed in accordance with the Policy Review Schedule and the policy review process approved by the Board of Trustees on February 6, 2019. The scope of the review will also address the direction of the Board of Trustees of December 4, 2017, requiring Director of Education to review mandates of the Board’s community advisory committees and present report with recommendations. The scope of the review along with the approved policy work plan approved by the Board at its meeting on June 19, 2019 can be reviewed in Appendix A-Policy Review Work Plan.

This report is to inform Trustees of the critical path to undertake the review. P023 is a critical policy that will not only define the way all families and other key stakeholders of

the Board engages with the Board but it will also begin the work of clarifying the goal of engagement for Trustees and the tools and medium used by the Board of Trustees and Trustees to engages with families, constituents and the public.

During the design process of the review conversations were held with the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (PIAC) to identify opportunities for their engagement in the implementation of the policy review. There were three areas identified as appropriate opportunities for PIAC:

- i. Co-facilitation of ward consultations with Trustees, where feasible
- ii. Review/provide feedback on drafted policy statements, and;
- iii. Co-host online forums

While co-facilitation of ward consultations with PIAC and Trustees provides an ideal opportunity for collaboration challenges of scheduling and resources needs to be considered.

As part of the review, staff will also consult with Community Advisory Committees, Student Senate and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) of the Board as stipulated in Governance Procedure PR501.

The Critical Path is outlined in APPENDIX B- P023-Policy Review Critical Path and is presented for the Committee's information.

Action Plan and Associated Timeline

Subject to the Governance and Policy Committee and Board directions, staff will implement the review of the Policy in accordance with the Critical Path and the Policy Review Work Plan. With a focus on operationalizing the Boards equity commitments into the review, there will be extensive public consultations utilizing online and offline mediums that will provide opportunities for wide stakeholder participation, while ensuring the engagement of families identified within the Multi-year Strategic Plan.

The consultations are expected to take up to 60 days in order to provide an ample opportunity for school communities and all Community Advisory Committees of the Board to share their feedback and recommendations. The revised draft Policy is expected to be presented to the Governance and Policy Committee for consideration in spring 2020.

Resource Implications

To enhance our online capabilities and gather insight from varying stakeholder utilizing modern tools we have utilized the Boards Request for Quotation (Policy 017 – Purchasing) process to retain strategic guidance and services of Bang the Table an organization that features a tool called Engagement HQ a platform that will enable

online engagement that goes beyond surveys to include an array of engagement tools ranging from forums, ideas and places (geo-spatial polling) to polls. While this medium is new to the Board it is a worldwide tool being used widely by Municipalities for engaging the public. We will also be supported by groundswell a consulting group with a specialty and expertise in applying Design Thinking in community/public engagement.

Communications Considerations

Following Board approval, Policy Review Critical Path will be broadly communicated to the TDSB stakeholders, shared with staff through System Leaders' Bulletin, and posted on the Board's public website.

Board Policy and Procedure Reference(s)

- Community Engagement Policy (P078)
- Parent and Community Involvement Procedure (PR558)

Appendices

- Appendix A: Policy Review Work Plan
- Appendix B: Policy Review Critical Path

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Routing

Governance and Policy Committee
Board of Trustees

01/08/20
TBD