



Governance and Policy Committee

Report No. 03

GPC:003A

Wednesday, March 24, 2021

4:30 p.m.

Electronic Meeting

Members Present Trustees James Li (Chair), Michelle Aarts, Stephanie Donaldson, Harpreet Gill, Yalini Rajakulasingam and Anu Sriskandarajah

Also Present Trustees Alexander Brown, Rachel Chernos Lin, Trixie Doyle, Shelley Laskin, Dan MacLean, Christopher Mammoliti, Chris Moise, Zakir Patel, Robin Pilkey, David Smith, Chris Tonks and Manna Wong

All trustees participated by electronic means in accordance with [amendments to Section 7 of Ontario Regulations 463/97, Electronic Meetings](#).

Part A: Committee Recommendations

1. **P020, Transportation of Students Policy Review: Status Update and Decision-Making Points [4059]**

The Committee considered a report from staff (see GPC:003A, page 1) presenting an update and seeking policy direction on the review of policy P020, Transportation of Students.

Moved by: Trustee Aarts

Seconded by: Trustee Rajakulasingam

The Governance and Policy Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the report be **referred back to staff for further input.**

Carried

2. **P023, Parent and Community Involvement Policy Review: Update [4048]**

The Committee considered a report from staff (see GPC:003A page 21) presenting revisions to the critical path and workplan for the review of policy, P023, Parent and Community Involvement.

Moved by: Trustee Rajakulasingam

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

The Governance and Policy Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the revised critical path and workplan for the review of policy P023, Parent and Community Involvement, as presented in the report, be approved.

Carried

3. **Teacher Hiring Policy: New Policy [4060]**

The Committee considered a report from staff (see GPC:003A, page 31) presenting a new policy on teacher hiring as directed by the Ministry of Education via policy/program memorandum PPM 165, School Board Teacher Hiring Practices.

Moved by: Trustee Donaldson

Seconded by: Trustee Sriskandarajah

The Governance and Policy Committee **RECOMMENDS:**

- (a) That the policy development work plan for the teacher hiring policy, as presented in the report, be approved;
- (b) That the teacher hiring policy, as presented in the report, be approved;
- (c) That the review of the teacher hiring policy, including public consultations, be conducted within the first year after the effective date of the policy, and subsequently, at a minimum of every four years;
- (d) That during the consultation process, the Director include language in the policy that indicates the goal of achieving a more representative teacher workforce, so that when the policy is updated based on consultation, this addition be included;

(e) That section 6.3.1 of the policy be amended to add:

That TDSB will set targets for underrepresented groups in new teacher hiring, in order to achieve a more representative teacher workforce.

Carried

At the Committee meeting, Parts (d) and (e) were added on amendment of Trustees Sriskandarajah and Rajakulasingam.

Staff undertook to report back on the diversity of new hires post the repeal of Reg. 274 in teaching in both elementary and secondary.

4. PR515, Workplace Harassment Prevention and Human Rights Procedure: Revised Procedure [4061]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see GPC:003A, page 51) presenting revisions to procedure PR515.

Moved by: Trustee Brown

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

The Governance and Policy Committee **RECOMMENDS** that procedure PR515, **Workplace Harassment Prevention and Human Rights Procedure**, as presented in the report, be received.

Carried

5. PR511, Excursions Procedure: Revised Procedure [4062]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see GPC:003A, page 117) presenting revisions to procedure PR511.

Moved by: Trustee Rajakulasingam

Seconded by: Trustee Sriskandarajah

The Governance and Policy Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the updated procedure, PR511, Excursions, as presented in the report, be received.

Carried

6. Renaming Schools Celebrating the Diversity of Toronto (Trustee Rajakulasingam, on behalf of Trustee Smith and Trustee Mammoliti)

Moved by: Trustee Rajakulasingam

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

The Governance and Policy Committee **RECOMMENDS:**

Whereas, the Toronto District School Board has 583 schools, located in every community across Toronto; and

Whereas, school names are an opportunity to teach students about their community's history and place and their community's leaders and heroes; and

Whereas, there are few new school naming opportunities due to the small number of schools being opened each year; and

Whereas, few schools are named after celebrated Indigenous or Black Leaders or Leaders of colour; and

Whereas, some school names do not reflect the values of contemporary Toronto; and

Whereas, some schools are named after people with a racist legacy; and

Whereas, policy P047, Naming of Schools and Special Purpose Areas and procedure PR592, Naming of Schools and Special Purpose Areas create impediments to review or change school names and themselves might be characterized as systemically racist policies;

Whereas, based on the Board's policy review schedule, review of policy P047 is currently under Phase 3 of the policy review process;

Therefore, be it resolved:

- (a) That a special purpose reference group comprised of students, parents, TDSB educators, community members, appropriate qualified experts and individuals involved in anti-racism work, be established:**
 - i. to inform the consultation process;**
 - ii. to propose amendments to policy P047 and procedure PR592, Naming of Schools and Special Purpose Areas, so that school naming or renaming can be made from time-to-time to reflect the diversity of the City;**

- iii. to provide a proposal for a city-wide review of all school names so that TDSB schools reflect the diversity of Toronto's success;

- (b) That the reference group present a report to the Governance and Policy Committee no later than June 30, 2021.

Carried

At the Committee meeting, on amendment of Trustee Aarts, seconded by Trustee Li, "academics" was replaced with "appropriate qualified experts".

Part B: Information Only

7. Call to Order and Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands

An electronic meeting of the Governance and Policy Committee was called to order at 4:30 p.m., with James Li presiding.

8. Approval of the Agenda

On motion of Trustee Rajakulasingam, seconded by Trustee Gill, the agenda was approved.

9. Delegations

re Renaming Schools Celebrating the Diversity of Toronto

1. Bruce Davis, President, Public Progress
2. Dr. Nav Persaud
3. David Fogarty

10. Declarations of Possible Conflict of Interest

No matters to report

11. Adjournment

On motion of Trustee Mammoliti, seconded by Trustee Aarts, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 p.m.

Part C: Ongoing Matters

No matters to report

Submitted by: James Li, Committee Chair