



Program and School Services Committee

Report No. 05

PSSC:005A

Wednesday, June 9, 2021

4:30 p.m.

Electronic Meeting

Members Present Trustees Rachel Chernos Lin (Chair), Trixie Doyle, Alexandra Lulka, Dan MacLean, Chris Moise, Patrick Nunziata and Chris Tonks

Also Present Trustees Michelle Aarts, Alexander Brown, Stephanie Donaldson, Parthi Kandavel, Shelley Laskin, James Li, Christopher Mammoliti, Zakir Patel, Robin Pilkey, Yalini Rajakulasingam, David Smith, Jennifer Story 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. Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee: Social and Emotional Learning Evaluation Rollout

The Committee considered a report from the Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee (see PSSC:005A, page 5) presenting a recommendation regarding the Ministry of Education's requirements for Social and Emotional Learning evaluation.

BSACAC recommended:

With respect to the Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) evaluation component that the Ministry of Education requires to be a part of the integrated Math and Health mark as part of the updated curricula, BSAAC recommends the following actions for the Board of Trustees:

- (a) Continue to delay the rollout of the SEL evaluation for Math and Health (grades 1-8) through the 2021-22 school year.
- (b) Proactively consult the BSACAC, UICAC, SEAC and all other committees whose communities might be impacted, prior to considering any possible rollout.
- (c) Invest in research to identify best practices for assessing social and emotional learning. Research should also identify equity concerns.
- (d) Communicate to all teachers the following Ministry-provided direction that was previously provided to all Directors of Education:
 - i. “The overall expectations A1 related to social-emotional learning skills in The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8, Mathematics (2020) and The Ontario Curriculum, Grades 1-8, Health and Physical Education (2019) for the 2020-21 school year.
 - ii. The following comment may be used on the report card: “Students’ social-emotional learning skills have not been evaluated”.
- (e) Write a letter to Education Minister Stephen Lecce demanding that the Ontario government immediately assemble a committee made up of Black and Indigenous education advocates who will review all curriculum updates moving forward in order to ensure that racist policies and curriculum are addressed before being released to the public.

Moved by: Trustee Chernos Lin

Seconded by: Trustee Moise

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS:**

- (a) That the Director engage with Community Advisory Committees on the impact and approach of evaluating Social and Emotional Learning;**
- (b) That the following matter be referred to research staff:**
 - i. Invest in research to identify best practices for assessing social and emotional learning and identify equity concerns.**
- (c) That the Director communicate with Community Advisory Committees on any information provided by the Ministry of Education regarding the evaluation of Social and Emotional Learning;**
- (d) That the following be referred to the Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee for feedback and comment, with a report back to the Program and School Services Committee:**

Write a letter to Education Minister Stephen Lecce demanding that the Ontario government immediately assemble a committee made up of Black and Indigenous education advocates who will review all curriculum updates moving forward in order to ensure that racist policies and curriculum are addressed before being released to the public.

Carried

2. Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee: COVID-19 Recovery Plan From an Equity Lens

The Committee considered a report from the Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee (see PSSC:005A, page 65) presenting a recommendation regarding the Board's COVID-19 recovery plan.

EPCAC recommended:

Whereas, with respect to the motion passed at the April 6, 2021, Planning and Priorities Committee regarding a COVID-19 Recovery Plan, the Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee recommends:

- (a) that the Director explore fuller relationships and partnerships with a rich diversity of equity informed community, and academic based researchers with appropriate and relevant experience and expertise in order to:
 - i. extend the dedicated research capacities of the TDSB and;
 - ii. broaden the perspectives that are coming to the table to help achieve equitable learning outcomes for all TDSB learners.
- (b) that a robust TDSB equity lens is used when disaggregating the data to analyze the impact of COVID-19 across the range of equity seeking groups based on race, gender, sexual orientation, disability etc so that we can understand the different impacts on Black, Indigenous, LGBTQ+ and other important sub-groups

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Doyle

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS:**

- (a) That the following be referred back to the Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee for further discussion with staff from the Research Department at EPAC's June 28, 2021 meeting;**

That the Director explore fuller relationships and partnerships with a rich diversity of equity informed community, and academic based researchers with appropriate and relevant experience and expertise in order to:

- i. extend the dedicated research capacities of the TDSB and;
- ii. broaden the perspectives that are coming to the table to help achieve equitable learning outcomes for all TDSB learners.

(b) That the following be referred to staff:

That a robust TDSB equity lens is used when disaggregating the data to analyze the impact of COVID-19 across the range of equity seeking groups based on race, gender, sexual orientation, disability etc. so that we can understand the different impacts on Black, Indigenous, LGBTQ+ and other important sub-groups.

Carried

3. Inner City Community Advisory Committee: Federal Child Care Funding

The Committee considered a report from the Inner City Community Advisory Committee (see PSSC:005A, page 71) presenting a recommendation regarding advocacy for federal funding to establish affordable child care.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee MacLean

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the following be referred back to the Inner City Community Advisory Committee for further clarification with Early Years staff attending:

Whereas the 2021/22 federal budget proposes a monumental investment in child care of about \$30B over the next five years and \$8.3B per year thereafter to support early learning and child care; and

Whereas these funds are designed to address gaps in women's labour force participation; and

Whereas the national goal is to reduce child care fees by 50% by the end of 2022 and to facilitate regulated child care at an average cost of \$10 per day by FY25/26; and

Whereas schools in the TDSB host most of the City of Toronto's daycare programs; and

Whereas the Inner City Community Advisory Committee (ICCAC) has always been and continues to be critically involved in improving all educational programs and their availability for the most economically distressed populations in Toronto pursuant to the TDSB equity policy framework;

Therefore, be it resolved that:

The TDSB trustees approach relevant federal and provincial MPs and MPPs to urge quick action to adopt the new federal funding and work with municipal and education

partners to establish affordable child care in areas of need and help the many people who have lost child care due to the COVID 19 pandemic

Carried

4. Parent Involvement Advisory Committee: Virtual School Feedback Survey

The Committee considered a report from the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee (see PSSC:005A, page 75) presenting a request for a survey regarding virtual school.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee MacLean

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the following be referred back to the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee for further review with staff from the Research Department:

PIAC recommended that the Toronto District School Board organize a survey or other consultation to ask all parents & families in the Virtual School for their feedback on parent/(guardian/caregiver) engagement during the past school year, including but not limited to:

- general impression of the year
- parent/family engagement that supported them (best practices)
- parent/family engagement that was lacking (lessons/ideas to learn for next year)
- parent/family engagement to implement in the 2021/2022 school year.

Carried

5. Special Education Advisory Committee: Specialized Programs

The Committee considered a report from the Special Education Advisory Committee (see PSSC:005A, page 83) presenting a statement of opposition to the new policy regarding specialized program.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee Moise

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** the following be referred back to the Special Education Advisory Committee for further

discussion with staff leading the Specialized Program policy review in the fall 2021.

Whereas the Board has stated that it has committed to equity of access to programs for all students;

Whereas the province and Board have begun to destream secondary pathways and typically specialized programs create streamed pathways;

Whereas the first priority of the Board should be to increase learning opportunities for students who are in academic risk;

Whereas Specialized Programs usually use screening processes that are based on performance standards which may be inaccessible to students with special education needs or students with income barriers;

Whereas, the Board has not examined the impact of specialized programs or French Immersion on the concentration of special education students in the “regular” stream of the school;

Whereas the Board has not stated how it would support the potentially higher concentration of special education students in the “regular” stream

Be it resolved that SEAC does not recommend the specialized program policy as it discriminates against students with special education needs and students with income barriers

Carried

6. Interim Expectations for Parent/Family Engagement in the School Improvement Process [4109]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see PSSC:005A, page 81) presenting information on the 2021-2022 interim expectations for parent and family involvement in the school improvement process.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee MacLean

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the report be received.

Carried

7. Review of Secondary Alternative Schools Feasibility Report [4115]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see PSSC:005A, page 91) information to determine the feasibility and potential timeline for a review of all secondary alternative schools, in response to a recommendation from the Alternative Schools Advisory Community Advisory Committee.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee MacLean

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the report be received.

Carried

8. Annual Enrolment in Early French Immersion/Middle French Immersion Programs 2021-2022 and Core French Program 2020-2021 [4099]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see PSSC:005A, page 95) presenting information on enrolment for French programs.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee MacLean

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the report be received.

Carried

9. Technology Modernization: 1:1 Device Program [4116]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see PSSC:005A, page 111) presenting information on a digital learning strategy in response to the TDSB's *A Vision for Learning* (2016) and the Office of the Auditor General for Ontario's *Value-for-Money* (2018) audit.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee Moise

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the report be received.

Carried

10. Update on the Implementation of the Multi-Year Strategic Action Plan: Academic Pathways [4125]

The Committee considered a report from staff (see PSSC:005A, page 115) presenting an update on program of study and enrolment trends and the work of academic pathways.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

The Program and School Services Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the report be received.

Carried

Part B: Information Only

11. Call to Order and Acknowledgement of Traditional Lands

A meeting of the Program and School Services Committee was convened on Wednesday, June 9, 2021 from 4:30 pm to 8:50 p.m., by electronic means, with Rachel Chernos Lin, presiding.

12. Approval of the Agenda

On motion of Trustee MacLean, seconded by Trustee Moise, the agenda was approved.

13. Declarations of Possible Conflict

No matters to report

14. Delegations

re O. Reg 464/97 Obligations Not Being Met

1. George Petrovic

re Effective Reading Instruction

2. Josette Meade, Parent and Shari Kudsia

15. Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee Report, May 18, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Urban Indigenous Community Advisory Committee dated May 18, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 1). The report was presented by System Superintendent, Tanya Senk and Executive Superintendent, Jim Spyropoulos.

Moved by: Trustee McClean

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

That the report be received.

Carried

16. 2SLGBTQ+ Community Advisory Committee Report, April 27, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the 2SLGBTQ+ Community Advisory Committee dated April 27, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 3).

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

That the report be received.

Carried

17. Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee Report, June 7, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Black Student Achievement Community Advisory Committee dated June 7, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 5). The report was presented by committee co-chair, Alexis Dawson.

Moved by: Trustee Moise

Seconded by: Trustee MacLean

That the report be received.

Carried

**18. Community Use of Schools Community Advisory Committee Report,
May 11, 2021**

The Committee considered a report from the Community Use of Schools Community Advisory Committee dated May 11, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 7). The report was presented by committee co-chair, Judy Gargaro.

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee Moise

That the report be received.

Carried

19. Early Years Community Advisory Committee Report, May 14, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Early Years Community Advisory Committee dated May 14, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 11).

Moved by: Trustee Doyle

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

That the report be received.

Carried

**20. Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee
Report, May 4, 2021**

The Committee considered a report from the Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee dated May 4, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 53).

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Mammoliti

That the report be received.

Carried

21. Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee 2020-2021 Annual Report

The Committee considered the annual report from the Environmental Sustainability Community Advisory Committee for 2020-2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 55).

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Doyle

That the report be received.

Carried

22. Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee Report, April 26, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee dated April 26, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 63). The report was presented by Trustee Dan MacLean.

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Doyle

That the report be received.

Carried

23. Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee Report, May 31, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Equity Policy Community Advisory Committee dated May 31, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 65). The report was presented by Trustee Dan MacLean.

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Doyle

That the report be received.

Carried

24. French-as-a-Second-Language Community Advisory Committee Report, May 11, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the French-as-a-Second-Language Community Advisory Committee dated May 11, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 67).

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Doyle

That the report be received.

Carried

25. Inner City Community Advisory Committee Report, April 22, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Inner City Community Advisory Committee dated April 22, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 71). The report was presented by Trustee Michelle Aarts.

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Doyle

That the report be received.

Carried

26. Inner City Community Advisory Committee Report, May 20, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Inner City Community Advisory Committee dated May 20, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 73). The report was presented by Trustee Aarts.

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Doyle

That the report be received.

Carried

27. Parent Involvement Advisory Committee Report, May 18, 2021

The Committee considered report from the Parent Involvement Advisory Committee dated May 18, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 75). The report was presented by committee co-chairs D. Williams and Felicia Seto-Lau.

Moved by: Trustee Moise

Seconded by: Trustee MacLean

That the report be received.

Carried

28. Special Education Advisory Committee Report, May 3, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Special Education Advisory Committee dated May 3, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 79). The report was presented by committee co-chair, Melissa Rosen.

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Moise

That the report be received.

Carried

29. Special Education Advisory Committee Report, June 7, 2021

The Committee considered a report from the Special Education Advisory Committee dated June 7, 2021 (see PSSC:005A, page 83). The report was presented by SEAC community representative, Nora Green.

Moved by: Trustee MacLean

Seconded by: Trustee Moise

That the report be received.

Carried

30. Adjournment

On motion of Trustee Moise, seconded by Trustee Mammoliti, the meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Part C: Ongoing Matters

No matters to report

Submitted by: Rachel Chernos Lin, Chair of Committee