

REPORT OF THE THAMES VALLEY PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

2018 November 8
6:40 p.m. to 9:20 p.m.

MEMBERS

A. Willsher, Co-Chair
R. Tisdale, Trustee
D. Macpherson, Superintendent
M. Bayes, Parent Member
A. Enriquez-Johnson, Community Member
K. Frisa, Parent Member (-9:00)
L. Gonzalez, Parent/Community Member
J. Jacob, Community Member
C. Rahman, Parent Member
S. Vries, Parent Member

ADMINISTRATION & OTHERS

S. Tucker, Operator, Graphic Services
S. Smith, Assistant, Corporate Services
D. Parsons, In-coming Parent Member (-8:55)
J. Grant, In-coming Parent Member
S. Blais, Principal (- 6:50)

Regrets:

L. Honsinger, M. Flumerfelt, C. Cordes

1. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair A. Willsher called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Library at Cedar Hollow P.S in London. The Chair introduced Principal S. Blais who gave a brief introduction and shared highlights of the school. It was noted Cedar Hollow's School Council is hosting a parent engagement session 2018 November 28; it is open to any parent of TVDSB.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved by motion and carried.

3. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None declared.

4. MINUTES OF THE MEETING FROM 2018 September 13

The minutes of the 2018 September 13 meeting were provided for information.

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF 2018 SEPTEMBER 13

None.

6. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS**a. Operational Plan 2018- 2019 (Draft)**

R. Tisdale presented for information the draft Operational Plan for 2018-2019 noting it is a working document. R. Tisdale highlighted the objectives most relevant to the Committee.

A group discussion was held with a focus on the objectives related to Enhanced Communication and Engagement. Feedback was captured by R. Tisdale. Committee members were asked to send any additional feedback to R. Tisdale and D. Macpherson.

b. TVDSB Parent Engagement Trustee Initiative

R. Tisdale presented information on the TVDSB Parent Engagement Trustee Initiative; a multi-phase project in response to the parent engagement report from last year. Plans for the initiative were described highlighting the involvement of Dr. Debbie Pushor from the University of Saskatchewan.

Questions of clarification were answered by R. Tisdale and D. Macpherson.

7. MEMBER UPDATES FROM TVDSB REPRESENTATIVES (Standing Item)

a. Director of Education/Delegate

On behalf of Director L. Elliott, D. Macpherson distributed the Administrative Overview chart for 2018-2019 outlining the responsibilities of Senior Administration.

D. Macpherson reported the Province is seeking public input regarding student performance, preparing students with needed job skills, provincial standardized testing, ensuring students graduate with important life skills, managing the use of technology, building a new age-appropriate health and physical education curriculum and developing the first-ever Parents Bill of Rights. The parent feedback page may be accessed at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/for-the-parents>.

A list of School Councils was distributed noting there are 13 schools without a School Council. Discussion considered how to support the development of a School Council in these schools. Resources available were identified.

b. Trustee

R. Tisdale extended her sincere appreciation to the Committee for all their hard work and dedication over the last number of years. The importance of continuing to encourage parent involvement was emphasized.

8. TVDSB ADMINISTRATION, TVCHSA, and COMMUNITY REPORTS (STANDING ITEM)

a. Thames Valley Administrators' Committee – Elementary

A written report submitted by C. Cordes was provided in the agenda package. Information was provided on math professional development sessions, progress reports, and Principal Learning Networks.

b. Thames Valley Secondary School Administrators' Council - No report.

c. Thames Valley Council of Home and School Associations (TVCHSA)

- i. L. Gonzalez reported on the TVCHSA Executive and General meetings held in September and October summarizing the topics discussed. It was noted the 2018 November meeting will focus on advocacy at the school board and sharing effective practices in building relationships
- ii. L. Gonzalez referred to the proposal provided in the agenda package that was developed by *With Equal Step* to deliver training to TVPIC on the importance of family engagement, roles and responsibilities of Parent Involvement Committees, and legislation pertaining to parent engagement.

Discussion considered the proposal. It was determined to revisit the proposal after the training with Dr. Debbie Pushor has been completed. In the interim D. Macpherson offered to bring the proposal forward to the Purchasing Department for their review for future consideration.

R. Tisdale offered to attend a future meeting of TVPIC to provide some training as it pertains to TVPIC Bylaws and legislation pertaining to parent engagement.

The following motion was moved and carried:

THAT R. Tisdale be invited to attend the 2019 January 10 meeting of TVPIC to provide training on the TVPIC Bylaws and legislation pertaining to parent engagement.

9. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON TVPIC SUBCOMMITTEES (STANDING ITEM)

a. Event Planning - No report.

b. Membership

On motion the Committee moved in camera at 8:53 p.m., reconvening in public session at 8:55 p.m. It was noted the recommendations of the Membership Committee for TVPIC membership were reviewed and approved. The recommendation moves forward to the TVDSB Board of Trustees for final approval.

Discussion considered membership classifications on TVPIC. It was suggested Principals continue as a resource to the Committee, but that they not be appointed as members. It was noted this would facilitate meeting the definition of quorum established in the TVPIC Bylaws.

c. Communications

Needed updates to the website were noted; S. Tucker will follow up. S. Tucker advised the Communication Subcommittee is working on materials -- these will be presented to TVPIC for review.

d. Parent Enhancement Fund

D. Parsons reported on the activities of the Parent Enhancement Fund Committee reviewing the communication plan and deadline for submitting applications.

e. Finance

i. D. Parsons reported the Finance Committee met 2018 September 3 referring to the written reports provided to committee members in their agenda package. Schools have received their \$500 Parent Involvement Funds (PIF) for 2018-2019. D. Parsons further reported the Finance Committee discussed improvements to processes to improve the spending of PIF.

Questions were addressed by D. Parsons and R. Tisdale.

f. Resources for School Councils

No report.

10. REPORTS FROM MEMBERS REPRESENTING TVPIC ON OTHER COMMITTEES

a. Active & Safe Routes to School – A. Willsher reported they are accepting members noting the work they are doing in the community.

b. Think About It – A. Willsher reported on the new campaign called *Rethink Your Drinking*. Information will be sent to TVPIC members and School Councils.

c. Community Member Reports - J. Jacob reported on the 2018 October 18 Communication Advisory Committee referring to the written report provided to the committee members in their agenda package. The work accomplished by the Communications department was highlighted.

Questions regarding rebranding were addressed by R. Tisdale and S. Tucker noting the review is a longer term initiative.

11. TVDSB SUPPORT UPDATES (STANDING ITEM)

a. Communications - Reported under item #9.c.

12. CORRESPONDENCE (Standing Item)

In response to a request for more brochures for School Councils, the work to update the brochure was referred to the Communications Subcommittee.

13. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Willsher reported that a member needs to be selected to speak on behalf of TVPIC at the Inaugural meeting on 2018 December 11. S. Vries and D. Parsons were appointed.

M. Bayes shared concerns regarding the TVDSB distribution lists, and getting too many emails not intended for them. A. Willsher said he would send a reminder.

A. Willsher noted an Adhoc Bylaw Review Committee will need to be struck. An email asking for volunteers will be sent out. The plan is to have the work of the committee completed for the April 2019 meeting.

R. Tisdale responded to questions regarding the transition of members and the formation of subcommittees.

C. Rahman reported there will be a pause placed on the dispersing of Reaching Out Grants. Through discussion it was determined the Board of Trustees be asked to write a joint letter to the Ministry expressing the concerns of TVPIC.

The following motion was moved and carried:

THAT the TVDSB Board of Trustees compose a joint letter with the Thames Valley Parent Involvement Committee to the Ministry of Education regarding the pause on the Reaching Out Grants.

The committee thanked A. Willsher for his service as Chair for TVPIC.

14. FUTURE MEETING DATES, SPEAKERS AND LOCATION

2019 January 10 - Katherine Harley Room
2019 February 7 - Katherine Harley Room
2019 April 11 - Katherine Harley Room
2019 May 9 - Katherine Harley Room

All meetings will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the Katherine Harley Room at the TVDSB Education Centre in London.

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Copyright
- Support Document for Parents (Future)
- Webinar (Future)
- TVPIC Volunteer Recognition (Future)
- Presentation on TVPIC by-laws and polices by R. Tisdale (January)

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m. by motion.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the TVDSB Board of Trustees compose a joint letter with the Thames Valley Parent Involvement Committee to the Ministry of Education regarding the pause on the Reaching Out Grant.

A. WILLSSHER
Co-Chair