District School Council - Parent Involvement Committee Minutes

Date: October 20, 2026
Location: Archie Stouffer Elementary School | Virtual
Time: 6:00 p.m.

1. Call to order
Superintendent Hubbert called the meeting to order.

2. Territorial acknowledgement
Trustee Louise Clodd shared a territorial acknowledgement.

3. Director's update
CEO Hahn welcomed the 2026-27 Parent Council and reported that board enrollment is leveling off following previous pandemic-related growth, maintaining a strong, balanced fiscal position with a slight surplus.

Student transportation had a smooth startup, extensive summer facility improvements were completed, and a new Student and Family Support Office was established.

Recent EQAO results highlighted strong elementary achievement—including grade three math ranking second in the province and exceptional grade six reading and writing scores—with grade six math identified for targeted growth.

Additionally, CEO Hahn discussed the implementation of Bill 101 and preparations for the 2028–2033 strategic plan.

4. Administrative updates

4.1. DSC-PIC orientation
Superintendent Hubbert led an orientation for the District School Council Parent Involvement Committee (DIS-PIC), emphasizing that parents play a critical role in student success and parent engagement.

- DSC-PIC helps schools implement strategies that foster parent engagement, reduce barriers to involvement, and provide parents with a voice at the board level.
- Agendas, meeting minutes and the annual report from last year are available online.

4.2 Learning Series - Part 1: Understanding Equity & Key Terms
Superintendent Hubbert and Associate Superintendent Clark introduced a four-part learning series for parents during DSC-PIC meetings, focusing on equity work and data-driven decision-making. Part 1 of the series presented key terminology and core TLDSB challenges, including socioeconomic disparities and ableism, while distinguishing between equality and equity.

The presentation was grounded in Policy and Program Memorandum 119 and emphasized key framework documents such as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission report, the Right to Read summary report, and the Dreams Delayed report from the Ontario Human Rights Commission.

4.3 Communications Department Updates
Communications Manager Carolynne Bull shared department updates, noting the conclusion of the virtual mental health speaker series, with the final session on understanding adolescence scheduled for the following day. Attendees were reminded of the upcoming three-question fall parent and guardian survey on the TLDSB website, which will be open from October 26 to October 30 and distributed via the CEO newsletter, SchoolMessenger, and social media. She also announced the return of Jersey Day as a system-wide fundraiser to support local family needs.

4.4 School Council Resources / Grants
Superintendent Hubbert reported that each school council will receive a $500 Parent Engagement Grant to support outreach initiatives and strengthen family involvement. An additional Parents Reaching Out (PRO) grant of $24,500 is allocated to address local family needs and eliminate barriers to participation across school communities. The majority of schools voted to distribute these funds equally among all applicants.

5. Other business

5.1 Advance questions
The following questions were submitted in advance and answered during the meeting:

Could you please clarify the current policy regarding dress code and how it is being applied?
Adherence to the Code of Conduct is guided by human rights principles. In response to the provincial mandate, dress codes have been removed to address historical misrepresentations and biased enforcement related to gender.

What opportunities exist for Parent Councils to support curriculum enrichment?
Parent councils can actively support the curriculum by hosting dedicated math and literacy nights for families, providing advisory input on school learning goals, and engaging parents in the DSC-PIC Learning Series throughout the year to foster a strong connection between home and school learning.

If a labour disruption occurs, will parent councils receive regular updates during the negotiation period?
Regular public-facing updates will be posted on the board website. Note that no strike votes have occurred yet, and collective bargaining rules require advance notice for any potential closures.

Are there any grants, private funding or donations we are NOT permitted to apply for or accept funding from?
All fundraising plans are to be submitted by the principal to the Region Superintendent prior to initiating fundraising. In addition to the Fundraising Procedure, principals can also consult the procedure related to Charitable Donations. The focus is on what is permitted. If something unique is proposed, the principal can reach out to the Superintendent of Business for guidance and approval.

How will the proposed changes to educational excursions be measured for equity, and what steps will ensure they improve district-wide access rather than simply reducing opportunities? (paraphrased) Also, can chairs receive the proposed criteria and implementation timeline before the revised approach is finalized, so parent representatives have an opportunity to provide meaningful input?
TLDSB recognizes that there is significant value in education excursions. There are no plans to eliminate excursions across the system. We have heard from parents and students at the

Director's Student Voice Summit that the cost of some excursions is a barrier for participation. The internal field trip and excursion review is ongoing and updates will be shared with principals in November.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

7. Upcoming meetings and events

DSC-PIC meetings are held four times per year at the Haliburton, Muskoka, and/or Lindsay Education Centres, with a virtual option available. All meetings take place from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The next scheduled meetings are as follows:

- Tuesday, December 8, 2026 (Muskoka)
- Tuesday, February 16, 2027 (Virtual)
- Wednesday, May 11, 2027 (Lindsay)

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.