



PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE Report No. 19-043

17 April 2019

Confirmation of Appointment of Community Representatives to PIC

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PURPOSE:

1. To confirm the appointment of two Community Representatives to the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC).

CONTEXT:

2. PIC By Laws and Standing Rules provide for three Community Representative positions, two of which are currently vacant. Between 24 February and 22 March 2019, the District sought expressions of interest from a number of community associations that qualify to sit on the PIC. Staff received a total of four (4) applications.

Section 6.12 of the By-Laws requires the establishment of a Membership Sub-Committee where the number of interested candidates exceeds the number of vacancies with a goal of making recommendations to the PIC with the candidates/candidate associations that best meet PIC's needs.

KEY CONSIDERATIONS:

3. Applications were received from:
 - a. Autism Society of Ontario, Ottawa Chapter:
 - i. The applicant demonstrated thorough personal knowledge of the OCDSB system and an ability to link it with external community groups.
 - ii. The scope of the organization's mission and mandate is related to the needs of persons with autism.
 - iii. The applicant, who is a parent of a student in the OCDSB, is currently the representative of the organization at the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) of the OCDSB.

- b. Canadian Friends of Somalia (CFS):
 - i. The organization offers different programming in the OCDSB schools and is well established.
 - ii. The mandate of the organization is to serve Somali youth and families in a manner that empowers them using a multi-disciplinary approach.
 - iii. The application was silent on whether or not the representative is a parent of a student in the OCDSB.
- c. Ottawa Network for Education (ONFE)
 - i. ONFE offers a variety of programming in the OCDSB schools and the applicants demonstrated their familiarity with the OCDSB.
 - ii. The organization's mission is to provide targeted learning support, improve student well-being, and support volunteers in public education.
 - iii. One of the applicants is a parent of a student in the OCDSB.
- d. Parents for Diversity (P4D):
 - i. The application demonstrated thorough knowledge of the OCDSB work pertaining to issues of equity.
 - ii. The mandate of P4D focuses on achieving inclusive and non-discriminatory learning environments that allow children to fulfill their true potential.
 - iii. The applicant is not a parent of a student in the OCDSB.

The Sub-Committee reviewed the applications and discussed each application with a focus on:

- a. how the applicant could contribute to the mandate of the PIC;
- b. whether the applicant currently had an established relationship with the OCDSB or public education;
- c. whether the applicant could bring a new perspective to PIC discussions; and
- d. what combination of applicants might best meet the PIC's needs.

After careful deliberation, the Sub-Committee recommended ONFE and P4D as the two applications that best addressed all of the criteria and needs of the PIC.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- 4. There are no costs associated with the appointment of Community Representatives to PIC.

COMMUNICATION/CONSULTATION ISSUES:

- 5. This report provides the names of the representatives of the successful associations to the PIC for ratification in accordance with Section 6.15 of the PIC By-Laws and Standing Rules.

Staff will communicate the PIC decision with the successful candidates and will obtain their agreement to the appointment, in accordance with section 6.16 of the By-Laws.

STRATEGIC LINKS:

6. Appointing Community Representatives to the PIC supports the District's commitment to enhance parental engagement and outreach to all parents. It also encourages broad community engagement in implementing sound governance structures and practices.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the following persons, representing their respective associations, be appointed to the PIC for the term identified:

Name	Position	Organization	Length of Term
Carolyn Hunter	Community Representative	Ottawa Network for Education	2-year
Melissa McGuirk McNeil	Alternate	Ottawa Network for Education	2-year
Mante Molepo	Community Representative	Parents for Diversity	1-year

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