
Trustees: Kathy Archer, Becky Buck, Sabreina Dahab, Dawn Danko, Amanda Fehrman, Maria Felix Miller, Ray Mulholland, Graeme Noble, Paul Tut, Todd White and Elizabeth Wong. **Student Trustees** Aisha Mahmoud and Gloria Li.

1. Call to Order

Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini, Director of HWDSB, called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

2. Land Acknowledgement

Director Robinson Petrazzini shared the land acknowledgement with the Board.

3. Oath of Allegiance

The Director read the Declaration of the Oath of Allegiance and introduced all ward trustees of the new Board.

Mark Zega, Board's Solicitor, explained briefly the proceeding and then officiated the Declaration of the Oath of Allegiance with each Trustee individually. He noted that he would be filing a notarial statement with the Secretary of the Board confirming all trustees have fulfilled the declaration obligations under Section 209 of the Education Act.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Trustee Dahab requested that a discussion of masking in all HWDSB facilities be added to the agenda.

RESOLUTION #22-148: Trustee Dahab, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That the amendment be added to the agenda.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTION #22-149: Trustee Mulholland, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That the agenda be approved as amended.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Election of the Chair

RESOLUTION #22-150: Trustee Tut, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That Shawn McKillop and Heather Miller be appointed as scrutineers.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The Director called for nominations for the Chair of the Board.

Trustee White self-nominated.

Trustee Fehrman nominated Trustee Danko.

The Director called three times for nominations and no further nominations were received.

RESOLUTION #22-151: Trustee Mulholland, seconded by Trustee Buck, **moved to close nominations.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustees White and Danko shared their reasons for seeking the position of Chair of the Board noting both past experience and their future direction for the Board.

Trustee Danko was voted in through ballot process as Chair of the Board.

RESOLUTION #22-152: That Dawn Danko be appointed Chair of the Board of Board.

Trustee Danko thanked Trustee Fehrman for nominating her and all trustees who supported her election and then took over as Chair.

6. Election of the Vice-Chair

The Chair called for nominations for the Vice-Chair of the Board.

Trustee Buck nominated Trustee Miller as Vice-Chair of the Board.

The Chair called three times for nominations and no further nominations were received.

RESOLUTION #22-153: Trustee Wong, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved to close nominations.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

RESOLUTION #22-154: That Trustee Miller be elected as Vice-Chair of the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Miller thanked Trustee Buck for nominating her and all trustees who supported her election as Vice-Chair. She assumed the Vice-Chair position.

7. Greetings from Pat Daly, Chair, Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board

On behalf of Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board, Chair Pat Daly congratulated both Trustees Danko and Trustee Miller for their election as Chair and Vice-Chair of the Board. Chair Daly congratulated those that have been newly elected and those returning for numerous years. He acknowledged Trustee Mulholland for his dedication and contributions for more than 40 years to HWDSB and commended the efforts and contributions made by both boards working together for the betterment of students of Hamilton-Wentworth, especially during the trying times over the past two and a half years.

Chair Daly also took a moment to commend Chair Danko and senior staff on their work during the Pandemic, expressing his great respect for their hard work and dedication. He shared that he is looking forward to working with Director Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini.

In concluding his remarks, P. Daly congratulated all trustees for their continuing work and service in collaboration with his Board to better serve the students and families of Hamilton-Wentworth.

Chair Danko thanked Chair Daly for his time and well wishes.

Trustee Danko read a letter of congratulations and welcome from the Mayor, Andrea Horvath, from the City of Hamilton Wentworth.

8. Appointments to Board Mandated Committees

RESOLUTION #22-155: Trustee Tut, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved: **That the appointments to the following Board Mandated Committees be approved:**

- A. Standing Committee
All Trustees
- B. Suspensions Appeals and Expulsion Hearings
All Trustees
- C. Trustee Code of Conduct Review
First Alternate Trustee Wong & Second Alternate Trustee Dahab
- D. Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)
Trustees Buck, Fehrman and Wong
- E. Supervised Alternative Learning Committee (SAL)
Trustees Archer, Fehrman, Miller and Noble
- F. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)
Trustees Dahab and Danko
- G. Student Trustee Mentor
Trustee Wong

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. Appointments to Trustee Special Committees

RESOLUTION #22-156: Trustee Tut, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved: **That the appointments to the following Trustee Special Committees be approved:**

- A. Audit**
Trustees Danko, Tut and White
- B. Finance & Facilities**
Trustees Danko, Miller, Tut, White and Wong
- C. Governance**
Trustees Buck, Danko, Fehrman, Miller and White
- D. Human Resources**
Trustees Dahab, Danko, Noble, White and Wong
- E. Policy**
Trustees Archer, Dahab, Miller and White
- F. Program**
Trustees Archer, Buck, Fehrman, Noble and White

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. Election of Committee Chairs for Trustee Special Committees

RESOLUTION #22-157: Trustee Tut, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved: **That the appointments of the following Chairs for Trustee Special Committees be approved.**

A. Finance and Facilities

Trustee Tut nominated himself as Chair of Finance and Facilities.

The Chair called three times for nominations and no further nominations were received.

B. Governance

Trustee White nominated himself as Chair of Governance.

The Chair called three times for nominations and no further nominations were received.

C. Human Resources

Trustee Wong nominated herself as Chair of Human Resources.

The Chair called three times for nominations and no further nominations were received.

D. Policy

Trustee Miller nominated herself as Chair of Policy.

The Chair called three times for nominations and no further nominations were received.

E. Program

Trustee Noble nominated himself as Chair of Program.

The Chair called three times for nominations and no further nominations were received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11. Appointments to HWDSB Community Advisory Committees

RESOLUTION #22-158: Trustee Fehrman, seconded by Trustee White, moved: **That the following appointments to HWDSB Community Advisory Committees be approved:**

A. Faith Community

Trustees Buck and White

B. First Nations, Métis and Inuit Community Advisory Committee (FNMI)

Trustees Dahab and Danko

C. French As a Second Language Community Advisory Committee (FASL)

Trustees Buck and White

D. Human Rights and Equity

Trustees Dahab and Tut

E. Rural Schools Community Advisory Committee

Trustees Fehrman and Tut

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Appointments as Liaison/Representatives to Associated Agencies:

RESOLUTION #22-159: Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Fehrman, moved: **That the following appointments as Liaison/Representatives to Associated Agencies be approved:**

A. City/School Board Liaison Committee

Trustees Dahab, Danko and Tut

B. Hamilton-Wentworth Home & School Association

Trustee Danko

C. HWDSB Foundation

Trustee Buck

D. Ontario Public School Boards Association (OPSBA)

Trustee Wong as the Director and Trustee Buck as the Alternate.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Discussion of COVID Masking

Trustee Dahab shared her concerns over the reports that are coming out of hospitals noting that they are overcapacity due to children being admitted for Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). She indicated that she would like to see all of the HWDSB facilities implement masking once again. Trustees weighed in on the subject. The Director shared that HWDSB is committed to student well-being. Currently we follow the direction of Public Health noting that all HWDSB facilities are mask friendly. HWDSB currently uses screening tools, provides free masks, ventilation units in schools and learning spaces and have rapid antigen kits available for staff and students.

RESOLUTION #22-160: Trustee Dahab, seconded by Trustee White, moved: **To ask all students and staff to wear masks in all HWDSB facilities until there is further direction.**

The motion **CARRIED** on the following division of votes:

In Favour (10): Trustees Archer, Buck, Dahab, Danko, Fehrman, Miller, Noble, Tut, White and Wong

Opposed (1): Trustee Mulholland

14. Director's Report

Director Robinson Petrazzini congratulated all trustees on their success and welcomed them to the Board as well as all family members and guests. She shared that she is looking forward to working with the Chair and Vice Chair and welcomed all Committee Chairs. She shared that the Board establishes a framework and builds on the framework collaboratively. She spoke of the importance of adopting a good governance mindset and having a set vision. The main goal is to support student achievement and well-being. Associate Director Sue Dunlop was thanked for all of her hard work and dedication along with her team and a warm welcome was extended to Associate Director Matthew Gerard. Director Robinson Petrazzini is so proud to be HWDSB.

15. Chair's Report

Chair Danko thanked and acknowledged the Union groups that were present. She welcomed Associate Director Gerard to the team. She is thankful that CUPE was able to reach a tentative agreement and trusts that this will set the stage for upcoming negotiations. She shared her gratitude for the support that she receives at home. Chair Danko thanked the staff, students and their family members and the community for working together to move through the past couple of years. She is excited for the new Board to come together with new ideas for setting the new strategic directions and looks forward to collaborating for the well-being of our students.

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Recording: <https://hwdsb.info/InauguralBoardMtg>