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

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**1. Call to Order**

Dawn Danko, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:26 p.m.

**2. Delegations:**

Delegations were heard from the following three people regarding masking of staff and students:

- A. Tanya Collins, Equity Network (5 mins)
- B. Jennifer Abbatiello (5 mins)
- C. Dr. Joseph Oliver (5 mins)

Written delegations were received from the following people:

- D. Ingrid Waisgluss
- E. Carolyn McNeillie
- F. Catherine Clase
- G. Jake Cowper Szamosi
- H. Craig Burley
- I. Evan Ubene
- J. Sherly Kyorkis
- K. Sarah Almeida
- L. Lisa Donegan Baetz
- M. Joanne Witt

**RESOLUTION #22-161:** Trustees Tut/Wong moved: **That the Delegations be received.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**3. Approval of the Agenda:**

**RESOLUTION #22-162:** Trustees Tut/White moved: **That the Board agenda be approved.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None were declared.

**5. Confirmation of the Minutes: November 7 and 21, 2022**

The minutes of November 7, 2022 were confirmed. Trustee Tut noted a discrepancy with the November 21, 2022 minutes noting that no vote took place affirming Trustee Danko as Chair as it was done by ballot.

**Report from Trustee Special Committees:**

**6. Audit Committee – November 10, 2022**

**RESOLUTION #22-163:** Trustees Tut/Noble moved: **That the Audit Committee Report – November 10, 2022 be approved including that the 2021-22 Consolidated Financial Statements of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the Year Ended August 31, 2022 be forwarded to the Board of Trustees for approval.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**7. Appointment to Trustee Special Committee – Human Resources (1 member)**

**RESOLUTION #22-164:** Trustees Tut/Wong moved: **That Trustee Maria Felix Miller be appointed to the Human Resources Committee.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**8. Update on Masking Motion (RESOLUTION #22-160)**

Staff shared a presentation updating Trustees on questions that were asked at the November 21, 2022 Board meeting. The presentation can be found at: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/meetings/Board-Appendices-1670451337.pdf>

**RESOLUTION #22-165:** Trustees Danko/Tut moved: **That the Board take a 5-minute recess.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Trustees Noble/Tut moved: That effective December 12, 2022, HWDSB adopt a temporary universal masking standard, such that:

- All staff and students – in all HWDSB buildings and in all HWDSB led activities held indoors be expected to wear a medical mask or better unless they provide evidence of their individual opt-out;
- Exemptions shall be offered for all staff and students in circumstances such as:
  - Nutritional breaks,
  - Music/performing arts instruction OR sports in which masks cannot be worn; AND
  - Cases of written medical exemptions on the basis of documented disability.
- Individual opt-outs be made available to all staff and students wherein individual consent (or student assent), along with the provision of any reason, shall constitute grounds for exemptions;
- Consequences for violations of this standard shall require an explanation for not participating in the opt-out process; AND
- The universal masking standard remain in place until such time as:
  - Public Health Ontario and Hamilton Public Health no longer strongly recommend the public wear a mask to protect against exposure to airborne and respiratory viruses in indoor spaces.

Trustees around the room had an opportunity to share their views on their reasons for voting in favour or against the motion.

**RESOLUTION #22-166:** Trustees Tut/White moved: **That the meeting be extended for 30 minutes.**

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

In Favour (10): Trustees Archer, Buck, Dahab, Danko, Fehrman, Miller, Noble, Tut, White and Wong.  
Student Trustees Gloria Li and Aisha Mahmoud.

Opposed (1): Trustee Mulholland

Trustee Miller assumed the role of Chair at 10:03 p.m.

Trustee Danko resumed the role of Chair at 10:08 p.m.

**RESOLUTION #22-167:** Trustees Danko/Wong moved: **That the Board take a 5-minute recess.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Trustee Mulholland left the meeting.

Trustee Noble withdrew the motion on the floor.

**RESOLUTION #22-168:** Trustees White/Noble moved: **That staff operationalize a temporary universal masking requirement, with an unrestricted option to opt-out, in all HWDSB schools; and that the temporary requirement be renewable at the first Board meeting in January.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Trustee Mulholland was not present for the vote.

**RESOLUTION #22-169:** Trustees White/Miller moved: **That the meeting be extended for 15 minutes.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Trustee Mulholland was not present for the vote.

Trustee Miller assumed the role of Chair at 10:33 p.m.

Trustee Danko resumed the role of Chair at 10:36 p.m.

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

In Favour (7): Trustees Dahab, Danko, Miller, Noble, Tut, White and Wong.  
Student Trustees Gloria Li and Aisha Mahmoud.

Opposed (3): Trustee Archer, Buck and Fehrman

#### **9. Committee of the Whole (private) – December 5, 2022**

**RESOLUTION #22-170:** Trustees Miller/Noble moved: **That the Committee of the Whole Report from December 5, 2022 be approved including:**

- **That the Audit Committee report from November 10, 2022 be received.**
- **That legal opinions were received.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

#### **10. Oral Reports from:**

**RESOLUTION #22-171:** Trustees Danko/Wong moved: **That the oral reports be deferred to the December 19, 2022 meeting.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Gloria Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

The meeting adjourned at 10:42 p.m.

Board recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=snnX-BjxBtY>