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

1. Call to Order

Dawn Danko, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:49 p.m.

2. Delegation:

A. Sarah Greenwood re: Policy Committee report 7A: Whistleblower Protection Policy

The Board heard the delegation noting her concerns and recommended changes for the Whistleblower policy. The delegate felt that the Policy required further revisions before being approved at Board.

3. Approval of the Agenda:

RESOLUTION #23-11: Trustees Wong/Buck moved: **That the Board agenda be approved.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Confirmation of the Minutes: January 16, 2023

The minutes of January 16, 2023 were confirmed.

Report from Trustee Special Committees

6. Policy Committee – January 11, 2023

Trustee White requested item A be separated out for discussion and voting purposes.

Trustees White/Dahab moved: **That item A – The Whistleblower Policy be sent back to the Policy Committee for further revisions.**

The motion FAILED on the following division of votes:

In Favour (5): Trustees White, Dahab, Noble, Mulholland and Tut. Student Trustees Mahmoud and Li.

Opposed (6): Trustees Archer, Buck, Danko, Fehrman, Miller and Wong

RESOLUTION #23-12: Trustees Miller/Buck moved: **That the Whistleblower Policy be approved:**

The motion CARRIED on the following division of votes:

In Favour (6): Trustees Archer, Buck, Danko, Fehrman, Miller and Wong. Student Trustees Mahmoud and Li.

Opposed (5): Trustees White, Dahab, Noble, Mulholland and Tut.

RESOLUTION #23-13: Trustees Miller/Buck moved: **That the Employee Attendance Support Policy be approved.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

RESOLUTION #23-14: Trustees Miller/Buck moved: **That the remainder of the Policy Report – January 11, 2023 be received.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Trustee Miller assumed the role as Chair at 9:00 p.m.

7. Finance & Facilities Committee – January 19, 2023

RESOLUTION #23-15: Trustees Danko/Noble moved: **That the Finance & Facilities Committee Report – January 19, 2023 be approved including: That the Key Parameters and Assumptions to Guide 2023-2024 Budget Development be approved.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Trustee Danko resumed the role as Chair at 9:04 p.m.

Report from Legislated Committees

8. Parent Involvement Committee – January 10, 2023

RESOLUTION #23-16: Trustees Fehrman/Wong moved: **That the Parent Involvement Committee Report – January 10, 2023 be received.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Report from Community Advisory Committees

9. Faith Community Advisory Committee – January 10, 2023

RESOLUTION #23-17: Trustees Buck/White moved: **That the Faith Community Advisory Committee Report – January 10, 2023 be received.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Reports from:

10. Committee of the Whole (private) – January 30, 2023

RESOLUTION #23-18: Trustees Miller/Noble moved: **That the Committee of the Whole Report – January 30, 2023 be approved including:**

- **That the Finance & Facilities Committee Report – January 19, 2023 be received.**
- **That the terms and conditions of employment for Hamilton Wentworth Principal Council be approved until August 31, 2023.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

11. Oral Reports from:

A. Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustees shared:

- That they held a meeting on January 11, 2023 with the Elementary and Secondary Senate to discuss planning for the new semester, supporting grade 7-8 students and specifically the grade eight students through the transition to secondary school and course selection.
- January 12, 2023 an information session was held for students who were interested in becoming a student trustee. The deadline has now closed and the student trustee elections will take place February 21-24, 2022.
- That they spoke to Executive Council around the student voice survey and to look at next steps.

B. Director's Report

The Director shared the following:

- That she visited two schools recently, Queen Victoria and Mount Albion, and received a warm welcome at both schools. Director Robinson Petrazzini had an opportunity to see students learning together in groups during science, technology, engineering, math and art.

- Director Robinson Petrazzini spoke of being mindful of the importance of mental health supports for our students especially for those who have experienced grief or required additional care recently.
- In December the Indigenous Education Circle Strategic Action Plan was shared. This plan spans from 2021-2025. The plan has five pillars – Revitalize, Reclaim, Renew, Restore and Celebrate. This is about creating an opportunity to raise our collective voices in Honour, Commemoration, Education, Healing and Wellness. HWDSB has engaged in professional learning for Principals and Vice-Principals and will continue to do that.
- Secondary students were wished all the best on their exams.
- The director spoke of Black History month in the month of February and to asked people to reflect on what brings you joy? She spoke of the City Hall celebration where the Council honoured 60 members of Hamilton Black Community and indicated that she will be attending the John C. Holland Awards night on February 18, 2023.
- Director Robinson Petrazzini shared that we have a new method of communicating with the community through the new HWDSB newsletter. The publication will be emailed directly home to families using school messenger and it will be posted on our website.

C. Chair's Report

The Chair shared the following:

- That trustees have had a very busy month and they participated in a workshop, along with Executive Council, focusing on Governance and some trustees also attended the Public Education Symposium hosted by OPSBA.
- She spoke of Trustees being out in their school communities and working at building those connections and relationships. She also shared that there is an upcoming visit with MPP Lumsden with Trustees at South Meadow School.
- Thanks was extended to the Communications team for their dedicated work on the HWDSB newsletter.
- Letters were written to the Ministry of Education regarding the holidays that were on the School Year Calendar. The Ministry did respond indicating that the school year calendar was going to be the same but boards could apply for a modified calendar if they went through the correct process. The Ministry also noted that it is impossible to honour every holy day and meet the education criteria of instructional days in the school year.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

The recording of the Board meeting can be found here:

https://hwdsbonca-my.sharepoint.com/personal/tmckillo_hwdsb_on_ca/layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Ftmckillo%5Fhwdsb%5Fon%5Fca%2FDocuments%2FRecordings%2FBoard%2D20230130%5F184112%2DMeeting%20Recording%2Emp4&ga=1