

---

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

Regrets were received from: Trustee Dawn Danko

---

**1. Call to Order**

Maria Felix Miller, Vice-Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Vice-Chair Miller was standing in as Chair for the May 8, 2023 Board Meeting as Trustee Dawn Danko was away.

**2. Approval of the Agenda:**

**RESOLUTION #23-62:** Trustees Buck/Fehrman moved: **That the Board agenda be approved.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

No conflicts were declared.

**4. Confirmation of the Minutes: April 3, 2023**

The minutes of April 3, 2023 were confirmed.

**Report from Trustee Special Committees**

**5. Finance & Facilities Committee – April 13, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-63:** Trustees Tut/Fehrman moved: **That the Finance & Facilities Committee Report – April 13, 2023 be approved including:**

Trustee White requested that the 2 action items be voted on separately.

*Item A. International Education*

**That the Board approve an increase in the international student agent commission from 15% in year one only to 15% in year one, 10% in year two and 5% in year three, starting in the 2024-25 school year.**

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

In Favour (6): Trustees Archer, Buck, Fehrman, Miller, Mulholland and Tut

Opposed (4): Trustees Dahab, Noble, White and Wong. Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud.

*Item B: 2023-24 Accommodation Strategy Schedule*

**That the Board approve the 2023-24 Accommodation Strategy Schedule. (Appendix A) which includes no proposed accommodation reviews and two proposed boundary reviews (Appendix B and C).**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**6. Finance & Facilities Committee – April 20, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-64:** Trustees Tut/Fehrman moved: **That the Finance & Facilities Committee Report – April 20, 2023 be approved including: That staff bring back an annual monitoring report of International Education.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.  
Trustee Tut was not available for the vote.

Student Trustee Tut left the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

**7. Human Resources Committee – April 18, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-65:** Trustees Wong/White moved: **That the Human Resources Committee Report – April 18, 2023 be received.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**Reports from Community Advisory Committees:**

**8. Parent Involvement Committee – April 11, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-66:** Trustees Buck/Wong moved: **That the Parent Involvement Committee Report – April 11, 2023 be received.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**9. Human Rights & Equity Advisory Committee – April 26, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-67:** Trustees Dahab/Fehrman moved: **That the Human Rights & Equity Advisory Committee Report – April 26, 2023 be approved including: Student member Temidayo Olowoyeye is no longer at HWDSB. Mona Siyad be appointed as a new member from Bernie Custis Secondary School.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**Reports from Staff:**

**10. School Year Calendar 2023-24**

**RESOLUTION #23-68:** Trustees White/Buck moved: **That the draft 2023-24 School Year Calendars be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustee Mahmoud voted in favour.  
Student Trustee Li was not present for the vote.

**RESOLUTION #23-69:** Trustees Dahab/White moved: **That staff provide an update on a framework for the consultation process for the school year calendar for the days of Religious Observances for the early fall of 2023.**

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

In Favour (6): Trustees Dahab, Fehrman, Miller, Noble, White and Wong. Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud.  
Opposed (3): Trustees Archer, Buck and Mulholland.

The Chair moved to Trustee Fehrman at 8:57 p.m. Trustee Fehrman requested that Trustee Miller bring forth the Committee of the Whole Report.

Reports from:

**11. Committee of the Whole (private) – May 8, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-70:** Trustees Miller/Wong moved: **That the Committee of the Whole Report – May 8, 2023 be approved including:**

- **That the Human Resources Committee report from April 18, 2023, be received.**
- **That the Finance and Facilities Committee report from April 20, 2023, be received.**
- **That the Human Resources Executive Report to the Committee of the Whole be approved including that the tentative Collective Agreement between the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 4153, Custodial, Maintenance and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the term of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Trustee Miller resumed the position of Chair at 9:00 p.m.

**12. Oral Reports from:**

**A. Student Trustees' Report**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud shared the following:

- The HWDSB Student Voice Summit, grades 7 to 10, shared their voice on anti-bullying. Students who participated were able to take part in a few workshops that included discussion of programs, such as reimagining wellness.
- Ruth Silver met with both the elementary and secondary senates and prompted some interesting discussions for the new Strategic Directions.
- They are excited to be working alongside staff in preparation for the Student Leadership Summit tentatively happening on June 9, 2023. This summit aims to engage secondary student leaders in various HWDSB projects, gathering input in areas of mental health and the board's strategic directions, as well as celebrating student initiatives. Interested trustees are invited to attend either as a guest or keynote speaker (w/ more updates to come).
- There is a continuation of discussion involving the incoming student trustees surrounding the establishment of a Mental Health Student Advisory Group.
- The Student Trustees as well as the incoming Student Trustees will be attending OSTA-AECO's AGM from May 18-21 in Toronto. The AGM is the conference where student trustees elect the organization's executive council.

**B. Director's Report**

The Director shared the following:

- Director Robinson Petrazzini highlighted the current stage, Generate, of the Strategic Directions noting that we're generating engagement this month. HWDSB conducted over 43 interviews.
- The online survey has just been shared and is being promoted right now. It is available in nine languages. So far, we've had over 600 applications from our community, including youth, to participate in the Co-Design workshop that's happening this Saturday.
- We are in the process of seeking youth ambassadors supporting with popups that are going to be held at six community locations - the Dundas Driving Park, Valley Park Recreation Center, Memorial Park in Waterdown Beasley Community Center and Lime Ridge mall. Pop ups are also being held at five of our schools, Glendale, McNab, Sherwood, Bernie Custis and Ancaster High.

- The Director enjoyed her third community-based onboarding this past Friday with Amber Aquin, the Engagement Officer and Shawn McKillop, Manager of Communications and Community Engagement. She was also able to visit an additional 7 schools.
- Last week was Education Week and it was combined with Mental health week at the board.
- HWDSB hosted a student voice summit on Friday, April 28th, and it was for students in grades seven to 10.
- Gratitude was shared for all our HWDSB volunteers.
- HWDSB will be celebrating the 25 Year Employee Celebration on Wednesday, May 24, 2023.

### **C. Chair's Report**

The Chair shared the following message:

- The Chair shared that May 5<sup>th</sup> is the National Day of Awareness for missing and murdered indigenous women and girls.
- As part of our work for truth and reconciliation, trustees underwent their own professional development, led by our Indigenous education staff. Thanks were shared to the PD leaders for a wonderful evening of learning and sharing.
- The Chair shared news of the event "Take your MPP to School Day."
- Councillor Danko helped support and pass two motions at the Public Works Committee for the City of Hamilton that will allow educational institutions in the city to apply for free native trees. One of the Chair's schools received five native trees. The purpose behind this is to help the City of Hamilton meet its goal of building a better urban tree canopy.

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

The recording of the Board meeting can be found here:

[Board Meeting-20230508\\_190437-Meeting Recording.mp4 \(sharepoint.com\)](#)