
Trustees (In Person): Kathy Archer (electronically), Becky Buck (electronically) Sabreina Dahab, Amanda Fehrman, Maria Felix Miller, Ray Mulholland, Graeme Noble (electronically) Paul Tut, Todd White and Elizabeth Wong (electronically)

Regrets: Trustee Dawn Danko and Student Trustees Thomas Lin and Harry Wang

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

Maria Felix Miller, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm and recited the land acknowledgement.

2. Approval of the Agenda

RESOLUTION #24-09: Trustees Fehrman/Dahab moved that the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Archer was not online at time of the vote

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest – None

4. [Presentation: Educational Development Charges \(EDC\)](#)

An overview was presented by Cynthia Clark who is working as a consultant with HWDSB.

- EDCs pay for the costs to acquire and develop land necessary to accommodate additional pupil places generated by new housing development.
- EDCs may be imposed by school boards who qualify: Either average enrolment will exceed capacity over 5-year by-law period, or the board has a deficit in the EDC account the day prior to the successor by-law being enacted and has outstanding financial commitments.
- The Minister of Education must approve 15-year student enrolment projections; the # of school sites required and the permanent capacity available to accommodate enrolment growth generated by future housing development, before a school board can adopt a successor EDC by-law
- The EDC calculated rate is based on the total net education land costs divided by the 'net' new units and 'net' non-residential GFA (net of statutory exemptions).
- EDCs are paid at the time a building permit is issued and collected by the municipal building department, then forwarded to the Hamilton boards on a monthly basis.
- HWDSB and HWCDSB impose EDCs on both residential and non-residential development based on 85% of the net education land costs recovered from residential development and 15% from non-residential development.

5. Confirmation of the Minutes:

RESOLUTION #24-10: Trustees Buck/Fehrman moved that the minutes from January 15th, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Correspondence: Elliot Biro re: how HWDSB is supporting and addressing antisemitism

RESOLUTION #24-11: Trustees Buck/Fehrman moved that the correspondence be received, and referred to staff for follow-up.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

7. Finance and Facilities Committee – December 19, 2023

RESOLUTION #24-12: Trustees Tut/White moved that the Finance and Facilities Committee report from December 19, 2023 be approved including that staff report back on the Eastdale Accommodation Strategy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. Policy Committee – January 10, 2024

RESOLUTION #24-13: Trustees White/Tut moved that the Policy Committee report from January 10, 2024 be approved including the Fraud Prevention and Management Policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Reports from Staff:

9. March 2024 Professional Activity Day – Date Change

RESOLUTION #24-14: Trustees Fehrman/Tut moved that the March 1, 2024 Professional Activity Day date change to April 8, 2024 to accommodate student safety during the total solar eclipse be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. HWSTS Update – no copy

Associate Director Gerard shared that there are improvements in the number of open routes, the number of spare drivers and the number of drivers in training. Staff are currently waiting for next year's funding models, and are hopeful that the change in the funding model continues to provide HWDSB with the funds required to navigate transportation needs for students.

11. Report from Committee of the Whole (private) – January 29, 2024

RESOLUTION #24-15: Trustee Tut/Dahab moved that from the Committee of the Whole meeting that the finance and facilities report from December 19th, 2023, be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

12. Written Notices of Motion – Trustee Buck re: National School Food Program

Whereas: Too many families in Hamilton are struggling to obtain enough nutritious food;

Whereas: A healthy diet in childhood is important to maintaining good health and well-being;

Whereas: Domestic and international evidence shows that school meal programs act as social equalizers;

Whereas: Food security is a nation-wide issue that is being keenly felt here in Hamilton;

Whereas: There is currently a federal Private Member's Bill (C-322 – National Framework for a School Food Program Act) that has gone through a second reading in the House of Commons;

Where: Development of a national school food program will require the collaboration of all levels of government with the federal government.

Whereas: The Ontario Public School Board Association and Canadian School Boards' Association have already been in collaboration and discussion supporting the inclusion of committed funding in the 2024 federal budget;

Whereas: HWDSB's values of dignity, compassion, trust, and joy should be reflected in our advocacy for the most basic needs of Hamilton students;

RESOLUTION #24-16: Trustee Buck/Tut moved that the Chair of the Board write a letter to be distributed to all local Hamilton Members of Parliament that supports the legislation and its passage in the House of Commons for a National School Food Program.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. Oral Reports from:

A. [Director's Report](#)

The Director shared the following:

- A recap of the official launch of the 2023 – 2028 Multi Year Strategic Plan and Board Improvement Plan. The Director thanked all those that were involved in bringing the vision, mission and values to life and the continued support from HWDSB families and community to the Board of Trustees, Executive Council and the Communications and Community Engagement Team.
- January 17th, 2024 was the official launch event which showcased students from across the system performing and sharing their amazing talents and what is belonging to them. The new branding was also revealed Be You. Be Excellent, which is proudly displayed across all HWDSB schools, offices, website and social media. A big thank you to Student Trustees Lin and Wang for being amazing MCs and to Trustees that were able to attend the event.
- As we continue to do this great work with a renewed focus on the Board Improvement Plan which is specifically designed to see tangible gains in numeracy and literacy achievement, preparedness for the future, engagement and well-being for every student and every school. This also means we will be supporting and communicating with HWDSB students, families and communities consistently about opportunities, changes and initiatives that support their unique and differing needs.
- Thursday February 1st marks the start of Black History Month and will be recognized and featured system wide.

B. Chair's Report

- The MYSP launch was an incredible event, thank you to everyone who was a part of the planning. Staff from across the system were excited about the MYSP and are committed to the work.
- OPSBA held their annual Public Education Symposium conference this past weekend and appreciation was given to the Trustees that were able to attend and represent the board.
- Black History Month starts on Thursday February 1st. Trustees are reminded that the Rev JC Holland Awards ceremony is Saturday Feb 24th, and to confirm your attendance with the Director's Office.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 pm.

Reference: [Agenda Package](#) and [Recording](#)