

**AGENDA: 7:00 pm**

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement
2. O Canada
3. Meeting Roll Call
  - 3A. Swearing-in of Student Trustees 2023-2024
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
6. [Confirmation of the Minutes: June 19, 2023](#)

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

7. [Governance – June 26, July 10, 24, August 14 and 28](#)

Reports from Legislated Committees:

8. [Parent Involvement Committee – June 13, 2023](#)
9. [Special Education Advisory Committee – June 14, 2023](#)

Reports from Staff:

10. [Hamilton-Wentworth Student Transportation Services \(HWSTS\) Update – no copy](#)
11. [Back to School Start-Up Update – no copy](#)

12. Report from Committee of the Whole (private) – September 11, 2023

13. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

- A. City/School Board Liaison Committee
- B. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

14. Adjournment

Meeting times and locations are subject to change. Please refer to our website for the latest information.  
<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/trustees/meetings/>

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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 (electronically). Student Trustees Aisha Mahmoud and Gloria Li.

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**1. Call to Order**

Dawn Danko, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**RESOLUTION #23-93:** Trustees Tut/Miller moved: **That item #6 be moved to 15A. That item #13 A be added to the agenda as the Board will move into CTW to complete the CTW agenda items. That the agenda be approved as amended.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

None.

**4. Confirmation of the Minutes: June 12, 2023, and June 15, 2023**

The minutes of June 12, 2023, and June 15, 2023, were confirmed.

**5. Correspondence – Mark Fisher: Unfunded Employment Insurance and Canada Pension Plan Expenses**

**RESOLUTION #23-94:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved: **That the Correspondence – Mark Fisher: Unfunded Employment Insurance and Canada Pension Plan Expenses be received and filed.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**Report from Trustee Special Committees**

**6. Program Committee – June 5, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-95:** Trustees Graeme/Dahab moved: **That the Program Committee Report – June 5, 2023, be approved including: That we initiate a policy review of the Student Behaviour and Discipline policy 5.7 immediately following the 2024 Safe Schools Report for Suspensions and Expulsions.**

A motion was presented by Student Trustee Mahmoud, supported by Trustee Dahab/White moved: That HWDSB commit to consistent and accessible communication to families and community members about the release of the disaggregated suspension and expulsion data by translating reports into multiple languages, including but not limited to, the top 10 non-English languages spoken by families.

That HWDSB provide translated resources to families that includes a guide to the suspension and expulsion process, the appeal process, and the rights of all students and families during a suspension.

After discussion an **amendment** was made to the motion on the floor:

**RESOLUTION #23-96:** Student Trustee Mahmoud/Trustees Dahab/White moved: **That HWDSB commit to determining the feasibility of consistent and accessible communication to families and community members about the release of the disaggregated suspension and expulsion data by translating reports into**

multiple languages, including but not limited to, the top 10 non-English languages spoken by families, and sharing this with the Board.

That HWDSB commit to determining the feasibility of providing translated resources to families that includes a guide to the suspension and expulsion process, the appeal process, and the rights of all students and families during a suspension and sharing this with the Board.

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

In Favour (9): Trustees Buck, Dahab, Danko, Fehrman, Miller, Noble, Tut, White and Wong.

Opposed (2): Trustees Archer and Mulholland

That the remainder of the report be approved.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

#### **7. Human Resources Committee – June 6, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-97:** Trustees Miller/Fehrman moved: **That the Human Resources Committee Report – June 6, 2023, be received including:**

- **Employee and Staffing Update**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

#### **8. Governance Committee – June 7, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-98:** Trustees White/Buck moved: **That the Governance Committee Report – June 7, 2023, be approved including: That the DRAFT Fall 2023 Trustee Learning & Development plan be approved.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**RESOLUTION #23-99:** Trustees Tut/Miller moved: **A motion to recess this being done at 8:28 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

The Board resumed in public at 9:03 p.m. Trustee Mulholland did not return to the meeting.

The Chair moved to Trustee Miller.

#### **9. Notice of Motion to Amend the September 2023 Board Meeting Date**

**RESOLUTION #23-100:** Trustees Danko/Buck moved: **That the Board amend the motion passed on May 29, 2023, by striking September 18th, 2023, and adding September 11th, 2023.**

Motion from May 29, 2023

**RESOLUTION #23-78:** That the following Board meeting dates for 2023-2024 be approved as amended:

September 18, 2023\*

October 2, 16 and 30, 2023

November 6 and 20, 2023 (November 20th, 2023, Initial Board)

December 4 and 18, 2023

January 15 and 29, 2024  
February 12 and 26, 2024  
March 4 and 25, 2024  
April 8 and 29, 2024  
May 13 and 27, 2024  
June 10, 17 and 24, 2024

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

Chair Danko resumed the position of Chair at 9:06 p.m.

**RESOLUTION #23-101:** Trustees Fehrman/Miller moved: **That the Board move into Private session under section 207 B of the Education Act the disclosure of intimate, personal, or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian;** this being done at 9:07 p.m.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

The public session resumed at 10:04 p.m.

**Reports from:**

**10. Committee of the Whole (private) – June 19, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #23-102:** Trustees Miller/Tut moved: **That the Committee of the Whole Report – June 19, 2023 be approved including:**

- **That the Human Resources Committee Report from June 6, 2023, be received.**
- **That the Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation Services Executive Report from June 5, 2023, be received.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**11. Oral Reports from:**

**A. City/School Board Liaison Committee**

The Chair shared that they are actively working to get dates for the summer and at the latest in September 2023.

**B. Hamilton-Wentworth Home & School Association**

The Chair shared:

- that there was no formal update for the Home & School Association.

**C. Hamilton Foundation for Student Success (HFSS) (HWDSB Foundation)**

Trustee Buck shared the following:

- HFSS meeting was held on June 14, 2023.
- There was a short continuation of the earlier AGM to address the auditor, KPMG, who has been selected.
- Discussion occurred around improving the land acknowledgment. System Principal Bailee made a few suggestions in line with our Indigenous Education Circle Action Plan.
- A summary of financial support was given.
- The Proposed budget for the 2023/24 school year was passed.
- Ms. Jennifer Hughes has been added to the Board of Directors.

- HFSS will be embarking on a brand-new signature like an Event in a Box. HFSS would be able to provide a ready-made fundraiser to schools interested in utilizing this resource. 50% of resources would go directly back to the school with the other 50% going to the Foundation. The hope is for 10 schools to pilot this new event option next year. The Foundation is looking at this as a school community building event wherein all students can participate.
- On June 2, 2023 the Hamilton Golf and Country Club hosted a lunch to present six students, from Ancaster High, Bernie Custis, Saltfleet, Sir Winston Churchill, System Alternative Education, and Westmount, who have demonstrated academic success, with \$5000 scholarships.
- PayDay PayOut was an overwhelming success, and the Foundation will continue with this fundraiser.
- Support for Students Fund Revenue has gone up.

**D. Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA)**

- The AGM was held on June 8-10 in Collingwood and the presentations can be found of the OPSBA website.

**12. Oral Reports from:**

**A. Student Trustees' Report**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud shared the following:

- The HWDSB Student Senate had their final meeting on May 31, 2023, and shared and reflected on the year 2022/2023.
- Student Trustee Gloria Li shared the story of her own personal growth throughout the year. Thanks were shared with her mentors, staff, and Trustees for the opportunity to learn and grow.
- Student Trustee Aisha Mahmoud also shared her own personal journey. She has been a Student Trustee for the past two years and spoke of her growth over that time.
- Trustees Wong and Dahab thanked both Student Trustees and highlighted how they too inspired the work at the Board and fellow Trustees.

**RESOLUTION #23-103:** Trustees Tut/Fehrman moved: **That the meeting be extended, this being done at 10:29 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud voted in favour.

**B. Director's Report**

The Director shared the following:

- Director Robinson Petrazzini highlighted that in the 2022-23 School year, she formally visited 25 schools.
- This year, a lot of time has been spent with Principals and Vice-Principals learning and unlearning together.
- HWDSB has launched the Human Rights Policy and Anti-Black Racism Policy and procedures that supports students and staff. HWDSB continues the exploration of the interconnections of well-being, equity and achievement in schools and the focus on learning recovery.
- She is looking forward to the next stage of our multi-year strategic plan process and shared her gratitude for the extensive consultation that we have done related to the development and implementation of new Board priorities.
- HWDSB progressed in the five Strategic Directions outlined in the 2022 Board Annual Plan: Positive Culture and Well-Being, Student Learning and Achievement, Effective Communication, School Renewal and Partnerships.
- The Director shared congratulations to HWDSB commencing students.

- She thanked students, staff, and the community for their dedication and commitment this year.
- On behalf of Executive Council, she wished everyone a safe and happy summer.

### C. Chair's Report

The Chair shared the following message:

- Chair Danko shared that it has been a journey this year with the election of a new Board and the first year with a new Director.
- The Board has been working on new ways of consulting with the public for the development of the Strategic Directions and have taken active roles.
- She spoke of the transformations taking place with the addition of the Human Rights Policy and the Whistleblower Policy.
- HWDSB passed a balanced budget with the least number of displaced employees due to the lack of funding from the Provincial government.
- We have just completed the first full in person year after the pandemic.
- The Chair thanked students, staff, and the community for coming together to get through this year despite all the bumps along the way.
- She shared a sad farewell to Shawn McKillop, Manager of Communications and Engagement and shared the upcoming retirement of Associate Director Dunlop who will be retiring at the end of October 2023.

**RESOLUTION #23-104:** Trustees Miller/Fehrman moved: **That a Staff matter be approved, be added to the Committee of the Whole Report, June 19, 2023.**

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

In Favour (8): Trustees Archer, Buck, Danko, Fehrman, Miller, Noble, Tut and Wong. Student Trustees Li and Mahmoud.

Opposed (2): Trustees Dahab and White

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

The recording of the Board meeting can be found here:

Part 1

[https://my.sharepoint.com/personal/jmontgom\\_hwdsb\\_on\\_ca/\\_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjmontgom\\_hwdsb\\_on\\_ca%2FDocuments%2FRecordings%2FBoard\\_Meeting-20230619\\_193537-Meeting\\_Recording%2Emp4&ga=1](https://my.sharepoint.com/personal/jmontgom_hwdsb_on_ca/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjmontgom_hwdsb_on_ca%2FDocuments%2FRecordings%2FBoard_Meeting-20230619_193537-Meeting_Recording%2Emp4&ga=1)

Part 2

[Board Meeting-20230619\\_210308-Meeting\\_Recording\\_trimmed.mp4 \(sharepoint.com\)](https://my.sharepoint.com/personal/jmontgom_hwdsb_on_ca/_layouts/15/stream.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fjmontgom_hwdsb_on_ca%2FDocuments%2FRecordings%2FBoard_Meeting-20230619_210308-Meeting_Recording_trimmed.mp4)



**COMMITTEE REPORT (Public)**

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: September 11, 2023

From: Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: June 26, 2023

The committee held a meeting from 7:25 p.m. to 10:09 p.m. on June 26, 2023, at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in person and through MS Teams, with Trustee Todd White presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Amanda Fehrman, Becky Buck, Dawn Danko, , Maria Felix Miller, and Todd White.

Also in attendance: Trustees Elizabeth Wong (electronically), Graeme Noble, Kathy Archer (electronically) and Sabreina Dahab.

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**INFORMATION ITEMS:**
**I. Multi-Year Strategic Planning**

Casey Hinton from Saffy provided an overview of the What We Heard report from public engagement. The committee posed questions about the public engagement and what themes emerged.

The draft Multi-Year Strategic Plan was presented to the committee by Casey Hinton and Ruth Silver of Groundswell.

Discussion and feedback of the MYSP surrounded system level priorities, supports for students, MYSP learning phases, academics, facilities and reciprocity. The committee would like to see clear communication of what the proposed directions are and that they should focus primarily on the priorities and policies related to the MYSP.

The committee provided Feedback on Vision, Mission, Values and Strategic Priorities and suggested additional values. The committee agreed to share further feedback on the proposed MYSP in the future and proposed three draft meeting dates:

- Last Monday in August – three DRAFT meeting dates; July 10, 24 and August 14, 2023, at 6:00 PM.

Nogah Kornberg of I-Think shared an overview of the Challenge Kits which will be used for student engagement in schools.

The recorded meeting can be accessed here: [Public Governance Meeting-20230626\\_192510-Meeting Recording.mp4](#)

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd White, Chair of the Committee

## COMMITTEE REPORT (Public)

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: September 11, 2023

From: Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: July 10, 2023

The committee held a meeting from 6:05 p.m. to 8:05 p.m. on July 10, 2023, at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in person and through MS Teams, with Trustee Todd White presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Amanda Fehrman, Becky Buck, Dawn Danko, Maria Felix Miller and Todd White. Also in attendance (electronically): Graeme Noble, Kathy Archer, and Paul Tut.

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### MONITORING ITEMS:

#### I. Multi-Year Strategic Planning – Update on Mission, Vision and Values

Director Robinson Petrazzini shared with the committee that both the Chair of the Board and Chair of the Governance Committee had met with the consultants to discuss the feedback provided from the previous governance committee meeting in June related to the Mission, Vision and Values.

The consultants advised the committee that based on the feedback received, the following was considered prior to the update presented at this meeting:

- Development of frameworks – presented as a V-Formation graphic or Circular graphic
- Revisions to the vision statement
- Creation of buckets with one which includes learning
- Update to language to be more action-orientated
- Addition of a fifth priority related to future readiness
- Ensuring priorities from Bill 98 are present within the Multi-Year Strategic Plan

The committee discussed the two different frameworks presented and requested that the consultants further develop the circular model/framework as presented. A copy of the presentation can be found here: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/meetings/Special-Governance-Agenda-1688770134.pdf>

The committee had lengthy discussions related to the language and sentence structure for the vision, mission and values statements and consented to the following:

**Vision** – Growing Together.

**Mission** – Every student experiences a sense of belonging and engages in dynamic learning to reach their potential and define their own future.

**Values** - Our values of Truth & Reconciliation, Trust, Dignity, Compassion and Joy guide our daily work and ensure that we honour the unique identities and needs of all.

The Governance Committee requested that the consultants follow up with HWDSB's Indigenous Education and Indigenous Cultural Safety staff on the changes suggested to ensure that the sentiment behind restorative education wellness is reflected in the revisions.

The recorded meeting can be accessed here: <https://hwdsb.info/spgovjuly10>

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd White, Chair of the Committee

## COMMITTEE REPORT (Public)

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: September 11, 2023

From: Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: July 26, 2023

The committee held a meeting from 1:07 p.m. to 4:06 p.m. on July 26, 2023, at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in person and through MS Teams, with Trustee Todd White presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Amanda Fehrman, Becky Buck, Dawn Danko (Electronically), Maria Felix Miller (electronically) and Todd White. Also in attendance (electronically): Graeme Noble.

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### MONITORING ITEMS:

#### I. Multi-Year Strategic Planning – Update on Strategic Directions

Director Robinson Petrazzini welcomed back the consultants Casey Hinton, Ruth Silver, and Mike Gallagher. The Director shared that this is the final day for the Consultants as they hand over the final suggested changes. She thanked them for all their co-operative work, their responsiveness to the Trustee's suggestions as well as the dynamic and unique way that they created HWDSB's Mission, Vision, and Values as well as the draft Strategic Directions. The consultants shared a presentation with the Committee noting the outline was a result of collaboration and community engagement. The Vision, Mission and Values were discussed with the Consultants and minor changes were made. Ruth Silver shared that the Board may want to ask the question "Where do you want your Board to be in five years and what do you want to be about? This will provide the Committee guidance as they move to finalize the Strategic Directions.

- **Vision** – Growing Together
- **Mission** – Every student experiences a sense of belonging and engages in dynamic learning to reach their potential and build their own future.
- **Values** – Our values of Truth & Reconciliation, Compassion, Dignity, Trust, and Joy guide our daily work and ensure that we honour the unique identities and needs of all.

The Committee would like Jolene John, our Indigenous Lead, to provide input prior to these becoming final.

The Committee discussed two of the five Strategic Directions making some modifications as discussion took place. The last three Strategic Directions will be discussed at the next Governance meeting being held on August 14, 2023.

To date the Committee have outlined the first two directions tentatively as:

1. **Human Rights, Safety and Wellbeing** – We will support all students and staff to feel safe and secure in our classrooms and school communities.
2. **High Quality Learning** – We will offer high quality (equitable) learning opportunities to improve student engagement, learning and achievement.

It was suggested that barrier-free move to Strategic Direction five.

For reference, the [agenda package](#), [presentation](#) can be found by clicking on the hyperlinks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd White, Chair of the Committee

## COMMITTEE REPORT (Public)

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: Sept. 11 2023

From: Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: August 14, 2023

The committee held a meeting from 1:07 p.m. to 4:06 p.m. on August 14, 2023, at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in person and through MS Teams, with Trustee Todd White presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Amanda Fehrman, Dawn Danko, Maria Felix Miller (electronically) and Todd White. Regrets were received from Trustee Becky Buck. Also in attendance (electronically): Graeme Noble.

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### MONITORING ITEMS:

#### I. Multi-Year Strategic Planning – Update on Strategic Directions

Director Robinson Petrazzini provided a brief overview of the committee work that has been done to date and provided the committee with an update on the value definition for Truth and Reconciliation, which was requested to return from the previous meeting.

The committee consented to the following updated value:

- Truth & Reconciliation - Nurturing respectful relationships among Indigenous Peoples and Treaty Partners to advance intergenerational healing and wellness throughout all facets of the education system.

Previously, on July 26<sup>th</sup>, the following values were consented on:

- Compassion: Leading with peace, friendship and love creates space for compassionate accountability, where we are responsible to one another in creating a culture of care.
- Dignity: Reciprocity and anti-oppression lead to a just and equitable learning community, where every person is included, respected and valued.
- Trust: Humility and transparency builds the trusted relationships, connections and system necessary for growth, change and evolution.
- Joy: Curiosity, play and fun are catalysts for meaningful student learning outcomes and supports joyful and enriching experiences.

The committee reviewed the Strategic Directions and made changes to language in each of the Strategic Directions. Committee members determined that the originally proposed Strategic Direction titled Transforming Policy & Culture was to be deleted and added a new Strategic Direction titled Supporting Indigenous Wellness & Reconciliation to further support the boards commitment to Indigenous Education and Truth & Reconciliation.

The committee also asked that staff review and return to the next Special Governance meeting scheduled for August 28<sup>th</sup> with additional changes for the last two strategic directions.

1. Upholding Human Rights, Safety & Wellbeing – We will support all students and staff to feel safe and secure in our classrooms and school communities.
2. Providing Equitable Quality Education - We will offer equitable quality educational opportunities to improve student engagement, learning and achievement for future readiness.
3. Collaborating with Students, Families & Communities - We will build reciprocal relationships and partnerships to enhance access and engagement for students, families, and communities.

4. Building a Sustainable Education System – We will adapt to a rapidly changing world through responsible fiscal management, investing in accessible and sustainable facilities and supporting a robust workforce.

5. Supporting Indigenous Educational Wellness & Reconciliation - We will honour our treaty obligations by nurturing respectful relationships, ethical engagement, and consultation with local Indigenous communities.

A Special Governance Committee meeting has been scheduled for Monday, August 28<sup>th</sup> , 2023 at 6 pm to finalize the Multi-Year Strategic Plan.

For reference, the [agenda package](#) and [recording](#) can be viewed by clicking on the hyperlinks.

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd White, Chair of the Committee



## COMMITTEE REPORT (Public)

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: Sept. 11 2023

From: Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: August 28, 2023

The committee held a meeting from 6:03 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. on August 28, 2023, at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in person and through MS Teams, with Trustee Todd White presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Amanda Fehrman, Dawn Danko, Becky Buck (electronically) and Todd White. Regrets were received from Trustee Maria Felix Miller.

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### **ACTION ITEM:**

#### **I. Multi-Year Strategic Planning**

Director Robinson Petrazzini provided a brief overview of the committee work that has been done to date and provided the committee with an update on the final two Strategic Directions. The committee discussed the proposed language for the remaining two Strategic Directions and then reviewed the Multi-Year Strategic Plan in its entirety.

The committee also discussed consultation and engaging in a two-week consultation before the Multi-Year Strategic Plan would be ratified by the Board of Trustees. The intent is to seek feedback and/or comments about the plan that Trustees may consider prior to it being approved. It was also noted that the Multi-Year Strategic Plan would launch in January 2024.

The committee recommends the following as the Multi-Year Strategic Plan for 2023 to 2028.

**Vision** – Growing Together

**Mission** – Every student experiences a sense of belonging and engages in dynamic learning to reach their potential and build their own future.

**Values** – Our values of Compassion, Dignity, Trust, and Joy guide our daily work and ensure that we honour the unique identities and needs of all.

- **Compassion:** Leading with peace, friendship and love creates space for compassionate accountability, where we are responsible to one another in creating a culture of care.
- **Dignity:** Reciprocity, anti-racism and anti-oppression lead to a just and equitable learning community, where every person is included, respected and valued.
- **Trust:** Humility and transparency build the trusted relationships, connections and education system necessary for growth, change and evolution.
- **Joy:** Curiosity, play and fun are catalysts for meaningful student learning outcomes and support joyful and enriching experiences.

### **Strategic Directions**

1. Upholding Human Rights, Safety & Wellbeing – We will support all students and staff to feel safe and secure in our classrooms and school communities.

2. Providing Equitable Quality Education - We will offer equitable quality educational opportunities to improve student engagement, learning and achievement for future readiness.

3. Collaborating with Students, Families & Communities - We will build reciprocal relationships and partnerships to enhance access and engagement for students, families, and communities.
4. Building a Sustainable Education System – We will adapt to a rapidly changing world through responsible fiscal management, investing equitably in accessible and sustainable facilities, and supporting a robust workforce.
5. Reinforcing Indigenous Educational Wellness & Reconciliation - We will honour our commitment to Truth and Reconciliation by nurturing respectful and reciprocal relationships among Indigenous Peoples and Treaty Partners, and by cultivating intergenerational healing and wellness in a restorative education system.

Moved by Trustee Danko, the Governance Committee recommends: **That the 2023-2028 Multi-Year Strategic Plan be received including the Mission, Vision, Values and Strategic Directions and that a two-week consultation take place with the final document returning October 2, 2023, for board ratification.**

**Unanimous**

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd White, Chair of the Committee

## Committee Report

Presented to: Board

Meeting date: September 11, 2023

From: Parent Involvement Committee

Meeting date: June 13, 2023

The committee held a PIC meeting on June 13, 2023, from 6:30 pm. to 8:42 p.m. with Chair Mike Palma presiding.

**PIC Members Present:** Adriana Harris, Alissa Shuker, Amanda Lloyd, Christine Sandor, Christine Scheewe, Cindy Bourassa, Cindy Stranak, Emma Haslam Topping, Heather Harvey, Heather Lambert Hillen, Heather McCully, Heidi Oglesby, Katrusia Marunchak, Kristina Collier, Laura Farr, Leah Ferleyko, Melanie Roberts, Mike Palma, Scott Dicker, Shelley Clemence, Shelley Stacey, Stephanie Lostanaw Lavin

**PIC Regrets:** Alyse Nishimura, Cheryl Hue, Cindy Stewart, Jay Edington

**Trustees Present:** Amanda Fehrman

**Trustee Regrets:** Becky Buck, Elizabeth Wong

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### INFORMATION ITEMS:

#### A. Facilities Update

Senior Manager of Facilities Dave Anderson shared an update on the Annual Capital Plan, Secondary Benchmark Strategy Projects, Elementary Benchmark Strategy Projects, and School Renewals. The committee posed questions on specific projects. Senior Manager Anderson will report back to the Committee on fire escapes and the Sir Allan MacNab elevator access to the third floor.

#### B. Vice Chair Nominations

One nomination was received for Vice-Chair, Amanda Lloyd who was acclaimed unopposed as Vice-Chair.

#### C. New Member Applications

Chair Palma provided an update on new member applications which are now being received. Strong language has been used in the application form related to the importance of attendance. The committee discussed forming a summer Terms of Reference Subcommittee, Superintendent Simon Goodacre will investigate and share his findings with the committee.

#### D. Communications Updates

Manager of Communications Shawn McKillop is resigning from the HWDSB to move on to a new organization. He also shared a Trustee School Council Relations addition to the School Council Handbook to encourage engagement between School Councils and Trustees. The committee expressed concern that Trustee engagement will vary from Ward to Ward.

#### E. Hybrid Meeting Format

Superintendent Simon Goodacre requested committee feedback on Hybrid vs. In-Person meeting format.

#### F. Home and School Update

Heather Lambert-Hillen shared that HWCHSA meetings are complete for the 2022-23 school year and extended congratulations and to Manager of Communications Shawn McKillop.

#### G. Trustee Update

Trustee Amanda Fehrman provided an update on the resignation of Shawn McKillop and retirement of Associate Director Sue Dunlop in October in 2023. She also shared the 2023-24 Budget was passed by Trustees June 12, 2023, and that the Trustees voted to maintain childcare rental rates for the 2023-24 school year.

**I. Rural Schools Update**

The committee met May 17, 2023, the public website for Rural Schools has been created and is live. Budget was presented and schools encouraged to spend available funds. Updates were shared from Facilities on school renewal and benchmark projects as well as a water testing update. Rick Koren has resigned as Manager of Transportation Services.

**J. Parent Engagement Update**

Amanda Lloyd shared that there were late applications for PRO Grants were received and approved and will be reported back to PIC in September.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mike Palma, Chair

9-1  
**Committee Report**

Presented to: Board

Meeting Date: September 18, 2023

From: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Meeting Date: June 14, 2023

The Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, in room 180 A at the Education Centre, beginning at 5:33 pm ending at 7:11 pm, with Vice-Chair Lindsay Bray presiding.

**Present**

Dawn Danko, HWDSB Chair, Trustee, Ward 7, Nancy Silva Khan, Autism Ontario (Central West Chapter), Susi Owen, CNIB Hamilton and Niagara, Tracy Sherriff, Community Living Hamilton, Sarah Johnson, Community Living Hamilton (Alternate) Julie Armstrong, Centre for Diverse Learners, Lindsay Bray, McMaster Children's Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio, SEAC Vice Chair, Lynn Vanderbrug, Lynwood Charlton Centre, Mark Courtepatte, FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group, Sabreina Dahab, Trustee, Ward 2

**Regrets**

Judy Colantino, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton, SEAC Chair, Melanie Roberts, The Association for Bright Children of Ontario, Cecile Santos-Ayrault, The Association for Bright Children of Ontario (Alternate), Jessica Malcew, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children

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**MONITORING ITEMS:**

**A. Special Education Plan 2023-2024**

- Updates to the Plan include added information about special education staffing
- Link to the plan: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/23-24-HWDSB-Spec-Ed-Plan.pdf>

On the motion of Mark Courtepatte, seconded by Dawn Danko, the Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees, that the 23-24 Special Education Plan be approved as presented **CARRIED**.

**B. IDC 30-An Interdisciplinary Approach to Disability Studies and Human Rights - Summary and Feedback from Pilot**

Trish Woehrle, Specialized Services Learning Consultant, Carly Robinson, Project Meredith Strongman, Specialized Services Learning Consultant, Vanessa Petz, Head of Learning Resources Department, Saltfleet District High School

- Brief overview of the summary and feedback from pilot schools was presented (Sir Allan MacNab, Glendale, Bernie Custis, Sherwood)
- 52 students took the course, half had IEPs
- Student shared their experience of the course and how valuable the learning has been

**C. Autism Core Skills Checklist (ACSC)**

Piero Evfremidis, ABA Consultant, Autism and Neurodevelopmental Services

- Guiding principles, purpose and components of the Autism Core Skills Checklist (ACSC) were shared

**D. MEMBERS' UPDATE**

**a) Trustees Update**

**Sabreina Dahab, Trustee Ward 2**

- Trustees passed a balanced budget at the June 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting – we overspent \$4.4 million than what was funded for special education
- Trustees have capped the rental rates increase for community use of schools
- 23-24 school year calendars have been approved

**b) Local Association Update**

- No updates at this time

**c) Superintendent's Update**

Peggy Blair, Superintendent of Specialized Services

- Project SEARCH Graduation is on June 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 am at the Education Centre for Project SEARCH interns from the YMCA, YWCA and Education Centre

Respectfully submitted by Lindsay Bray, SEAC Vice-Chair