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**Trustees:** Kathy Archer\*, Becky Buck, Sabreina Dahab, Dawn Danko, Amanda Fehrman\*, Maria Felix Miller, Graeme Noble, Paul Tut, Todd White, Elizabeth Wong\*. Student Trustees Oluwafikunayomi (Fikun) Alabi, Victoria Li, and Shakowennakara:tats Daunte Hillen.

\*electronic participation, <sup>(R)</sup> regrets

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## 1. Call to Order

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

## 2. Approval of the Agenda

Trustees Tut/Danko moved that the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

## 3. Confirmation of the Minutes: November 18 and 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**RESOLUTION #24-165:** Trustees Danko/Buck moved that the Minutes from November 18 and November 25, 2024, be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

## 4. Program Committee

**RESOLUTION #24-166:** Trustees Fehrman/Danko moved that the Program Committee report from November 14, 2024, be received.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

## 5. Finance & Facilities

**RESOLUTION #24-167:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the Finance & Facilities report from November 26, 2024, be approved including that the 2024-2025 Capital Budget be revised to a total of \$59.4 million, which includes \$3.5 million for the Eastdale Elementary School portapak and \$8.0 million for capital renewal projects.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

**RESOLUTION #24-168:** Trustees Danko/Tut moved that the Chair of the Board write to the Ministry of Education to highlight the funding gaps HWDSB is experiencing with respect to capital, renewal, portable and accessibility projects.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

## 6. Governance

**RESOLUTION #24-169:** Trustees Buck/Noble moved that the Governance report from December 2, 2024, be approved including the revised 5.1 Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance report.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

#### **7. Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)**

**RESOLUTION #24-170:** Trustees Fehrman/Buck moved that the Parent Involvement Committee report from November 12, 2024, be received.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

#### **8. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**

**RESOLUTION #24-171:** Trustees Danko/Buck moved that the Special Education Advisory Committee report from November 27, 2024, be received.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

#### **9. Human Rights & Equity Community Advisory Committee**

**RESOLUTION #24-172:** Trustees Dahab/Danko moved that the Human Rights & Equity Community Advisory Committee report from November 27, 2024, be received.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

#### **10. Faith Community Advisory Committee**

**RESOLUTION #24-173:** Trustees Buck/Tut moved that the Faith Community Advisory Committee report from December 3, 2024, be received.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

#### **11. Standing Committee**

**RESOLUTION #24-174:** Trustees Tut/Noble moved that the Standing Committee report from November 25, 2024, be approved including the draft 2025-2026 School Year Calendars for public consultation.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

#### **12. Report from Committee of the Whole (Private) – December 16, 2024**

**RESOLUTION #24-175:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the Committee of the Whole report be approved including that the Finance & Facilities Committee report from November 26, 2024, be received.

**CARRIED**

Student Trustees Alabi, Li and Shakowennakara:tats Hillen voted in favour.

**RESOLUTION #24-176:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the Committee of the Whole report be approved including that the tentative Collective Agreement between the Hamilton-Wentworth Elementary Teachers Local, Teachers Federation of Ontario (HWETL-ETFO), and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) for the term of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.

**CARRIED**

#### **13. Hamilton Foundation for Student Success**

Trustee Fehrman provided an update and encouraged others to consider donating to Hamilton Foundation for Student Success as the postal strike presented a challenge in terms of donations being received.

#### **14. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)**

Trustee Buck provided an update and encouraged Trustees who haven't yet registered for the 2025 Public Education Symposium (PES), taking place January 24 and 25, 2025 in Toronto. Trustee Buck noted that the OPSBA Board of Directors meeting included discussions on the Trustee Code of Conduct legislative changes coming into effect January 1, 2025, and the Electronic Meetings and Meeting Attendance legislative requirements coming into effect September 2025.

#### **15. Student Trustees' and Shakowennakara:tats Report**

Student Trustees Alabi and Li provided a verbal update:

- Partnered with the YMCA and collected 250 items in the multi school charity food drive
- Collaborating with Trustee Dahab and the Director Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini to provide support to International Students.
- April 20, 2025: Secondary Student Senate currently working on securing keynote speakers, organizing workshops and creative schedule for the day.
- Continuing to work on the Flex Day initiative and are hoping to submit a plan to the Ministry within the next school year.

Shakowennakara:tats Hillen provided a verbal update:

- Had the privilege of working with Mountain Kidz Club, an organization that is making a profound impact by supporting families and children across our community.
- Visited the Art Gallery of Hamilton with CC:Rose to see Alex Jacob Blooms in the Shadow of the Eclipse exhibit.

#### **16. Director's Report**

Director Sheryl Robinson Petrazzini presented the [Director's Report to the Community](#) which highlighted the following:

- 2023-2024 Director's Annual Report
- HWDSB's Journey; Looking Back Together
- How It All Fits Together
- HWDSB's Culture of Improvement
- Improved Well-Being, Engagement and Improved Preparedness for Every Student
- Improved Literacy and Improved Numeracy Achievement for Every Student
- HWDSB: Public Accountability and Transparency

#### **17. Chair's Report**

Chair Miller brought forth her report acknowledging the work done by Trustees in the community and thanked school-based staff for their incredible work in "creating and sustaining magic" at this time of year. She provided well wishes for a peaceful and restorative time over the winter break.

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Reference: [Agenda](#), [Recording](#)