

AGENDA: 6:00 pm

1. Call to Order
2. O Canada
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Swearing in of Student Trustees for 2017-18
5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
6. [Confirmation of the Minutes – April 24, 2017](#)
7. [Correspondence – Thames Valley DSB re: Native Language Courses – Class Sizes](#)

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

8. [Program Committee – April 20, 2017](#)
9. [Finance & Facilities – April 26, 2017 and May 3, 2017](#)

Reports from Staff:

10. [Faith Community Advisory Committee – membership and Trustee appointments](#)
 - A. Appointment of Community Members
 - B. Appointment of Trustee representatives (2)
11. Resolution Into Committee of the Whole (Private Session) as per the Education Act, Section 207.2 (b) the disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee
12. Meeting Resumes in Public Session
13. Report from Committee of the Whole (private) – May 15, 2017
14. Pupil Accommodation Q&A – Ancaster & West Hamilton City
 - Presentation of Answers (questions received at last meeting)
 - Questions for Staff (answers to be provided the following meeting)
15. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:
 - A. City/School Board Liaison Committee
 - B. Hamilton-Wentworth Home & School Association
 - C. HWDSB Foundation
 - D. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)
16. 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/>

Trustees: Kathy Archer, Jeff Beattie, Christine Bingham, Dawn Danko, Penny Deathe, Wes Hicks, Alex Johnstone, Ray Mulholland, Larry Pattison (Electronically), Greg Van Geffen, Todd White. Student Trustees Tory Dockree and Elizabeth Wong.

1. Call to Order

Todd White, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

2. Delegation – Re: Student Learning & Achievement Report – Equity in HWDSB

Former Trustee Judith Bishop created a report based on EQAO testing which she shared with the Board regarding moderate and high needs schools. Some of the areas that she highlighted included:

- Trends in moderate and high needs schools since 1998.
- The increase in the number of grade 3 students with IEP's.
- The definition of equity.
- Hamilton being the fourth largest Canadian city for child poverty.
- The need for a plan with a focus on improvement and achievement.
- The need to look to external sources of funding.

3. Approval of the Agenda

RESOLUTION #17-64: Trustee Van Geffen, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: **That the agenda be approved.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Confirmation of the Minutes

The minutes of April 10, 2017 were confirmed.

Vice-Chair Beattie took over as Chair of the meeting

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

6. Governance Committee – April 4, 2017

RESOLUTION #17-65: Trustee White, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That the report of the Governance Committee – April 4, 2017 be approved including the Board meeting schedule for September 2017 to June 2018.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

Chair White resumed his role as Chair.

7. Policy Committee – April 5, 2017

RESOLUTION #17-66: Trustee Beattie, seconded by Trustee Hicks, moved: **That the report of the Policy Committee – April 5, 2017 be approved including:**

- Occupational Health & Safety Policy
- Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention Policy
- Realignment/Renaming of Pillar Policies

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

8. Program Committee – April 6, 2017

RESOLUTION #17-67: Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That the following be referred to staff and report back to the Program Committee exploring the possibility of these recommendations:**

1. That the Board develop and implement a 4 year plan to improve student achievement in the current high and moderate needs schools, reporting annually to trustees with adequate and relevant data , by establishing an interdisciplinary committee to:
 - a) Determine the degree of staffing support and instructional resources required to assure all students in these schools reach their potential, and seek for the additional funding required, including from external sources;
 - b) Develop and implement an action plan to address issues which include, but are not limited to: Low student achievement; reducing gap in achievement between high and moderate needs schools and low needs schools ; teacher recruitment and retention; staff development; teacher and principal support and professional recognition; student services support; gender issues; refugee and immigrant concerns; English-as-a Second language; special education, student attendance , early childhood education, and mobility;
- 2 To establish an advisory committee of community expertise to include, McMaster University Offord centre, the Hamilton Community Foundation, Mohawk College, City of Hamilton, Social Planning and Research Council, and Hamilton Round Table for Poverty Reduction, to meet at least 4 times a year.
3. That the Director designate a system person with oversight for high and moderate needs schools

RESOLUTION #17-68: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Bingham, moved: **That the report of the Program Committee – April 6, 2017 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

9. A. Finance & Facilities Committee – April 12, 2017

RESOLUTION #17-69: Trustee Hicks, seconded by Trustee Danko, moved: **That the report of the Finance & Facilities Committee – April 12, 2017 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

Reports from Legislated Committees

10. Parent Involvement Committee – April 11, 2017

RESOLUTION #17-70: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Johnstone, moved: **That the report of the Parent Involvement Committee – April 11, 2017 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour
Trustee Van Geffen was out of the room for the vote

Reports from Staff

11. Student Trustee Election Results for 2017-18

RESOLUTION #17-71: Trustee Deathe, seconded by Trustee Johnstone, moved: **That election of Ruby Hye, student at Westdale Secondary and Morghen Jael, student at Westdale Secondary, to the position of Student Trustee be confirmed for the term of office August 1, 2017 to July 31, 2018.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

Trustee Pattison left the meeting.

12. School Year Calendar 2017-18

RESOLUTION #17-72: Trustee Van Geffen, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: **That the 2017-18 School Year Calendars be approved.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

RESOLUTION #17-73: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: **That staff investigate the feasibility and potential benefits of piloting a balanced school year calendar at some of our high and moderate needs schools giving consideration to the research, staffing and financial implications.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

13. Resolution Into Committee of the Whole (Private Session)

RESOLUTION #17-74: Trustee Bingham, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: **That the Board move into Committee of the Whole (Private), this being done at 8:21 p.m.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

The open session resumed at 8:39 p.m.

14. Committee of the Whole (private) April 24, 2017

RESOLUTION #17-75: Trustee Beattie, seconded by Trustee Bingham, moved: **That the report of the Committee of the Whole (private) – April 24, 2017 be approved including that the Finance & Facilities Committee report from April 12, 2017 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Dockree and Wong voted in favour

15. Pupil Accommodation Q&A – Ancaster & West Hamilton City:

Staff shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board answering questions that were raised at the previous Board meeting regarding both the Ancaster and West Hamilton City PARs.

16. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

A. Student Trustees' Report

Student Trustee Wong shared that the OSTA-AECO President, Kayvon Mihan from the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board will be on TVO with Steve Paikin, speaking about student voice on April 25, 2017. The OSVA Award applications came in on April 17, 2017 and there are some HWDSB students who applied for the awards. Student Trustee Wong will be one of the people involved in choosing the winners. The OSTA/AECO are currently planning the upcoming AGM and Gala on May 25-28th. The Student Trustees thanked staff for all of their hard work and dedication for the Student Trustee elections that took place. She also thanked all of the candidates who ran for the position of Student Trustee.

Student Trustee Dockree shared that at the past Student Senate meeting the Board priorities were discussed. They received feedback on which priorities students felt were the most important and which priorities had the greatest impact on their daily lives. In both senates TLE was the priority that they felt had the greatest impact on a daily basis particularly for the grade 9 students and the introduction of the I-Pad yet it was ranked last in regard to its importance. When ranked from 1-6 TLE was always at the bottom with both student senates and it was the first to be removed. Students expressed that they feel that with all of the online learning they are losing a lot of the grass roots knowledge especially with the reduction of writing and paper in the classrooms. Special Education and facility updates were tied for the number one priority with both senates. At the upcoming student senate meetings on April 26, 2017 the discussion will include the PAR process and transitions.

B. Director's Report

The Director shared some highlights based on HWDSB's priorities.

Positive Culture and Well-Being – On April 6, 2017 the Director went to Sir Winston Churchill to celebrate the "Day of Difference." This was a conference hosted by both staff and students where they had keynote speakers. The "Day of Pink" was held on April 12, 2017 where the day of pink represents the vision of a world that is free of bullying.

Student Learning and Achievement – the Director once again visited some of the elementary schools, Glen Echo, Ridgemount, Glenwood and Janet Lee to see how the Board Annual Plan is being implemented especially around HWDSB's learning and achievement goals. .

School Renewal – The Director enjoys witnessing the school communities come together around the school renewal that is taking place when he is visiting the schools.

Effective Communication – The Assistant Deputy Minister, Martin Beckett, visited Dr. Davey and Nora Frances Henderson where he spoke to students and staff and asked “How are we implementing technology.” He was so impressed with his visit that he has asked Nora Frances Henderson staff if they would be open to having Mitzie Hunter, the Minister of Education, come and visit to hear their journey over the past three years.

Partnerships - On April 19, 2017 at the Hamilton Community Foundation dinner the Director had the pleasure of seeing Dr. Jean Clinton present on the Adolescent Brain under Construction. It was a very important presentation held at the Hamilton Spectator Auditorium. She spoke of driving positive change and increasing post-secondary access. She spoke of how vital the middle school years are because of the changes that occur in the adolescent brain.

Trustee Hicks shared his concern over the low attendance of the 25 Year Celebration.

C. Chair’s Report

The Chair did not have an update at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.



Laura Elliott, Director of Education and Secretary

April 11, 2017

Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Attention: Honourable Mitzie Hunter, Minister of Education

Dear Minister Hunter:

Re: Request for Reduction of Class Size Requirements for Native Language Courses

At the January 24, 2017, Board meeting of the Thames Valley District School Board, Trustee Schuyler moved the following motion that was carried:

That the Chair of the Board, in collaboration with the First Nation Trustee write a letter to the Ontario Ministry of Education requesting that the class size required to offering Native Language be reduced from 12 to 5 students in Ontario schools. This would also be done in collaboration with the Federal Government who has the responsibility for funding First Nation education.

During the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, there were ninety-four calls to action that flowed from the abuses that occurred at residential schools in Canada. Through the atrocities that occurred in residential schools, our First Nations communities lost their language. Furthermore, their culture was denied by the government and churches that ran the schools.

As a result of these actions, it is incumbent upon the government to help ensure that our current and future First Nations students have the opportunity to learn their native languages and help open the doors to learn their culture. It is important that not only students on reserves are able to access language courses but also those First Nations students who are living in urban settings and attending a variety of our schools.

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Ministry of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

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April 11, 2017

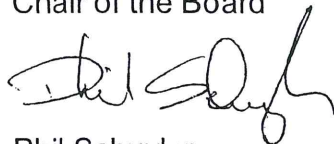
The Ministry currently has criteria for a class size of twelve (12) students for our school board to be able to offer a fully funded First Nations language class. This poses a major obstacle in many of our urban schools to run a class. Furthermore, when we do have the critical mass to run a class we are not able to recognize the diverse native languages that are found within our region. It contradicts the goals of the Truth and Reconciliation's Calls to Action to require an Ojibway First Nations child to learn the Oneida (Iroquois) language at their school. The Thames Valley District School Board urges the Provincial Government to work with the Federal Government and properly fund First Nations Language classes and reduce the class size to a minimum of five (5) students to ensure more students will have access to learn and celebrate their language and culture.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you more as we move forward to improving our education system for all of our students.

Sincerely,



Matthew Reid
Chair of the Board



Phil Schuyler
First Nations Trustee

cc: Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
David Zimmer, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
Laura Elliott, Director of Education, TVDSB
OPSBA
Ontario School Board Chairs



Laura Elliott, Director of Education and Secretary

April 11, 2017

Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Attention: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Re: Request for Reduction of Class Size Requirements for Native Language Courses

At the January 24, 2017 Board meeting of the Thames Valley District School Board, the following motion was moved by Trustee Tisdale and seconded by Trustee Schuyler:

That a letter be sent to the Federal Government emphasizing their commitment and responsibility to fully fund First Nations, Inuit and Métis student's education.

Through the ninety-four calls to action in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, our government has recognized the atrocities that occurred in residential schools that saw abuse of our students along with them being prevented from learning their language and culture.

As a result, there are concerns of First Nations communities losing their language and identity. Our school board would like to raise the concerns over the lack of resources that are currently being provided for our First Nations students on reserves. The fact that First Nations communities are provided less education funding per student than our provincially funded students continues the disgraceful legacy of previous governments that allowed residential schools to operate for so many generations.

Furthermore, we would like to ask that the Federal Government work with the Ontario Government to provide further funding for First Nations language classes for our urban students. Currently in our school board, the Ministry of Education requires a class to have twelve (12) pupils to be fully funded. This creates an obstacle when we are unable to create the critical mass needed in our urban schools with First Nations students. The

Thames Valley District School Board - Office of the Chairperson

1250 Dundas Street, P.O. Box 5888, London, ON N6A 5L1 Tel: 519-452-2000 Ext. 20219 Fax: 519-452-2396 website: www.tvdsb.ca

We build each student's tomorrow, every day.

Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

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April 11, 2017

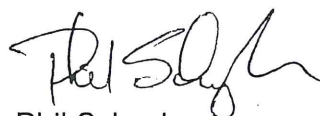
Thames Valley District School Board has called on the Ontario Government to reduce the number of pupils required for a First Nations language class to five to help ensure more students have access to learning their language.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. We look forward to working with you as we move forward to improving our education system for all of our students.

Sincerely Yours,



Matthew Reid
Chair of the Board



Phil Schuyler
First Nations Trustee

cc: Carolyn Bennett, Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs
Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
David Zimmer, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation
Laura Elliott, Director of Education, TVDSB
OPSBA
Ontario School Board Chairs

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: May 15, 2017

From: Program Committee

Date of Meeting: April 20, 2017

The committee held a meeting from 4:37 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on April 20, 2017 at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in Meeting Room 340D with Trustee Dawn Danko presiding.

Members present were: Trustee Dawn Danko (Chair), Christine Bingham, Penny Deathe. Regrets: Alex Johnstone, Greg Van Geffen. Trustee Todd White was also in attendance.

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Secondary Program Strategy - Update

Staff presented the report providing answers to Trustee questions from the February 27th Program committee meeting and providing information on how HWDSB is looking to increase the number of SHSM programs being offered in order to reach the Ministry mandated goal of 25 percent of students being enrolled in a SHSM. Schools will be asked to submit applications using the guiding principles provided in the report. Trustees discussed the importance of communication to parents and students regarding SHSMs and what is, and could be, available. It was noted that it is important to ensure parents and students are aware that SHSMs are available for all pathways whether apprenticeship, college, community assisted living, university or workplace. Trustees also discussed the need to look at the definition of Tier 2 vs Tier 3 programming to try and avoid confusion as new SHSMs are created. It is important to ensure the system is strategic in terms of what is offered at schools to ensure it is aligned with the Secondary Program Strategy and student voice.

On the motion of Penny Deathe, the Program Committee **recommends:**

- A. That all schools be invited to submit applications annually in the sectors that they would like to offer SHSM programs in, based on student voice, course selection data and support of community partners.**
- B. That multiple SHSM programs run within each school to reach the goal of raising SHSM program participation levels to at least 25 percent.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Referral motion to Committee: Toronto District School Board re: Changes to Curriculum

Staff presented the report outlining the background of the Ministry mandate and policy around Equity, as well as where in the curriculum topics of racism are addressed. The report indicates that with the exception of Health and Physical Education at the secondary level, there are no explicitly stated overall or specific expectations related to anti-racism.

On the motion of Penny Deathe, the Program Committee **recommends that the Board submit a letter to the Ministry of Education, in support of Toronto District School Board's letter, to request that there is explicitly stated specific expectations related to anti-racism added to the K-12 curriculum.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MONITORING ITEMS:

C. Parent and Family Literacy Centre Update

Staff presented the report which provides an update on the transformation that will be occurring to the existing Ontario Early Years Centres (OEYCs) and Parenting and Family Literacy Centres (PFLCs) as funding and governance roles shift to the Municipality by January 2018. PFLCs will continue in operation until June 2018. These programs will be combined into a new system called Ontario Early Years Child and Family Centres (OEYCFCs). Staff are currently working and planning with multiple committees within the community, however at this time specific Ministry funding is not known. In addition, future locations of OEYCFCs are unknown. Staff hope to receive budget information by the end of June. Once funding and further information is received from the Ministry, staff will be able to provide Trustees with an update and follow up with more specific details.

D. Partnership Report

Staff presented the Partnership Report outlining the two goals that were identified this year.

Goal #1 was that all parents, guardians, caregivers and families are welcome, respected and valued as partners in student learning achievement and well-being.

HWDSB is currently not on target to have at least 75 percent of parents indicate that they have an awareness of what their children are learning by August 2017; currently we are at about 55-60 percent.

This was first year for the creation of the Principal Parent Engagement Lead (PEEL) group. The group is looking to have a Principal Toolkit (related to School Councils) available for September 2017. The PEEL group is also looking at improvements to the Hub and the login process to improve accessibility for parents and guardians. Staff are also exploring the use of digital tools to support “safe arrival checks.”

Trustees requested a demonstration of the Hub portal which will take place at an upcoming Trustee Information Session.

Goal #2 is that all new and existing community partnerships will enhance opportunities for students.

HWDSB is on target with this goal. This year, there have been 157 new partnership requests made, 96 of which have been processed to completion. A database is being created with all partnerships with the hope that this will eventually be made available to principals who could search through partnerships we have to access different supports that could benefit their school community.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Danko, Chair of the Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: May 15, 2017

From: Finance and Facilities Committee

Date of Meeting: April 26, 2017

The committee held a meeting from 12:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. on April 26, 2017 at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, Ontario in Room 340D with Trustee Wes Hicks presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Jeff Beattie, Dawn Danko, Wes Hicks (Chair) and Greg Van Geffen. Regrets were received from Trustee Christine Bingham.

MONITORING ITEMS:**A. 2017-18 Budget Development**

Staff provided an update on the enhancements to the Grants for Student Needs that was originally released on April 12. The Ministry has approved Extension Agreements for all of union groups which will allow for additional staff as well as a 1.5% salary benchmark increase for staff. Board staff is in the process of meeting with each union group in an effort to reach consensus on the priorities related to the additional staffing. In addition, there is funding for class size reductions in grades 4-8 (to be phased in over 5 years); an increase in Community Use of Schools funding to offset increased operating costs and Human Resources Transition Supplement to help boards manage the new extension agreements.

B. Secondary Facility Benchmark Strategy

Staff presented the projects that are planned for the 2017-18 school year related to the Secondary Facility Benchmark Strategy. 2017-18 is year 2 of 5 with \$55 million allocated over this period for this strategy.

Respectfully submitted,
Wes Hicks, Chair of the Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: May 15, 2017

From: Finance and Facilities Committee

Date of Meeting: May 3, 2017

The committee held a meeting from 12:05 p.m. to 1:55 p.m. on May 3, 2017 at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, Ontario in Room 340D with Trustee Greg Van Geffen presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Jeff Beattie, Christine Bingham Dawn Danko (electronically) and Greg Van Geffen. Trustee Todd White participated electronically for the first item. Regrets were received from Trustee Wes Hicks.

MONITORING ITEMS:**A. Community Use of Schools Annual Update**

In June 2016, the Board approved a number of motions related to Community Use of Schools including revised rental rates and a revised strategy for the use of the Community Use of Schools subsidy. One of the motions required that a report be brought back to Board in spring 2017, on the usage of the Board's Community Use of Schools and Priority School Grant Revenue, to determine if the overall usage of subsidy has transitioned to be within the total community use revenue received by the Board.

Staff presented a report that included information on the hours of use by the various categories of users and the allocation of subsidy dollars and the value of permits issued in 2016-17 by the different categories of users.

The Board's rental rates continue to allow for groups to access our spaces after hours with families and youth of Hamilton being the largest recipients of the subsidy dollars provided by the Ministry of Education. While the subsidy allocation still exceeds the grants provided through the Community Use of Schools and Priority School Initiatives by \$300,000, the deficit is much less than last year.

Trustees requested that this report be provided by staff on an annual basis.

B. 2017-18 Budget Development

Staff provided an update on the changes to the School Foundation Grant for 2017-18 and the impact on HWDSB. The overall impact of these funding changes to HWDSB will be an increase in funding of approximately \$400,000 which will be phased in over 4 years.

The preliminary 2017-18 budget revenue based on Grants for Student Needs (GSN) was presented and reviewed in comparison to the 2016-17 revised budget revenue.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Van Geffen, Acting Chair of the Committee



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO BOARD

TO: BOARD

FROM: Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education

DATE: May 15, 2017

PREPARED BY: Sharon Stephanian, Superintendent of Education

RE: Faith Community Advisory Committee Membership

Action

Monitoring

Recommended Action:

That the membership for the Faith Community Advisory Committee be approved.

Background:

On November 21, 2016, Trustees approved the following motion - RESOLUTION #16-196: That the Board establish a new Faith Community Advisory Committee.

Composition

Following the approval of the Trustee motion, staff began the process of data gathering to inform recruitment. Information was gathered from representatives of the former IFAC, through face to face and email, related to the work of the previous IFAC and considerations for the new Faith Community Advisory Committee. Staff also reviewed the structure of existing Trustee Advisory Committees (e.g. parent representatives, community representatives, student representatives etc.) for alignment.

Faith/Spiritual Traditions (parent/guardian/caregiver/faith leader) Representation

Staff considered faith representation within the Hamilton-Wentworth community. HWDSB does not have a system to track faith data. As a result, we utilized data from the 2011 National Household Survey. We looked at the faiths of both the overall population and the population of children under age 15. As a secular system we do not give primacy to any one faith so faiths were not weighted based upon population representation. Our goal is to maximize inclusivity and represent the faiths of students in our schools. The greater the diversity, the more informed our work will be.

This resulted in the identification of ten faiths for membership on the Faith Community Advisory Committee. This number allows for us to maximize the diversity of perspectives at the table. Staff believe it is important for us to endeavour to maximize voices heard.

Specifically, one parent/guardian/caregiver/community leader with a strong affiliation to HWDSB schools **and** a strong affiliation to one of the following faiths and/or spiritual traditions (10 people):

Bahá'í	Hindu/Jain
Buddhist	Jewish
Eastern Orthodox	Muslim
Evangelical	Protestant (Mainline)
Indigenous Spirituality	Sikh

Representation was sought across all Families of Schools to support balanced representation.

Community Membership (at large)

Membership also includes representation from the Interfaith Peace Group which allows us to further enhance our inclusionary approach as they are an organization representing multiple faiths with a focus on peace. The Hamilton Interfaith Peace Group is open to all faiths and currently includes members who are: Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Unitarian.

Student Membership

Membership includes two student leaders who can bring the voice of students into the discussions. As an education system, we believe strongly in the voice of our students. We have many students who are strong self-advocates and who can bring the lens of faith and being a student to the table.

Recruitment

Opportunities to apply to become a member of the Faith Community Advisory Committee were accepted from March 6th to March 21st. Thirty-two applications were received. Communication of the opportunity included:

- Communication to all school administrators
- Information posted on HWDSB website and all schools
- Email to former IFAC members
- Email to faith organizations/groups listed with Inform Hamilton (approximately 300 contacts)
- Email to Parent Involvement Committee and Home and School Associations

A letter was sent to the Hamilton Interfaith Peace Group seeking a representative. Two student representatives were identified by Student Senate.

Membership Selection

A committee of staff met to review the applications and selection was made based upon the following criteria:

- Met basic criteria
 - o Parent/guardian/caregiver or community member with a school affiliation
 - o Identified faith/spiritual affiliation
 - o All sections are complete
 - o "yes" answered to four competency areas identified by the Canadian Multifaith Federation (CMF)
- Ward Representation
- Strength of involvement in faith
- Strength of involvement in HWDSB schools
- Strength of explanations to the CMF competencies
 - Knowledgeable about religious accommodation and related rights and responsibilities
 - Knowledgeable about your own faith and/or spiritual tradition and respectful of multifaith identities and communities
 - Competent with interfaith dialogue and multifaith support
 - Knowledgeable about cultural diversity within faith communities

Appendix A: Faith Community Advisory Committee

Faith Affiliation	Parent/Guardian/Caregiver/Community Leader	Term (1 or 2 year incl. expiry date)*
Bahá'í	Hayat Rushdy-Hanna	2 year
Buddhist	Sadhna Jayatunge	2 year
Eastern Orthodox	Father Korz	2 year
Evangelical	Joshua Mutter	2 year
Indigenous Spirituality	John Huculiak	2 year
Hindu/Jain	Mahendra Deonarain	2 year
Jewish	Madeleine Levy	2 year
Muslim	Fatmeh Abdulrazaq	2 year
Protestant (Mainline)	Bob Sim	2 year
Sikh	Sukhdeep Dhillon	2 year
Community Membership at Large**		
Hamilton Interfaith Peace Group	Anne Pearson	2 years
Student Membership***		
Emily Wilson (Agnostic)		1 year
Hanif Karim (Shia Ismaili Muslim)		1 year

*Terms are flexible between a 1 and 2 year commitment based upon the availability of the representative.

** In addition to membership linked to specific faith affiliations, staff believed it was important to include a multi-faith perspective given that secular school boards must not give primacy to any one faith. In addition, “Ontario is Canada’s most diverse province...The changing demographics in Ontario as stated in Ontario’s Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy indicate that 52.3% of newcomers to Canada settle in Ontario.” (Religious Accommodation in Ontario Schools, Canadian Multifaith Federation, 2016). The Community Member at Large position allows for representation that spans the changing demographic of our community in an inclusive and non-exclusionary way. The Community Member at Large organization, must be one open to all faiths with no primacy to any one faith.

*** Student Membership was sought in order to honour the perspectives and voices of students in our schools as those most impacted by Committee advice or recommendations.