

Trustee Elizabeth Wong

Ward 1 Newsletter



Elizabeth Wong

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HWDSB

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consultations in your
school community.

Hi Ward 1,

I am thrilled to be sharing the first Trustee Newsletter with you! It has been a busy time at HWDSB and I am excited to provide updates.

I recently met with the Hamilton Foundation for Student Success (HFSS). We had a great chat about some of the amazing work from the Foundation and how they are supporting students. As a member of the Parent Involvement Committee, I was able to attend my first meeting during this time period. It was lovely getting to meet parents from across our board as well as meeting parents from Ward 1. We received a presentation on specialized graduation programs and a communications update. As a member of the Finance and Facilities Committees, we approved the key parameters and assumption guide to the 2023-2024 Budget Development for Board approval and received a monitoring report on our interim financial status report.

As the Chair of the Human Resources Committee, we received a monitoring report on Violent Incident Reporting Statistics and Employee Support and Wellness Attendance. We will be meeting soon to discuss staffing and bargaining. This past month, I attended OPSBA's Board of Directors meeting. We had a lot of great conversation around supporting students during Black History Month, social media perceptions, and legislative updates. I encourage anyone interested in a more detailed report to look forward to my verbal report at our next Board Meeting. During Black History Month, I attended the John C. Holland Awards where I got to see some of our students being recognized for their excellence and achievement.

I want to share that we will be starting consultations about the future of HWDSB and where our priorities will be focused to better support student achievement and success. I am looking forward to hearing from the community while we develop our new priorities. Details should be coming after March Break. Thank you so much to all the community members that reached out after we sent out our introductory letters. I really enjoyed seeing your feedback and getting to connect with you. My goal for the spring will be to attend school council meetings as well as to visit the schools in Ward 1.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Wong

School Renewal Updates

Kanetskare Elementary – Parking lot repaving project scheduled for summer 2023. The project has just been awarded to the prime consultant, with design commencing at the beginning of March.



March Break in the Ward

[Hamilton Public Library](#)

Various activities

Various dates and locations

Visit <https://www.hpl.ca/> to learn more

[Frogs! A Ribbiting Exhibit](#)

January 20 – April 16

RBG Centre

680 Plains Rd W, Burlington

[Family Fun Day: What's Living Under There?](#)

March 18 from 2 – 4 p.m.

RBG Arboretum

16 Old Guelph Road, Hamilton

[The Art of Science at Dundurn](#) / [March Break at Dundurn](#)

March 13 – 17

Dundurn National Historic Site

610 York Boulevard, Hamilton



Board Highlights

Sharing news about Board of Trustee work and activities is important to keeping you informed!

Emphasis on Human Rights

At HWDSB, we believe that all students need to be safe, supported, and included in schools. Trustees passed a collection of policies that support this direction. Policies approved include the [Human Rights Policy](#), [Anti-Black Racism Policy](#), [Whistleblower Policy](#), and [Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy](#).

School Environments

Indoor and outdoor school environments are important to student learning and well-being. Trustees have approved investments that will support students during severe weather.

- **Snow Clearing:** In response to feedback from families and staff, the Board of Trustees approved the removal of snow from sections of blacktop areas. This change will improve student safety and increase accessibility for students with mobility challenges during snowy or icy conditions.
- **High Heat/Humidity:** Trustees approved the investment in new monitoring units that allow measurement of indoor school conditions when there is extreme heat with high humidity. Schools have plans to reduce activities and provide access to cooler spaces when needed. In extreme circumstances, severe heat and humidity in a school may result in a school closure under the Inclement Weather Policy.

Strategic Directions

Trustees are preparing to set a renewed vision and focus for HWDSB to best serve students and school communities now and in the future. We will be seeking your input on HWDSB's strategic directions in the coming months. We are excited to set new priorities, and look forward to hearing from students, staff, families, and the community this spring. Please watch for further information.