

Trustee Dawn Danko

Ward 7 Newsletter



Dawn Danko

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ENGAGE
HWDSB

Register at engagehwdsb.ca
to learn about projects and
consultations in your
school community.

Hello Ward 7 students, families and staff!

We've had a great start to 2023 and it has been wonderful to hear about the different activities happening at each of my schools.

I'm excited to share the first Ward 7 Trustee Newsletter with you with some key updates from the Board.

As our grade 8 – 12 students made their course selections for next year, I had the opportunity to visit Nora Frances Henderson to see some of the amazing programs we offer students in the skilled trades.

I've also spent time talking to secondary students about what is working well and where we can better support safe and inclusive school environments.

I was very happy to see the Bullying Prevention and Intervention Policy passed by the Board of Trustees. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this important policy!

You may have noticed additional snow clearing for sections of the blacktops at schools. This was an important initiative approved by trustees last year to help ensure students can get outside at break times as much as possible during the winter. We know snow and ice can be a challenge – caretakers, contractors and the city all clear different areas at schools. Please let your school know if you see an area that needs attention.

I look forward to doing more school visits over the coming months to see how our students and staff are doing.

Please reach out anytime if you have questions or comments. Have a safe and happy March break.

Sincerely,

Trustee Dawn Danko

School Renewal Updates



George L Armstrong Elementary – Benchmark renovations will include renovations to the corridor ceiling, washrooms, and various classrooms. Construction will commence in summer 2023, with intention to complete corridor ceilings over summer and remaining renovations by February 2024. The project also includes for repaving of the parking lot planned for summer 2023.

Helen Detwiler Elementary – A window and door replacement project will take place over summer 2023.

Sherwood Secondary – We are excited to see students involved in colour and design choices for the renovations. Further details about timelines will be shared this spring. Visit [Sherwood Transition](#) for the latest.

March Break in the Ward

[A Monumental March Break](#)

March 13 - 17, 12 - 4 p.m.

Battlefield House Museum & Park
77 King St. West, Stoney Creek

[Art Gallery of Hamilton March Break Camp](#)

March 13 - 17, 9 - 4 p.m.

Art Gallery of Hamilton
123 King St W, Hamilton

[Hamilton Bulldogs v. Ottawa 67's](#)

March 12 at 2 p.m.

First Ontario Centre
101 York Blvd, Hamilton

[Hamilton Public Library](#)

Various activities

Various dates and locations

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



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.