

Dear Interested Student Trustee Candidates:

The process for determining the Student Trustees for the 2021 - 2022 Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board is in three parts:

1. Submission of Completed Interest Form by Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021 by 4 pm
2. Student Trustee Election Candidate Q & A session will take place between April 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> 2021 (more details will be shared closer to the date – each session will be recorded and posted to the website)
3. Election of the new Student Trustees will take electronically this year from April 26 – 30<sup>th</sup> - all students in grades 7 - 12 will have an opportunity to vote for their top 2 candidates – each school will submit a final ballot for their top 2 voted candidates as selected by the school population.

A final Board report will be submitted to the Board of Trustees for ratification in May 2021. Incoming Student Trustee-elects will be invited to a swearing in ceremony at a Board meeting in May or June 2021.

The new Student Trustees will be asked to attend the **Ontario Student Trustees' Association Conference in May 2021** along with the outgoing Student Trustees, Ethan Hesler, Fatima Zakar and Skylar Seggie.

For more information, please contact Heather Miller at [hmiller@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:hmiller@hwdsb.on.ca) or 905-527-5092, ext. 2279.

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Interest Forms must be returned as an attachment when emailing. When completing the form, please remember to include the following:

- ✓ Required signatures on the Student Trustee Permission Form
- ✓ A copy of your resume
- ✓ One reference letter
- ✓ Video Consent Form

Please email your completed Student Trustee Application form to the  
Officer of Trustee Services, Heather Miller [hmiller@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:hmiller@hwdsb.on.ca)

Or Mail to:

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board,  
P.O. Box 2558, Hamilton, On L9A 0B9  
Attention: Heather Miller, Officer of Trustee Services

Verification of receipt will be sent via your O365 E-Mail address.

## Student Trustee Interest Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Grade as of September 2021: \_\_\_\_\_

*\*You must be in Grade 11 or 12 as of September 2021 and a full-time student to be eligible for the position of Student Trustee\**

Secondary School: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Candidates will be contacted by email to confirm their attendance at the Student Trustee Election Candidate Q & A session taking place April 6-8<sup>th</sup> 2021.

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### QUESTION

The answer to your question will be included as part of the website for Student Trustee candidates that will be available for all interested voters to review.

*In 200 words or less, tell the student body of HWDSB why they should vote for you as one of the two Student Trustees for 2021 - 2022.*

## Student Trustee Candidate Permission Form

**1. Student Trustee Candidate:**

I understand the responsibilities and requirements of the Student Trustee position and will follow the Board of Trustees' Rules and Regulations. I will also make sure that my parents/legal guardians and the principal of my secondary school are aware of my interest in seeking the Student Trustee position and are aware of my commitment should I be the successful candidate.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Trustee candidate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**2. Parent/Legal Guardian:**

I give approval for my son/daughter to serve as a Student Trustee for the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board from August 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021

\*If under the age of 18, provide written confirmation of Parental Agreement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian\*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**3. School Principal:**

I acknowledge that this student will be a full-time student and may serve as a Student Trustee for the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board from August 1, 2020 to July 31, 2021. and may, from time to time, be required to provide leadership and input outside of the regular classroom.

\_\_\_\_\_  
School Principal

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Please note that Student Trustees attend weekly meetings with the Board of Trustees on Monday nights from September to June. The length of time for these meetings vary, but generally start at 5 pm and end at 10 pm. Student Trustees also plan and attend monthly meetings for Student Senate and those meetings are generally held after school. Additionally, the Student Trustees are often asked to represent the student voice at special community events and provincial student conferences, and to be involved in select Board activities.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child has indicated an interest in running for the Student Trustee Position for the 2021 - 2022 School Year. Student voting will be done electronically.

As part of the process a picture of each of the candidates along with a written statement and a video that shows them each answering a series of questions about the Student Trustee Role and their vision will be posted on the HWDSB website so that students can inform themselves before voting. When students are ready to vote, they will be directed to a secure website which requires their student ID and password to be able to vote.

HWDSB Communications and Community Engagement Department will be organizing the student photos and videos, and possibly contracting with an external company to bring in their video expertise. The photos and videos will remain on HWDSB website until no later than May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2021. The original files will be stored on secure servers and retained for a period of one year after the current year.

### **What will be shared with your consent?**

Along with their picture, we intend to include student names and possibly a statement about their campaign. The videos will capture students' images, their voices and their ideas as they answer questions about the role. After the election, all photos and videos of candidates will be removed except for the newly elected Student Trustees. Their photos will remain on the Trustee page of the board website.

### **Are there any risks?**

Yes. Once the photos and videos are posted on the board website they are open to the public. When posting online, there is always a risk that viewers will capture screen shots or make their own recording of the videos and share them online. When this happens, the materials are outside of the board's control.

### **What if I do not want my child to participate?**

The role of Student Trustee involves a lot of media exposure. For example, YouTube videos of entire board of trustee meetings are posted online each week, and Student Trustees may appear in other YouTube videos on issues they wish to communicate to the student body. They may also be featured on board social media pages. It is a high profile role because Student Trustees represent all of the students in HWDSB and report back to them. If you or your child are uncomfortable with the electronic voting process then the role of Student Trustee is probably not the right role for your child.



**What if I consent now but change my mind later?**

If you change your mind after providing your consent and no longer want your child involved, please let us know. We will remove your child’s image and video from the website. Unfortunately, we cannot locate and remove copies if they were made by others and posted online and outside of the control of HWDSB.

**If you have any questions or concerns please contact:**

Paul Denomme  
Superintendent of Student Achievement  
Hamilton Wentworth District School Board  
khussey@hwdsb.on.ca

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**Student Trustee Campaign and Electronic Voting Consent**

Please indicate your choice below:

Yes, I consent to my child participating in the electronic Student Trustee campaign and to have a photo and video of them posted online that will accessible to the public.

No, I do not consent.

Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian signature: \_\_\_\_\_