

Media Release For Immediate Release

Trustees Name Hamilton Foundation for Student Success HWDSB's Charity of Choice

Hamilton, Ontario – February 8, 2022: At the January 31, 2022 Board Meeting, Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) Trustees passed a motion to name <u>Hamilton Foundation for Student Success</u> (HFSS) as the Board's Charity of Choice.

The approved motion, which was submitted by HWDSB Vice-Chair and HFSS Trustee Representative Becky Buck, means HWDSB will prioritize the Foundation and its mission to support HWDSB students when embarking on charitable endeavours. Hamilton charities, along with organizations on the provincial and national stage, will still be supported at both the system and school levels. HWDSB and HFSS will continue to collaborate with existing and new donors and funders that contribute to the best interest of our communities.

"Trustees have heard countless stories of how Hamilton Foundation for Student Success has been a champion and advocate for our children and youth," said HWDSB Chair Dawn Danko. "The Board is thrilled to make a commitment to the learning, growth, and success of our students through this Charity of Choice designation."

HFSS is the only registered Canadian charity with the sole mandate to support HWDSB students. Established as HWDSB Foundation in 1976, its objective has remained the same throughout changes over the years - engaging the community to support HWDSB students overcome barriers so they can thrive and reach their full potential.

Foundation staff and volunteers strive for this goal by working with donors, funders, school staff, school councils, and other partners in securing funds so HWDSB students have what they need to come to school and stay in school. HFSS-led initiatives, such as its COVID Relief Fund, Student Support Grants, and Student Awards program, are also instrumental in the efforts to support students.

"Without HWDSB, there would be no Foundation. Its students are the motivation for our mission," said Ian Brisbin, Chair of the HFSS Board of Directors. "Hamilton Foundation for Student Success is eager to begin this next chapter of our longstanding relationship with HWDSB and continue working alongside our dedicated supporters to help students achieve amazing things."

One of HFSS' first major undertakings as HWDSB's Charity of Choice will be the <u>Showcase of heARTS</u> on April 7, 2022. Presented by Johnson Insurance, the virtual event displays HWDSB student talent in all shapes and forms while raising funds for Student Support Grants.

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Media Contact:

Shawn McKillop, APR
Manager, Communications and Community Engagement
905.515.6227 | smckillo@hwdsb.on.ca