

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Your child has indicated an interest in running for the Student Trustee Position for the 2023 - 2024 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 March 30, 2023. 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:**

Estella Jones  
Superintendent of Student Achievement, FOS1  
Hamilton Wentworth District School Board  
[tshaver@hwdsb.on.ca](mailto:tshaver@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: \_\_\_\_\_