

AGENDA: 6:00 pm

1. Call to Order
2. O Canada
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
5. Correspondence
 - A. Monique Taylor, MPP re: Sherwood Secondary School
 - B. Bluewater DSB re: Progress update from Ministry of Education on the Truth and Reconciliation Report's Calls to Action Report

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

6. Policy Committee – October 5, 2016
7. Human Resources – October 6, 2016
8. Finance & Facilities – October 12, 2016
9. Program Committee – October 13, 2016
10. Resolution Into Committee of the Whole (Private Session) as per the Education Act, Section 207.2 (b) the disclosure of intimate, personal or financial information in respect of a member of the board or committee
11. Meeting Resumes in Public Session
12. Reports from:
 - A. Standing Committee – October 17, 2016
 - B. Committee of the Whole (private) – October 24, 2016
13. Oral Reports from:
 - A. Student Trustees' Report – Local Activities & Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) Report
 - B. Director's Report
 - C. Chair's Report
14. Adjournment

Meeting times and locations are subject to change. Please refer to our website for the latest information.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/trustees/meetings/>



Monique Taylor
MPP, HAMILTON MOUNTAIN

Hon. Mitzie Hunter
Minister of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

September 30, 2016

Dear Minister Hunter,

Congratulations on your recent appointment as Minister of Education. I look forward to working with you to build an education system that meets the needs of all Ontarians and, in particular, to better serve my constituents on Hamilton Mountain.

I write today on behalf of constituents who are waiting anxiously to hear your decision with regard to a submission for a Capital Priorities Grant by the Hamilton Wentworth District School Board. The submission relates to the rebuilding of Sherwood Secondary School in my riding.

Although Sherwood has had modest repairs, it requires extensive upgrades to meet the standards enjoyed by students at other schools. It has been determined that renovation of the school is not a practical solution due, in part, to the extensive asbestos in the building. For that reason, Hamilton Wentworth District School Board submitted a proposal to your ministry to rebuild the school.

This is the fourth submission the school board has made to your ministry for Sherwood over the past few years. The most recent proposal is that the Ministry provide \$25 million toward the total cost of \$34 million to build a new school on the same property.

This is a practical proposal and I want to impress on you the importance of it to the students in our community. Each delay in improving the conditions for students at Sherwood impacts their learning experience and it is essential that the situation be rectified.

I ask that you approve this project as soon as possible so the school board can move ahead with plans to meet the needs of Sherwood students.

I would appreciate your response at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Monique Taylor".

Monique Taylor, MPP

cc. Todd White, Chair, Hamilton Wentworth District School Board
Kathy Archer, Ward 6 Trustee, Hamilton Wentworth District School Board

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October 4, 2016

The Honourable Mitzie Hunter
Minister of Education
22nd Floor, Mowat Block, 900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON
M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Hunter:

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of Bluewater District School Board, we are sending this letter to bring to your attention the following motion that was passed at our Regular Meeting of the Board on September 20, 2016:

Moved by M. Gaviller, Seconded by J. Thomson

Whereas it has now been a year since our first request to the Ministry to continue to update relevant school curricula to include the true history of the colonization of Canada's Indigenous Peoples, and the legacy of residential schools as per the Truth and Reconciliation Report's Calls to Action;

Whereas many Boards have made similar requests;

Whereas the Ministry has already made some progress in addressing these requests; and

Whereas the "60's Scoop" Hearings have just begun, bringing further attention to the wrongs perpetrated on Indigenous Peoples, be it resolved,

That BWDSB write to Minister of Education, Mitzie Hunter requesting a full report on progress made to address our original request, as well as proposed next steps, and that this written report be available for all Ontario School Boards at the time of the Public Education Symposium in January 2017; and

That this letter when written be sent to Premier Wynne; OPSBA President, Laurie French; First Nations Director, Peter Garrow; local MPPs and all school board chairs in Ontario.

We are encouraged to hear about the positive first steps taken and commitment to future investment in initiatives related to reconciliation by the Province of Ontario. Ensuring that our school curricula adequately and meaningfully reflect the true history of Canada's Indigenous Peoples and colonization is a fundamental starting point in our journey toward reconciliation. In reaffirming our original request, we look forward to hearing more about the important work that is being done at the provincial level to assist school boards in further enhancing programs and teachings that pertain to this subject.

As always, our shared commitment remains focused on providing quality education for every student in a safe and caring environment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron Motz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Ron" and last name "Motz" clearly distinguishable.

Ron Motz
Chair

cc: The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Premier of Ontario
Laurie French, President of OPSBA
Peter Garrow, OPSBA First Nations Director
MPP Bill Walker, Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
MPP Lisa Thompson, Huron-Bruce
All school board chairs in Ontario

/jp

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: October 24, 2016

From: Policy Committee

Date of Meeting: October 5, 2016

The committee held a meeting from 12:09 p.m. to 1:39 p.m. on **October 5, 2016** at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in Meeting Room 340D.

Members present were: Trustees Dawn Danko, Jeff Beattie, Greg Van Geffen (electronically) and Todd White.

MONITORING ITEM:**A. Healthy School & Workplace Pillar**

The Committee considered the Healthy School and Workplace Pillar Policy. This policy, last approved in 2013 is due for its scheduled review. There were minor changes made to the policy, to length and language.

The Committee felt that a review of all of the Pillar Policies (including this pillar) and corresponding associated policies would be helpful to better align with the new Strategic Directions. Staff will undertake this work for consideration at a future committee meeting.

CONSENT ITEM:**B. Healthy School & Workplace Pillar Procedures**

The Committee received changes to procedures associated with the corresponding policies within the Healthy School & Workplace Pillar Policy.

Respectfully submitted,
Dawn Danko, Chair of the Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Meeting Date: October 24, 2016

From: Human Resource Committee

Meeting Date: October 6, 2016

The committee held a meeting October 6, 2016 - from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, Ontario, with Penny Deathe presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Penny Deathe (Chair), Greg Van Geffen and Wes Hicks joined by phone.

INFORMATION:

A. HR Department Update

Executive Superintendent of Board Operations and Treasurer, Stacey Zucker, and Senior Manager of Human Resources, Gytis Grabauskas, presented the committee with an overview of Human Resources Department Changes. A chart was provided outlining the operating structures, supports and responsibilities.

B. Elementary Enrolment Update

Executive Superintendent of Board Operations and Treasurer, Stacey Zucker, provided the committee with an Elementary Enrolment Update. Elementary Enrolment is 1097 FTE higher than projected. This is the result of an influx of Syrian newcomers, increase in the number of FDK students partly due to daycare subsidies for school-aged children being eliminated, and conservative enrolment projections.

C. Elementary Teacher Staffing Update

The Committee was informed that the Board hired 27.5 FTE new elementary teachers for September as a result of retirements. The Board also added 54 permanent staff as a result of September re-organization.

D. Secondary Teacher Staffing Update

Jamie Nunn, Superintendent of Student Achievement, provided the committee with an overview of Secondary Staffing. He informed the committee that 24 of the 37 redundant teachers have been recalled and the remaining 13 have been placed in full semester LTO assignments.

E. Support Staff – Staffing Update

The Committee was presented with an update of current recruitment activity for the supply list. We are trying to ensure coverage at schools for absent staff in areas of Educational Assistants, Early Childhood Educators, and Caretaking staff.

Respectfully Submitted,
Penny Deathe, Chair of the Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: October 24, 2016

From: Finance and Facilities Committee

Date of Meeting: October 12, 2016

The committee held a meeting from 12:02 p.m. to 2:27 p.m. on October 12, 2016 at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, Ontario in Room 340D with Trustee Greg Van Geffen presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Jeff Beattie, Christine Bingham, Dawn Danko, Greg Van Geffen (Chair) and Todd White. Trustee Wes Hicks was also in attendance.

ACTION ITEMS:**A. Beverly Central and Dr. J. Seaton**

In June 2014 HWDSB Trustees approved the closure of Beverly Central and Dr. John Seaton Schools and to build a new school on the Beverly Community Centre site. Transitioning the students together on one site would allow the two communities to merge into one prior to the completed construction of the new elementary school.

On the motion of Todd White the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS** that staff engage in consultation with the Beverly Central and Dr. J. Seaton communities regarding a temporary accommodation proposal which moves students from Beverly Central to Dr. J. Seaton until the new elementary school is constructed.

CARRIED**B. Greensville and Spencer Valley**

In June 2014 HWDSB Trustees approved the closure of Greensville and Spencer Valley Schools and to build a new school on the Greensville site. Transitioning the students together on one site would allow the two communities to merge into one prior to the completed construction of the new elementary school and allow for the demolition of the current Greensville school.

On the motion of Todd White the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS** that staff to engage and inform the Greensville and Spencer Valley communities regarding any temporary accommodation and transition taking place during the construction of the new school on the Greensville site.

CARRIED**C. Correspondence regarding Special Education High Needs Amount**

As a result of Resolution #16-141 where it was moved "That a letter be drafted highlighting specific HWDSB examples paying attention to High Needs Amounts for special education and that this letter be reviewed by the Finance and Facilities Committees.", Board staff updated the Finance and Facilities Committee that a letter was recently sent to the Minister of Education from the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) regarding the Special Education needs of HWDSB.

On the motion of Todd White the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS** to the Board of Trustees that HWDSB write a letter to the Minister of Education to support the letter from SEAC with any additional Special Education issues that have been recently identified by the Board through letters sent to the Ministry from the Chair of the Board.

CARRIED

MONITORING ITEMS:**D. Elementary Enrolment Update**

As part of the 2016-17 Budget process, enrolment was projected using the best information available at that time and was used to determine staffing and calculate GSN revenue. The actual enrolment for September was provided. This enrolment was used for elementary staffing purposes.

Elementary Enrolment is 1,097 FTE higher than projected. This is the result of an influx of Syrian newcomers, increase in the number of FDK students partly due to daycare subsidies for school-aged children being eliminated, and conservative enrolment projections.

E. Secondary School Facility Benchmarks

Staff presented the report on the Secondary School Facility Benchmark design standards and went through each of the components: Science Labs; Playing Fields; Learning Commons and Gymnasium Floors. The standards included in the components are based on available budget and space. The standards are detailed in Appendices to the report that are included in the Committee package.

Respectfully submitted,
Greg Van Geffen, Chair of the Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meetings: October 24, 2016

From: Program Committee

Date of Meeting: October 13, 2016

The committee held a meeting from 5:38 p.m. to 8:07 p.m. on October 13, 2016 at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in Meeting Room 340 with Todd White presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Todd White, Christine Bingham, Greg Van Geffen and Penny Deathe. Regrets were received from Trustees Alex Johnstone and Kathy Archer.

MONITORING ITEMS:

A. Hill Park

Staff presented the proposal of relocating of all or portions of Community and Continuing Education (CCE) programs, System Alternative Education programs, Archives and any other Board programs as appropriate, to the presently vacant Hill Park Secondary School.

- This recommendation was generated by Facilities and Finance:
 - (1) Results of a feasibility study (will return to Finance & Facilities Committee) and**
 - (2) Results of consultation with affected parties (presented to Program Committee)**
- Discussion on the feedback (including positive aspects and potential challenges) received from surveys presented to the staff and students who were involved in System Alternative Education and Community and Continuing Education (CCE) on the proposed location change.
- Potential for revenue from appropriate community partners leasing other available spaces within Hill Park; cost efficient because the Board will not need to lease a multitude of spaces for their programs.
- Hill Park proposal will support all of the new HWDSB priorities:
 - **Positive culture and well-being:** increased enrollment due to better facilities to offer a wider range of program opportunities, accessibility improvements with elevators, ramps, etc.; and more suitable for adult and secondary learners; location close to transportation services; accessible to an area where the majority of newcomers are settling into, whereby adults can attend programs while their children are at school.
 - **Student learning and Achievement:** opportunities for increased programming due to facilities such as a gym, computer lab, music rooms and kitchen; opportunity for String lessons/ performances in auditorium.
 - **School Renewal:** one location “hub”; adult designed building with office, learning spaces; lockers; water fountains/washrooms; kitchen/cafeteria; room for growth; proactive location solution for Section 23 at (closing) Mountain Secondary; potential space for tech programs.
 - **Communications:** Archives as a “museum” will enrich programs and opportunity to strengthen communication by sharing historical knowledge/artifacts and host future class visits from schools/programs.
 - **Community Partnerships:** encourages collaboration to provide more learning opportunities; collaborative learning; additional support/transitions; future daycare space for adult learners’ children.

Program Committee agrees that criteria (1) has been satisfied, and endorses the requirements in criteria (2). The committee is aware that the feasibility study will be presented to the Finance & Facilities Committee and a recommendation will flow from that committee to the Board of Trustees.

On the motion of Trustee Van Geffen, the Program Committee has reviewed the stakeholder consultation and supports the program portion of the Hill Park proposal.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MONITORING ITEMS:**B. Westmount Secondary School Self-directed Self-paced (SDSP) Approach**

Staff presented a report that reviewed the equity of access of the current self-directed self-paced approach to learning at Westmount and the viability of expanding the approach; and that the staff initiate the planned boundary review for the secondary mountain schools; and that staff identify secondary schools across the rest of the system that could accommodate a satellite self-paced option.

- Discussions through presentations on key points of Westmount including learning skill benefits (goal-setting, effective time management, independent learning) and potential challenges:
 - Westmount is *not a program*. It is a *whole school approach* to Self-Directed Self-Paced (SDSP) learning offered at one location.
 - It cannot be partially operated within an existing school (dual track), as it would not provide students with sufficient course offerings.
 - Opening a SDSP approach in another location could potentially force some students to move to another location if they were not interested in that model of learning; or alternatively decrease enrollment in traditional school models for those attracted to SDSP learning.
 - This year the focus was to clearly communicate to the community: WSS is not an exclusive school for the gifted, rather it is a *model of learning and is not a program*. We offer enriched programming at every secondary school in the system and students earn the same credits at WSS as they would in any other secondary school; graduation rates at WSS are aligned with several other schools in the board. It is the SDSP learning approach at WSS which makes it unique.
 - Parent concerns that transportation is not available, however parents are informed at registration that it is their responsibility to provide transportation. WSS is a *system* school that has no boundaries, and therefore providing transportation would be a budget challenge.
 - There are many examples of how we are implementing flexible programming opportunities for students into traditional schools: eLearning, blended learning, personalized flexible timetabling, reach ahead courses, alternative education, supervised self-directed learning in “learning commons” spaces in all schools.
 - Challenge is to effectively balance for Westmount to succeed with SDSP learning for some students, without negatively impacting the enrolment, availability of program choices and resources in other HWDSB schools

Recommendation of the Program Committee’s next meeting is to further discuss:

- (1) Definition of what is equity of access: how are we ensuring alignment with our HWDSB Program Strategy within Westmount Secondary and providing equity of access to flexible programming opportunities in all other secondary schools;
- (2) How do we move forward with the SDSP learning approach at Westmount while balancing the needs of our students at all secondary schools.

Respectfully submitted,
Todd White, Acting Chair of the Committee

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: October 24, 2016

From: Standing Committee

Date of Meeting: October 17, 2016

The committee held a meeting from 8:34 p.m. to 8:58 p.m. on October 17, 2016 at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in Trustee Board Room with Trustee Jeff Beattie presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Jeff Beattie, Christine Bingham, Dawn Danko, Penny Deathe, Ray Mulholland, Wes Hicks, Larry Pattison, Greg Van Geffen, and Todd White. Student Trustees Tory Dockree and Elizabeth Wong. Regrets were received from Trustees Kathy Archer and Alex Johnstone.

1. Approval of Agenda

On the motion of Trustee White, seconded by Trustee Deathe, the Standing Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Tory Dockree and Elizabeth Wong voted in favour

2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

Report from Staff

3. Effective Communication Report

Staff presented the Effective Communication Report. The Effective Communication Report outlines two goals which are aligned with HWDSB's new Strategic Directions:

- Goal #1: Improve internal communication
- Goal #2: Improve public confidence with external stakeholders.

A comprehensive third-party audit of HWDSB's communication program is currently underway. The audit's results will inform a new HWDSB Communication Strategy based on data and best practices. This process will be led by the Corporate Communications department and will be owned by all departments and schools in order to make improvements.

Staff are on target to develop an enhanced internal communications plan as well as an enhanced external communications plan by June 2017.

On the motion of Trustee Deathe, seconded by Trustee White, the Standing Committee **RECOMMENDS** that the Effective Communication Report be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Tory Dockree and Elizabeth Wong voted in favour

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Beattie, Chair of the Committee