

**Virtual Meeting Norms:**

- All callers are to place themselves on mute
- Roll call is in place for attendance and for questions

**AGENDA: 6:00 pm**

1. Call to Order
2. O Canada
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
5. [Confirmation of the Minutes: April 27, 2020](#)
6. [Correspondence: from Hon. Filomena Tassi, Minister of Labour re: Mental Health Week](#)

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

7. [Finance & Facilities – April 30, 2020](#)
8. [Human Resources – May 5, 2020](#)
9. Report from Committee of the Whole (private) – May 11, 2020
10. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:
  - A. City/School Board Liaison Committee
  - B. Hamilton-Wentworth Home & School Association
  - C. Hamilton Foundation for Student Success (HWDSB Foundation)
  - D. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

11. 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/>

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**Trustees:** Kathy Archer, Christine Bingham, Becky Buck, Dawn Danko, Penny Deathe, Cam Galindo, Alex Johnstone, Maria Felix Miller, Carole Paikin Miller, Ray Mulholland and Paul Tut. **Student Trustee** Ahona Mehdi and Cameron Prosic.

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#### 1. Call to Order

Alex Johnstone, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda:

**RESOLUTION #20-39:** Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved: **That the agenda be approved.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Prosic and Mehdi voted in favour

#### 3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

#### 4. Confirmation of the Minutes – April 20, 2020

The minutes of April 20, 2020 were confirmed.

#### Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

##### 5. Finance & Facilities Committee – April 16, 2020

**RESOLUTION #20-40:** Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Archer, moved: **That the Finance & Facilities Committee Report – April 16, 2020 be approved including that the Board approve the 2020-21 Accommodation Strategy Schedule.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Prosic and Mehdi voted in favour

#### Reports from Staff:

##### 6. Board Meeting Schedule – 2020-2021

**RESOLUTION #20-41:** Trustee Mulholland, seconded by Trustee Paikin Miller, moved: **That the Board meeting schedule for September 2020 to June 2021 be approved.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Prosic and Mehdi voted in favour

##### 7. Committee of the Whole (Private) – April 27, 2020

**RESOLUTION #20-42:** Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Tut, moved: **That there was nothing to report at this time.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Prosic and Mehdi voted in favour

#### 8. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

##### A. Student Trustee Report – Local Activities & Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) Report –

The Student Trustees shared that both the Elementary and Secondary Student Senate meetings were held virtually on April 8<sup>th</sup>. There was discussion of concerns regarding the distribution of technology and mental health supports. Links were provided to mental health supports on the HWDSB website. There was further discussion of distance learning.

**OSTA** - There is currently an Ontario wide equity survey being completed. OSTA is going through a Governance review as well.

**B. Director's Report**

- The Director spoke of the phases of response and how challenging this has been since the March crisis and how staff, students and the community responded when they first heard the news. There was a lot of confusion, ambiguity and anxiety and then they moved to some short term solutions.
- When looking at the Strategic Directions one of the big priorities that has been removed from our Board is school renewal. Trustees and Staff have worked hard to create a capital plan and now the physical learning environment is out of our control and this affects the learning environment for both staff and students.
- Another area that has been vastly been affected is equity and the HWDSB partnerships with the City, Public Health, nutrition partners, Hamilton Student Success Foundation, School Mental Health Ontario as well as many more have stepped forward. Thanks was given to the partners who have stepped in to support the mental health challenges as well as the need for food and nutrition. Thanks was given to staff who supported the distribution of food with our partners.
- The Director spoke of what is in our control which is to create a standard virtual learning environment and platform so that it is easier on our families and students. A report will be coming to the Program Committee in September around a standard virtual learning platform.
- Thanks were given to many staff who have stepped up and to trustees during this time of great uncertainty.

**C. Chair's Report**

- We are currently in week 6 of the school closures.
- The Chair shared how Trustees have stepped up to the challenges and are supporting their communities.
- The Chair spoke of the supports that have been available for our students and families.
- There have been a lot of good news stories shared e.g. sharing our PPE, provisioning 7000 devices, equity in our technology, the donations that have been made from our partners as well as from other organizations.
- In times of need Hamilton and HWDSB pull together because the health and safety of the students and staff are foremost. HWDSB continues to work toward ensuring that the student's education needs are met in order to reach their goals.

The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



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Tuesday, May 05, 2020

*Alex + Manny,*

Dear Ms. A. Johnstone and Mr. M. Figueiredo:

I would like to extend my best wishes to you both and all staff of the HWDSB Mental Health Week. This is an initiative very dear to me.

This year in particular, Mental Health Week, is of great importance as a nation we navigate this current pandemic situation. As the federal Minister of Labour, the health and safety of employees is my number one priority.

I have been so touched to see how Canadians have come together during these unprecedented and trying times, especially teachers. Teachers are going above and beyond during this global pandemic to educate their students virtually. I have heard so many heartwarming stories of how teachers are continuing to help their students at a time when many children are afraid and have heightened anxiety.

I wish to express my thanks and gratitude to you both for your excellent leadership during the pandemic. Our community is grateful for it.

I wish you both continued success throughout this challenging time.

Kind regards,

Hon. Filomena Tassi, P.C., MP

Minister of Labour

Member of Parliament Hamilton West-Ancaster-Dundas

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: May 11, 2020

From: Finance and Facilities Committee

Date of Meeting: April 30, 2020

The committee held a virtual meeting from 5:00 p.m. to 5:29 p.m. on April 30, 2020 with Trustee Dawn Danko presiding.

Members participating were: Trustees Becky Buck, Dawn Danko, Cam Galindo, Alex Johnstone and Paul Tut.

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**MONITORING ITEMS:**

**A. 2020-2021 Budget Development**

Staff provided an update on staffing decisions made to date and reported that there is approximately \$500,000 of budget remaining to be allocated based on estimated revenues and expenditures. Areas being considered are:

- Secondary Staffing Contingency
- Health and Safety Training for Occasional Staff
- Bullying Panel Recommendations
- Special Education

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn Danko, Chair of the Committee

**COMMITTEE REPORT (Public)**

Presented to: Board Meeting Date: May 11, 2020

From: Human Resource Committee Meeting Date: May 5, 2020

The committee held a meeting May 5, 2020 from 3:30-3:45 p.m. electronically.

Members present were Trustees Penny Deathe (Chair), Alex Johnstone, and Carole Paikin Miller.

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**INFORMATION:**

**A. Employee Attendance**

Staff provided an update in regards to employee attendance reporting. Staff implemented the Employee Support and Attendance Management Procedure in support of the Attendance Management Policy 4.2 on September 1, 2019. Staff absences have reduced by 0.74 of a day when we compare the number of sick leave absences from September 2018 – March 2019 to the same time period this school year (September 2019 – March 2020). We recognize the impact of the Ministerial Order on this data.

During the current Ministerial Order, staff continue to support staff who are absent from work and are in need of support as outlined within the Employee Support and Attendance Management Procedure. Staff continue to be on track to fully implement the Strategic Wellness and Absence Management Plan.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Penny Deathe, Chair of the Committee