

## **Board Meeting**

Monday, September 13, 2021
Trustee Board Room

Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board 20 Education Court, P.O. Box 2558 Hamilton, ON L8N 3L1

## AGENDA: 5:30 pm

- 1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement
- 2. O Canada
- 3. Meeting Roll Call
- 4. Approval of the Agenda
- 5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

## Reports from Staff:

- 6. Immunization Disclosure and Testing Requirements Update and Discussion (no copy)
- 7. Written Notice of Motion: Trustee Johnstone re: Enhanced COVID-19 Precautions
- 8. 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, an employee or prospective employee of the board or a pupil or his or her parent or guardian

## Meeting Resumes in Public Session

- 9. Report from Committee of the Whole (private) September 13, 2021
- 10. Report from Chair of the Board re: Trustee Sanctions (update no copy)
- 11. 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)
- 12. 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/ Notice of Motion: Enhanced COVID-19 Precautions

Submitted by: Trustee Johnstone Board – September 13, 2021

Whereas public education is the cornerstone and foundation of a healthy, vital and progressive society; and

Whereas, keeping schools open has been deemed a priority for children's learning, mental health and well-being and

Whereas, data shows that being fully vaccinated significantly reduces the risks of the most serious outcomes of COVID-19, including the variants of concern to date and

Whereas, vaccines are readily available throughout Hamilton

Whereas, it is incumbent upon society to protect children under 12 who are ineligible to be vaccinated at this time and vulnerable populations who are at highest risk of developing complications from COVID-19 and

Whereas, Ontario has a precedent for requiring vaccinations to protect children and ensure schools remain as safe as possible;

Be it resolved that:

- HWDSB work collaboratively with Hamilton's local public health unit, local partners and HWDSB employee groups to develop a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination procedure that is grounded in education and supportive incentives;
  - a. Requires all employees, trustees, service providers and volunteers to provide proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 while adhering to legislated privacy standards;
  - Requires any employee, trustee or service provider who is not fully vaccinated to participate in an exemption process, with approvals where there is a legal obligation to accommodate; and
  - For anyone who is not adhering to the procedure requirements by an established deadline, that staff develop appropriate steps including limiting access to the physical environments at HWDSB;
  - d. Requires any employee, trustee or service provider who has an approved formal exemption and is not vaccinated be accommodated and required to complete regular asymptomatic rapid testing and demonstrate a negative test, as per the recommendations by Public Health.
- 2. That HWDSB exercise enhanced precautions for higher risk school activities, including but not limited to, wind instruments, singing, assembles and contact sports in school settings. Enhanced

precautions can include limiting activities to outdoors, asymptomatic rapid-testing for students and/or bell covers or additional masking requirements for musical instruments.

- 3. That HWDSB review and consider reducing or waiving or subsidizing school fees for the 2021/22 school year in partnership with the Hamilton Foundation for Student Success given that many Hamilton families have lost jobs and are facing financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic
- 4. That the Chair write a letter to the local Chief Medical Officers of Health, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health and the Minister of Education affirming that the board supports COVID-19 vaccines be added to the list of compulsory vaccinations under the Immunization of School Pupils Act for all eligible students, as advocated by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association.
- 5. That the Chair write a letter to the local Chief Medical Officers of Health, Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, the Minister of Education and the Minister of Health asking that they apply a "first to open and last to close" approach to school closures to protect public education to the greatest extent possible.