

AGENDA: 6:30 pm

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement
2. O Canada
3. Meeting Roll Call

Delegation

- A. Ian Brisbin, Chair of the Board of Directors for Hamilton Foundation for Student Success re: HWDSB NOM Charity of Choice – 10 mins
- B. Julia Kollek, Hamilton Alliance for Temporary Shelters re: use of Sir John A Macdonald school – 5 mins
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest
6. Confirmation of the Minutes – January 17, 2022
7. Correspondence
 - A. Brad Hussey re: COVID safety protocols in schools

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

8. Finance & Facilities – January 20, 2022

Reports from Legislated Committees:

9. Parent Involvement Committee – December 14, 2021 and January 11, 2022
10. Special Education Advisory Committee – December 8, 2021

Reports from Community Advisory Committees:

11. Rural Schools Advisory Committee – December 9, 2021

Reports from Staff:

12. Shakowennakara:tats - vacancy
13. Secondary Semester Model – Update on Resolution #21-178
14. Medical Masks for HWDSB Students – Update on Resolution #22-08

15. Appointment to Trustee Special Committees: Policy and Program
16. Report from Committee of the Whole (private) – January 31, 2022

17. Written Notices of Motion - Trustee Buck re: HWDSB Charity of Choice

18. 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)

19. Oral Reports from:

- A. Student Trustees' Report – Local Activities & Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) Report
- B. Director's Report
- C. Chair's Report

20. 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/>

Trustees: Kathy Archer, Becky Buck, Dawn Danko, Penny Deathe, Cam Galindo, Alex Johnstone, Maria Felix Miller, Carole Paikin Miller, Ray Mulholland, and Paul Tut. **Student Trustees** Deema Abdel Hafeez and Aisha Mahmoud.

It was noted that a resignation was received from Shakowennakara:tats Tanaya Kagige.

1. Call to Order

Dawn Danko, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

RESOLUTION #22-01: Trustees Tut/Mulholland moved: **That the agenda be approved.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour.

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

None were declared.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes

Minutes from December 6, 2021 and December 13, 2021 were confirmed.

Correspondence:

- A. Alex Rocca re: Apology For Trustee Buck
- B. Daryl Jerome, President - Teachers'/Occasional Teachers' Bargaining Unit, OSSTF 21 re: Trustee Buck
- C. Robert Cooper re: Trustee Buck
- D. Bob Maton re: Trustee Buck

RESOLUTION #22-02: Trustees Archer/Deathe moved: **That the correspondence be received and filed.**

CARRIED

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

5. Finance & Facilities – December 9 and 16, 2021

RESOLUTION #22-03: Trustees Galindo/Tut moved: **That the Finance & Facilities Committee report from December 9, 2021 be received.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour.

RESOLUTION #22-04: Trustees Galindo/Johnstone moved: **That the Finance & Facilities Committee report from December 13, 2021 be received.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour.

6. Human Rights and Equity Committee – December 16, 2021

RESOLUTION #22-05: Trustees Miller/Galindo moved: **That the Human Rights and Equity Committee report from December 16, 2021 be received and that item A3 be referred to the Governance Committee as well as the Wentworth Strategy Group for the Governance Review.**

The motion **CARRIED** on the following division of votes:

In Favour (9): Trustees Archer, Buck, Danko, Deathe, Galindo, Johnstone, Miller, Paikin Miller and Tut.
Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour

Opposed: (1): Trustee Mulholland

Report from Staff:

7. Process to fill Trustee Vacancy, Wards 1 & 2

Staff presented the report noting that all vacancies on the board are required to be filled, under the Education Act, unless the vacancy is within one month of the next Municipal Election [s. 224(a)]. The Board of Trustees will have 90 days to decide how to fill the vacancy whether it be by appointment or by holding a by-election.

RESOLUTION #22-06: Trustees Galindo/Deathe moved: **That Candidates interested in filling the vacancy as Trustee for Wards 1 and 2 submit a letter of interest addressed to trustees that outlines their interest and qualifications to hold the position of trustee.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour.

RESOLUTION #22-07: Trustees Death/Buck moved to: **Invite and interview a short-list of qualified candidates, based on selection criteria at a public special meeting and then vote by ballot for the candidate to fill the vacancy.**

The selection criteria will include:

- **Passion for K-12 Public education**
- **Interest and sights into Ward 1 and 2 community**
- **Commitment to Truth and Reconciliation & Equity, Diversity, Inclusion**
- **Diverse lived experience to represent the changing diverse lived experiences of the Hamilton Community**
- **Experience with Boards of governance in the public or school setting would be an asset.**
- **No interest in running in the fall trustee election to avoid any real or perceived unfair advantage.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour.

8. COVID-19 Update Report #4

Staff presented the report and the presentation can be found here: <https://www.hwdsb.on.ca/wp-content/uploads/meetings/Board-Appendices-1642467158.pdf>

9. Written Notices of Motion

A. Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez/Mahmoud re: Medical Masks for Students

Submitted by Student Trustees Mahmoud & Abdel Hafeez

Sponsored by Trustees Miller/Galindo

Whereas: Provincial reporting shows that schools, and especially elementary schools, account for the bulk of COVID-19 outbreaks in Ontario

Whereas: 37% of Hamilton's students ages 5-11 years are fully vaccinated and 84% of students ages 12-17 years are fully vaccinated meaning that the vast majority of students are only partially vaccinated or not yet eligible to be vaccinated.

Whereas: A tightly fitting mask has been identified by Public Health officials as one of the top lines of protection against COVID-19.

Whereas: Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) has stated for both children and adults that "while non-medical masks can help prevent the spread of COVID-19, medical masks and respirators (such as N95 and KN95 masks) provide better protection."

Whereas: The Ministry provides medical grade level 2 masks to Ontario's education staff free of charge under workplace health and safety requirements and where the Ministry recently recognized the need for enhanced masking in schools and is now provisioning unfitted respirators free of charge to all education staff.

Whereas: The same workplace health and safety protections offered to education staff also need to be extended to students who are required by law to attend school.

Whereas: Masking needs to be considered through an equity lens as affordability and availability of paediatric and adult medical masks and respirators is a significant barrier for many families. Further, many families who cannot afford enhanced masking also do not have the financial privilege of choosing online learning.

Be It Resolved That: The HWDSB write a letter to the Ministry of Education requesting that medical grade level 2 masks and unfitted respirators (such as unfitted N95 and KN95 masks) be fully funded and provided to every student in the province in the same way that unfitted respirators are being fully funded and provided to education staff.

Be It Further Resolved That: Where the Ministry is now providing unfitted respirators (N95) instead of medical masks to education staff, that the HWDSB consider repurposing the remaining supply of medical grade level 2 masks to students using an equity framework.

Be It Further Resolved That: The HWDSB prepare a report on the cost of provisioning every HWDSB student with a medical grade level 2 masks for the remainder of the year and the feasibility of applying COVID-19 related funds including reserves and deficits to pay for masks to ensure that both students and staff are provisioned equally with the PPE needed to safely learn and work.

RESOLUTION #22-08: Trustees Miller/Galindo moved that:

HWDSB write a letter to the Ministry of Education requesting that medical grade level 2 masks and unfitted respirators (such as unfitted N95 and KN95 masks) be fully funded and provided to every student in the province in the same way that unfitted respirators are being fully funded and provided to education staff.

Where the Ministry is now providing unfitted respirators (N95) instead of medical masks to education staff, that the HWDSB consider repurposing the remaining supply of medical grade level 2 masks to students using an equity framework with Ministry approval.

The HWDSB prepare a report on the cost of provisioning every HWDSB student with a medical grade level 2 masks for the remainder of the year and the feasibility of applying COVID-19 related funds including reserves and deficits to pay for masks to ensure that both students and staff are provisioned equally with the PPE needed to safely learn and work.

CARRIED

Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour.

B. Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez/Mahmoud re: HWDSB Public Reporting of COVID-19 Cases

Submitted by Student Trustees Mahmoud & Abdel Hafeez

Sponsored by Trustees Johnstone/Miller

Whereas: On January 6, 2022, Hamilton reported the worst COVID-19 case rate in the province and it stated that the reported local numbers are likely only a fraction of the actual cases counts stating that it estimates that only one in seven to one in ten actual cases are being reported.

Whereas: Provincial reporting shows that schools, and especially elementary schools, account for the bulk of COVID-19 outbreaks in Ontario.

Whereas: 37% of Hamilton's students ages 5-11 years are fully vaccinated and 84% of students ages 12-17 years are fully vaccinated.

Whereas: At the height of the pandemic to date, the Ministry is no longer requiring school boards to report COVID-19 cases, Public Health Units are no longer conducting contacting tracing efforts for schools, and where the province has reduced access to publicly funded PCR testing.

Whereas: The Ministry will be providing school boards with a limited number of take-home PCR-tests, however they will only be available to symptomatic students and staff who arrived at school and who need to leave the school during the day as result of new symptoms. Previously, all students and staff could access publicly funded PCR-tests through participating local pharmacies.

Whereas: These changes have significant implications for managing virus spread, disruptions to student learning and achievement and school staffing and operations.

Whereas: These changes also need to be considered through an equity lens, the affordability for students and staff to be able to privately purchase PCR tests and the privilege of being able to stay home.

Whereas: Students, staff and families rely on COVID-19 reporting to make informed decisions about isolating, notifying close contacts and keeping at-risk family members safe.

Whereas: The Ontario Principal's Council has put out a statement highlighting that principals still have a legal

responsibility under the Education Act to report the existence of any communicable disease and to refuse admission to school of any person infected with a communicable disease.

Whereas: HWDSB Trustees requested over the winter break, through the Director to Hamilton Public Health, that priority be provided to staff and students to receive vaccinations and boosters in order to keep schools safely open as schools account for the majority of COVID-19 outbreaks in Hamilton and Ontario. Further more, local and provincial employee groups and The Ontario Principal's Council have also made this request. Further more, this request was originally denied by Public Health as it was not consistent with Government direction and starting January 7th the Ministry has approved priority vaccination clinics for education workers across the province but has not provided the same urgent and targeted vaccine clinics for students in order to afford a safer school reopening.

Be It Resolved That: The HWDSB publicly report suspected COVID-19 Cases as identified through Rapid Antigen Test and continue to publicly report confirmed cases as identified through PCR tests, in accordance with the democratic values of public accountability and transparency.

Staff noted that they could look at a simplified version of reporting as cases would need to be reported by the parents and staff as the Ministry is no longer sharing the reporting. Staff will take it away for further discussion.

RESOLUTION #22-09: Trustees Johnstone/Miller moved that: **HWDSB publicly report suspected COVID-19 Cases as identified through Rapid Antigen Test and continue to publicly report confirmed cases as identified through PCR tests, in accordance with the democratic values of public accountability and transparency.**

CARRIED

Student Trustees Abdel Hafeez and Mahmoud voted in favour.

The meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

The recording of the Board meeting can be found here:

Part 1: [Board Meeting – Jan. 17 2022 Part 1 – HWDSB.tv](#)

Part 2: [Board Meeting – Jan. 17 2022 Part 2 – HWDSB.tv](#)

January 21, 2022

Hamilton Wentworth District School Board of Trustees,

Yesterday, Niagara's Acting Medical Officer of Health, Dr. M. Mustafa Hirji, took an important stand for objective science and reason, and for the health and safety of children and staff in the region's schools.

In his decision to press ahead with better COVID safety protocols in schools, he laid bare the political, unscientific and egregiously deficient "safety theatre" promoted by the current Ontario government, the Ministry of Education and the Minister of Education. Ontario's Chief Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Kieran Moore, responded to Dr. Hirji's memos about additional air filtration parameters and HEPA filtration requirements with a written tirade of threats, mistruths and unscientific rhetoric.

Ontario's COVID policies for schools are driven by a political agenda from the Ford government, whose priorities are not now and have never been the health and safety of our children and school staff. Witness their announcement yesterday of steps to reopen gyms, restaurants/bars and other indoor gathering spaces in less than 11 days, during the worst wave of the pandemic, and as our health system teeters on the brink of collapse.

Dr. Hirji embodies what it means to truly stand up for what is morally, ethically and scientifically right for our kids and schools, even if certain functions of government are negligent and dismissive of facts – and we must acknowledge that Dr. Moore and other individuals who are deciding and implementing many policies are political appointees. Minister Lecce's claims of safety improvements in all schools is simply wishful thinking and political smoke, as teachers, administrators and students have highlighted time and again on social media and in news media about the realities in schools. Many of these reports come from HWDSB schools lacking rapid tests, well-fitted N95 masks, HEPA filtration and other tools.

I am a parent of two kids in HWDSB schools. They are not attending in-person class until safety becomes something other than lip service and press releases.

I urge HWDSB to listen to impartial, apolitical infectious disease scientists such as Dr. David Fisman and Dr. Colin Furness from the University of Toronto and Dr. Amy Greer of the University of Guelph, who are closely tracking COVID/omicron transmission, and who truly understand the risks and how they may be mitigated in schools. Set your own stringent agenda and criteria for safety. Choose to report cases. Choose to inform students that in many cases they do not need parental consent for vaccination. Choose to work to make vaccination mandatory. Choose to keep schools lacking proper filtration closed until they are upgraded. Choose to advocate for and provide N95 well-fitting masks for kids. Choose to tell Minister Lecce he is not doing enough. Choose not to make teachers into babysitters in unsafe environments merely so that businesses can stay open.

It is within your purview to keep our children safe – I submit to you that history will prove that merely following weak Ministry and public health guidelines is deficient, hopelessly ineffective, and negligent. I implore you not to listen to me, but to science and scientists who know better than politicians.



Brad Hussey, Dundas, ON

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: January 31, 2022

From: Finance and Facilities Committee

Date of Meeting: January 20, 2022

The committee held a virtual meeting from 5:34 p.m. to 7:49 p.m. on January 20, 2022 with Trustee Cam Galindo presiding.

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

ACTION ITEMS:

A. Key Parameters and Assumptions to Guide 2022/2023 Budget Development

Each year key parameters and assumptions are identified and are the basis to begin development of the next year's budget which needs to be approved by June 2022. Key steps and timelines were presented as were the preliminary budget assumptions related to enrolment projections, revenue and expenditures.

On the motion of Alex Johnstone, the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS: That the Key Parameters and Assumptions to Guide 2022/2023 Budget Development be approved.**

CARRIED

B. 2022/2023 Board Budget Priorities for Consultation Purposes

At the December 16, 2021 Finance and Facilities committee meeting, members reviewed the Budget Development Process and agreed to continue with the consultation process on Board Budget Priorities. Staff presented the report and reviewed the suggested priorities. The public consultation would commence on February 1, 2022 and close on March 1, 2022.

On the motion of Dawn Danko, the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS: That the 2022/2023 Board Budget Priorities for Consultation Purposed be approved (in alphabetical order) as:**

- **21st Century Learning and Digital Resources**
- **Improving Student Learning and Achievement**
- **Mental Health and Well-Being**
- **School Revitalization**
- **Special Education**

CARRIED

C. Sir John A. MacDonald (SJAM) Update

The Board has been working with community partners to create a business case for the community hub centered around the replacement school on the SJAM property. In December 2021, the Board learned that it was not successful in receiving funding for the new school. As a result, bases on previous discussions with community partners, the Board will no longer be working with these partners to create a community hub on the SJAM site. Based on the motion from June 5, 2017, the replacement school was tied to the community hub, therefore, trustee direction is required if staff are to continue to request funding for this replacement school.

RESOLUTION #17-105: Trustee Bingham, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: That the following recommendations for the West Hamilton City Pupil Accommodation Review be approved:

- A. That HWDSB seek partnerships to redevelop the Sir John A. Macdonald site as a Community Hub centred around a new JK-8 elementary school.
- B. That a Community Hub proposal be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval no later than December 2017.
- C. That Hess and Strathcona close pending Ministry of Education funding for HWDSB's portion of the Community Hub project.
- D. That all schools remain open failing the creation of a Community Hub on the SJAM site.
- E. That Bennetto introduce a French Immersion program (grade 1-8) in September 2018, commencing with grades 1-3. New French Immersion boundaries identified in map titled Map #1- Revised.
- F. That HWDSB communicate with the City of Hamilton and all preferred agents identified in Ontario Regulation 444/98 in a timely and transparent manner to maximize the reuse of school property for community benefit.

On the motion of Dawn Danko, the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS: That the following be rescinded from the June 5, 2021 Board motion for the West Hamilton PAR:**

- A. That HWDSB seek partnerships to redevelop the Sir John A. Macdonald site as a Community Hub centred around a new JK-8 elementary school.**
- C. That Hess and Strathcona close pending Ministry of Education funding for HWDSB's portion of the Community Hub project.**
- D. That all schools remain open failing the creation of a Community Hub on the SJAM site.**

CARRIED

On the motion of Dawn Danko, the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS: That staff proceed with a business case for a replacement school for Hess St and Strathcona Elementary schools.**

CARRIED

On the motion of Dawn Danko, the Finance and Facilities Committee **RECOMMENDS: That staff explore, with City of Hamilton staff and Hamilton Alliance for Tiny Shelters (HATS) staff, a possible use of the SJAM property for a short-term timeframe as long as the requirements previously outlined by the Board of Trustees are met.**

CARRIED

MONITORING ITEMS:

D. Interim Financial Report – November 30, 2021

The interim financial status report as presented is based on information available and assumptions as of November 30, 2021. Budget to actual trends are reviewed in order to forecast the Board's August 31, 2022 year-end position from a financial, staffing and enrolment perspective. As the report shows, enrolment has increased and staffing has increased. Operating grants have increased as result of some PPF's and there has been a corresponding increase in expenditures, including the extension in COVID-19 funding. As a result, staff is projecting a deficit of \$4.1 million at the end of the year. Trustees approved up to a \$6 million deficit for the

2021-22 budget. As with all forecasts, as new information is received or as assumptions change, the resulting Interim Financial Reports will be updated accordingly.

E. Reciprocal Agreement with City of Hamilton

The Board and City have had a reciprocal agreement to allow each access to facilities at no cost for over 40 years. The current agreement expired in 2009; however, staff continued to operate under this agreement. A renewal of this agreement provides continued access to City facilities by HWDSB students at no direct cost. This new agreement governs the access and use of specific Board and City amenities by each partner for the next five years with three additional renewal options out to 2041.

F. Long-Term Facilities Master Plan Consultation Update

Staff will release a public consultation to obtain the school community perspective on our facilities, with the five main areas for feedback being:

- Main Entrance
- Hallways/Lighting
- Washrooms
- Navigation
- Overall Facility Impression

The survey is intended to be released in February 2022, with survey results to Trustees as part of the LTFMP update in spring 2022.

G. Phase 2 Property Disposition Process

At December 16, 2022 committee meeting, Trustees requested that staff bring back information relating to Phase 2 Property Disposition Procedure. The regulatory regime governing the disposition of surplus real property ranks monetary returns as paramount. The Board must receive fair market value for its surplus properties. Any deviation from this requires the Minister to approve. The Board is regulated and constrained by the Act and does not have discretion to deal with its surplus assets in the same way as other governmental or quasi-governmental entities do. The Board currently implements a focused and legally compliant procurement process for its dispositions of surplus lands to the general public. This process has delegated approval based on independent appraisals and legal advice which has proven to maximize Board revenues for its core mandate.

H. Education Development Charges for Indigenous-Led and City Supported Affordable Rental Housing

On December 6, 2021, a motion was passed by Trustees that *“staff engage the City of Hamilton and bring forward a report to explore and for trustees to consider a waiver of Education Development Charges for Indigenous-Led and City of Hamilton supported affordable rental housing projects on a project-by project basis”*.

To date, the Board has not endorsed a non-statutory exemption to its Education Development Charges (EDC). While there may not be immediate financial impacts to the overall EDC account, enacting a non-statutory exemption could put the Board at risk of future requests and financial burden. Opportunities to explore other options including future dialogue with the Ministry may be appropriate to minimize risk exposure to the Board. Trustees will engage in conversation with FMNI leads and co-chairs to determine next steps and will bring back recommendations to committee.

I. Sherwood Secondary School Update

At the December 9, 2021 committee meeting, staff were asked to bring back a draft of the public engagement proposal to solicit feedback related to the future of Sherwood Secondary. In order for the public to have the information necessary for them to provide feedback, staff are proposing remote public information sessions, followed by an opportunity for the public to submit questions in writing. Staff would follow up with the received

questions with another remote public information session. A public survey would be released, followed by a report to Trustees in March 2022 that will include the results from the survey.

Respectfully submitted,
Cam Galindo, Chair of the Committee



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

TO: Finance and Facilities Committee

FROM: Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education

DATE: January 20, 2022

PREPARED BY: Stacey Zucker, Associate Director, Support Services
Denise Dawson, Senior Manager, Business Services

RE: **Key Parameters and Assumptions to Guide 2022/2023 Budget Development**

Action x Monitoring

Recommended Action:

That the Key Parameters and Assumptions to guide the 2022/2023 Budget Development be approved.

Background:

In order to provide for the development of the 2022/2023 budget the following key steps and timelines have been identified:

- January Key Parameters and Assumptions to Guide Budget Development
- January Consultation on Budget Priorities to Guide the 2022/2023 Budget Development
- March Presentation of Results of Budget Priorities Public Consultation
- April School Based Staffing Recommendations
- Feb-May Executive Council and Finance and Facilities Committee develop/review budget
- May/June Public Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting and budget refinements to reflect new information if necessary
- By June 30 Approval of Budget

Preliminary Budget Assumptions:

Enrolment Projection:

	2021/2022 Revised Budget ADE	2022/2023 Projected Budget ADE	Increase (Decrease) ADE	Increase (Decrease) %
Elementary	36,100.00	36,580.00	480.00	1.3 %
Secondary	13,748.00	13,863.00	115.00	0.8 %
Total	49,848.00	50,443.00	595.00	1.2 %

4-2

The 2022/2023 preliminary enrolment projections are calculated based on historic enrolment trends and student retention rates on a school by school basis, and may be adjusted once the school principals provide validation and comment in early March 2022.

Revenues:

Grants for Student Needs (GSN) will be calculated to reflect a projected 0% change in the total grant base; subject to Ministry confirmation.

Expenditures:

- Salaries, benefits and staffing to reflect provincial legislation, and collective agreements in place.
- To provide for stability in the system and minimize in-year budget adjustments a contingency of \$1,000,000 will be set aside for unforeseen events that may arise.

Allocation Parameters:

- Ensure the allocation of resources supports the HWDSB's strategic and operational plans.
- The Ministry's revenue allocation framework will provide a useful reference for the allocation of Board resources on all major expenditure categories.
- Compliance with balanced budget requirement and Ministry basic enveloping requirements: Special Education, Board Administration and Governance and Accommodation. In addition, care will need to be exercised to ensure that funding associated with specific Ministry initiatives is allocated for the purpose designated.
- Where staff reductions are necessary, statutory positions are to be given priority for inclusion in the budget. Statutory positions to be calculated as the number required for Ministry class size requirements or collective agreement compliance.
- Where enhancements to the budget is possible, funding will be allocated to initiatives included in the Board's Priorities.

Conclusion:

The identification of parameters and assumptions to guide the development of the 2022/2023 budget are used to prepare the Preliminary Budget Scenario which is necessary for many staffing and expenditure decisions to be made in the next few months to prepare for a smooth startup of the 2022/2023 school year. As the budget development exercise continues, and key information including the 2022/2023 GSN funding announcement is provided, these parameters and assumptions will be reviewed and revised for inclusion in the final budget to be approved by June 2022.

Committee Report

Presented to: Board

Meeting date: January 31, 2022

From: Parent Involvement Committee

Meeting date: Dec 14, 2021

The committee held a MS Teams meeting on December 14th from 6:30 pm. to 8:50 p.m. with Chair Amanda Fehrman presiding.

Members present were: Becky Buck, Kiley Boyd, Penny Deathe, Jay Edinton, Laura Farr, Rob Faulkner, Amanda Fehrman, Adriana Harris, Heather Harvey, Daniel Howe, Stacey Johnson, Estella Jones, Amy Leaming-Cote, Amanda Lloyd, Stephanie Lostanaw Lavin, Shawn McKillop, Tyler McNeil, Natalie Rendall, Melanie Roberts, Christine Scheewe, Suzie Spelic, Shelly Stacey, Cindy Stranak, Sasha Walsh, Beth Woof

INFORMATION ITEMS:

A Covid Update

Shawn McKillop, Corporate Communications Manager, presented an update on Covid and the communication being sent to families. Rapid Antigen Test kits (RAT) have been provided by the Ministry and sent home with all the students before the Christmas Break.

B Mental Health

Linda Hall, (Psych Consultant) and Nancy Vella (Social Worker) gave a presentation on the overall Mental Health effects that can be identified in students, parents, staff and teachers. Supports available for everyone are available within HWDSB as well as many outside agencies.

C School Year Calendar

As the calendar for 2022-23 has been approved in draft, Estella Jones (SOSA) presented the draft secondary and elementary calendars to the members. The Public Consultation will be posted online in February 2022.

D PRO Grants

Amanda Lloyd presented an overview of some ideas that can be applied for by the Principal as well as Home and School through the Parent Reaching Out Grants. Applications are due by January 28, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Fehrman, Chair

Committee Report

Presented to: Board

Meeting date: Jan. 31 2022

From: Parent Involvement Committee

Meeting date: Jan 11, 2022

The committee held a MS Teams meeting on January 11th from 6:30 pm. to 8:42 p.m. with Chair Amanda Fehrman presiding.

Members present were: Becky Buck, Theresa Berry, Kiley Boyd, Lianne Broughton, Dawn Danko, Jay Edington, Laura Farr, Amanda Fehrman, Heather Harvey, Daniel Howe, Stacey Johnson, Estella Jones, Heather Lambert-Hillen, Amy Leaming-Cote, Amanda Lloyd, Stephanie Lostonaw Lavin, Shawn McKillop, Tyler McNeil, Wasan Mohamad, Heidi Oglesby, Melanie Roberts, Christine Scheewe, Shelly Stacey, Cindy Stranak

INFORMATION ITEMS:

A K-6 Reading Strategy

Bill Torrens, Superintendent of Program and Sarah Goodman, System Principal gave a presentation and overview of the K-6 Reading Strategy program.

B Empower Program

Lindsay Snell Allison, Principal of Specialized Services, Helen Knezevic and Sonia Zolis, Empower Program Specialists gave a presentation and over of the Empower Program.

C Parent Learning Topic Information Gathering

In preparation for the upcoming Parent presentations, topics of interest were discussed for planning. Parents will be invited to attend several evening information sessions which will be organized to take place over the next few months.

D Covid Update

Shawn McKillop, Corporate Communications Manager spoke of the latest updates on Covid.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Fehrman, Chair

10-1
Committee Report

Presented to: Board

Meeting Date: January 31, 2022

From: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Meeting date: December 8, 2021

The Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 beginning at 5:32 pm ending at 6:37 pm, with Chair Judy Colantino presiding

Present

Alex Johnstone, Trustee Wards 11 & 12, Cecile Santos-Ayrault, Association of Bright Children of Ontario, Jessica Malcew, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children (Alternate), Julie Armstrong, Learning Disabilities Association of Halton-Hamilton, Judy Colantino, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton, SEAC Chair, Lorraine Sayles, Children's Aid Society of Hamilton, Mark Courtepatte, FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group, SEAC Vice-Chair, Michelle Campbell, Autism Ontario (Central West Chapter), Susi Owen, CNIB Hamilton and Niagara, Tracy Sherriff, Community Living Hamilton

Regrets

Lindsay Bray, McMaster Children's Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio, Lita Barrie, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children, Lynn Vanderbrug, Lynwood Charlton Centre, Penny Deathe, Trustee, Ward 15

INFORMATION ITEMS:

A. System Alternative Programs and Education Community Partnership Programs

Marco Barzetti, Principal, System Programs and Lyndsy Baillie, Vice Principal, System Programs presented an overview of various System Alternative Programs and Education Community Partnership Programs:

System Alternative Programs:

- There are 8 secondary system alternative education programs
- The intake/referral process for these programs includes a home school application to a central intake committee
- Placements are determined and offered based on student learner profile and available space
- Additional secondary alternative education programs that do not require an application to the central intake committee are offered to support students who are 18 years or older

Education Community Partnership Programs (ECPs)

- These programs were developed with valuable partnerships with community agencies
- Programming takes place in a variety of community locations
- HWDSB teachers are present in all sites to provide programming
- Youths earn secondary school credits toward graduation
- Agency staff determine placements for all youths in ECPs
- Youths are not registered HWDSB pupils, rather they are pupils of the agency

B. MEMBERS' UPDATE

a) **Trustee Update**

Alex Johnstone, Trustee Wards 11 & 12

- At the Initial Board Meeting, Trustees elected Ward 7 Trustee Dawn Danko as Chair of the Board for a second term, and elected Wards 8 and 14 Trustee Becky Buck as Vice-Chair of the Board
- Christine Bingham, former Trustee of Wards 1 and 2 has resigned. An application process for her replacement will begin
- HWDSB will return to a regular timetable for Semester 2 in February with Public Health support
- 2022-2023 school year calendar will be out for consultation on the school board website
- Trustees passed a motion in spring to have menstrual products available for free in all washrooms, this will be supported by Shoppers Drug Mart

b) **Local Association Representatives**

Julie Armstrong, Learning Disabilities Association of Halton-Hamilton

- Two free programs on transition are available on our website
<https://www.ldahh.ca/programs/transition%20skills/>
<https://www.ldahh.ca/programs/pathways-to-success/>

Mark Courtepatte, FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group

- Collaborating with the Halton Chapter to develop education seminar for 2022

c) Superintendent's Update

Peggy Blair, Superintendent of Specialized Services

- Julie Anderson is working on the early intake meetings, she will share the transition to school process at next meeting
- We welcome Lindsay Snell, as the System Principal, Intervention: Reading and Writing

Respectfully submitted by
Judy Colantino, Chair of SEAC

COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: January 31, 2022

From: Rural Schools Community Advisory Committee Date of Meeting: December 9, 2021

The Rural Schools Advisory Committee held a meeting from 6:30 p.m. – 8:13 p.m. on Thursday, December 9th, 2021 virtually via MS Teams.

Members Present: **Balaclava:** Hannah Wright; **Greensville:** Katherine Hamstra; **Michaëlle Jean:** Paul Hatala; **Millgrove:** Laura Zonta; **Mount Hope:** Amanda Fehrman; **Rockton:** Tanya Brouwer; **Tapleytown:** Cathy Abbott, **Trustee(s):** Penny Death, Paul Tut and Alex Johnstone

Regrets: **Janet Lee:** Lindsay Carlton

MONITORING ITEMS:

A. Election of Committee Chair.

The Rural Schools Community Advisory Committee elected Amanda Fehrman unanimously to be Chair of the Committee.

B. Rural Schools Funding

Felix Gyimah presented the report provided by the Budget Department noting the following:

- 2021-2022: Budget Amount \$ 32,482, 2020-2021: Carried forward amount \$ 42,406
- Total Funding for 2021-202: \$ 74,888
- Current Commitments \$ 136.00, Current Expenses \$ 641.00
- Final Budget Available as of meeting date \$ 74,111.00 (including rounding)

The Board understands the last couple of years have been unusual, but schools are still encouraged to spend their available funds as per Ministry and Board expenditure guidelines. The recommendation from the Budget department is to spend funds as Ministry has the option to take funds back. The Board is required to publicly disclose how the funds are being used. Superintendent Macpherson and Chair Fehrman will work with Budget and Corporate Communications on developing wording for reporting purposes.

C. Rural Schools Designation Review

The Committee was informed by Superintendent Jane Macpherson of the process for review with the following criteria in place:

- Where the school is the last one in the community served by the board;
- There are no other public services in the community (such as a hospital, library, etc.);
- It is remote from other schools of the board and the board has determined it to be an unreasonable distance to travel; and
- Where the board has determined that rural students make up a large portion of the student population of that school.

The committee discussed the fact that many schools in HWDSB communities are changing rapidly. Some schools might no longer meet the Rural Schools Ministry criteria while there might be other schools that now fit the description and are not on the list.

Next Steps:

- Undertake a review of existing schools and possible additional schools using Ministry criteria;
- Review will involve input from Planning, Facilities Management, Health and Safety, Superintendents of Student Achievement;
- Report and recommendation to be brought back to this Rural Schools Advisory Committee by Spring 2022;
- Committee to make a Recommendation for a Board motion to be submitted to the Ministry for consideration of additions/reductions of schools to the Rural Schools and Northern Education Fund, if applicable.

D. Updates – Facilities; Health & Safety; Water; and Transportation

The following staff reports were shared with the committee

Facilities:

- **Balaclava:** Replacement of Roof Top Unit and Installation of new Unit Ventilators. Window and Door replacement project – in design
- **Bellmoore:** Childcare under construction completed. Ministry licensing underway
- **Janet Lee:** Window and Door replacement project – in design
- **Greensville:** Refurbishment of existing play structure upcoming
- **Michaelle Jean:** Replacement of Roof top unit and installation of new unit Ventilators (underway)
- **Millgrove:** Installation of new unit ventilators - complete
- **Mount Hope:** Roof replacement deferred to summer 2022

Water:

Ont. Reg 243 – No lead exceedances for in 2021 for Mount Hope, Bellmoore, Janet Lee, Tapleystown.

Ont. Reg 170 – Greensville continues to have regular monthly samples on drinking water system collected and tested. Balaclava, Michaelle Jean, Rockton, Millgrove and Greensville continue to complete monthly, quarterly and 60-month well water sampling as required under Reg 170.

Transportation:

Bell Time Study Implementation

- 27 routes were reduced; almost completely eliminating the driver shortage at that time.
- HWSTS used this new route schedule during the annual planning process to develop finalized routes for 2021-22 school year

E. Human Rights Policy Presentation

Superintendent Jane Macpherson, on behalf of the Human Rights and Equity Officer, gave the Committee a Power Point presentation about the development of the Board's Human Rights Policy development, safe environments, free of discrimination and harassment. The Committee was also given the opportunity to participate and submit their input in a survey by a January 5th, 2022 deadline.

F. Other Business**COVID Update:**

Superintendent Macpherson provided an update regarding protocols in place in schools to provide a safe learning environment for students and staff. The Board has several committees that work with Public Health in response to changing case rates across Hamilton and the province. The Board has been working closely with Public Health to manage contact tracing of COVID cases in schools and to manage outbreaks in schools. Topics of discussion included athletics, spectators, excursions and vaccination requirements for volunteers and visitors in schools.

Topics of Interest:

Committee members were asked for suggested topics of interest at future meetings.

- Corporate Communications presentation to share best practices for communication with parents/guardians, community and use of standard platforms.
- Social Work presentation on strategies and supports in schools for student Well-Being
- Accessibility in schools.
- Services available to communities and how they can be accessed.

Respectively submitted,
Amanda Fehrman, Rural Schools Community Advisory Committee Chair



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO BOARD

TO: BOARD

FROM: Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education

DATE: January 31, 2022

PREPARED BY: Paul Denomme, Superintendent of Student Achievement
Heather Miller, Officer of Trustee Services

RE: Shakowennakara:tats - vacancy

Action ☒

Monitoring ☐

Recommended Action:

That Jullia Gross confirmed to stand as Shakowennakara:tats with HWDSB for the remainder of the student term of office until July 31 2022.

Background:

The Board recently learned of the resignation of Shakowennakara:tat Kagige for personal reasons. In light of the recent vacancy, CC:ROSE has appointed Jullia Gross, Grade 12 student at Sir Winston Churchill, to fill the role for the remainder of the term.



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO BOARD

TO: **BOARD**

FROM: **Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education**

DATE: **January 31, 2022**

PREPARED BY: **Paul Denomme, Superintendent of Student Achievement – Equity and Student Engagement**
Sharon Stephanian, Superintendent on Special Assignment, Safe Schools Action Plan, and Student Well-Being

RE: **Secondary Semester Model - Update on Resolution #21-178**

Action ☐

Monitoring ☒

Background:

During the Monday, November 29th meeting of the Board, resolution #21-178 was approved. This resolution contained three action areas for staff:

- #1. Communicate with secondary students the most current and up to date information on the second semester model as we get guidance from the ministry and Public Health,
- #2. Support Student Trustees to gather student voice through an accessible platform; and
- #3. Prioritize mental health supports and strategies to support students through the transition.

Update:

- #1. **Communicate with secondary students the most current and up to date information on the second semester model as we get guidance from the ministry and Public Health**

Communication regarding the Secondary Semester Model has been provided to Secondary Students through: HWDSB Covid Updates, social media platforms and through school communication. This communication has been ongoing throughout the months of December and January. On Wednesday January 26, 2022, a specific communication to secondary families was shared. This communication focused on preparations for the upcoming semester.

- #2. **That we support Student Trustees to gather student voice through an accessible platform**

Staff collaborated with Student Trustees to develop an accessible platform to communicate, provide updates to HWDSB students and to gather student voice. Student Trustees now have an HWDSB SharePoint site that allows them to engage and effectively communicate students. Currently, Student Trustees are populating this platform prior to it going live to HWDSB Students.

#3. Prioritize mental health supports and strategies to support students through the transition

Support for Students:

Schools will create transition plans for any student with an Individual Education Plan and any other students who would benefit. Plans may include meetings or visits with parents and students.

Secondary schools are encouraged to revisit the Reimagining Wellness Choice Board Activities as they focus on classroom community, culture and caring within spaces that are safe and centre student voice and identity. In addition, we released a [student and parent/guardian resource](#) document this winter that highlights services and supports available to students and families

Social workers assigned to secondary schools are available to provide individual student support. Additionally, social workers support our students within System Alternative Education and another system responses aimed to improve outcomes, mental health and wellbeing, with a particular emphasis on equity and inclusion. Secondary social workers meet as a collective to discuss and monitor emerging needs in order to ensure responsive support. Support is provided in the following areas:

- Attendance
- Mental health
- Personal stressors
- Family stressors
- Crisis
- Experiences of systemic oppression and discrimination

Personal Stressors include adversity and stressors like unplanned pregnancy, substance misuse, gaming addiction, sleep hygiene etc. Family Stressors include violence/abuse, homelessness or precarious housing, settlement challenges etc. and could also include how the family is coping and managing with student's presentation related to mental health, crisis, personal stress, school avoidance. Social workers additionally might support, validate and advocate on behalf of students who are identify experiences of systemic oppression and discrimination, such as racism, colonialization, homophobia/biphobia/transphobia, classism, and so on.



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO BOARD

TO: BOARD

FROM: Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education

DATE: January 31, 2022

PREPARED BY: Stacey Zucker, Associate Director, Support Services and Treasurer

RE: Medical Masks for HWDSB Students – Update on Resolution #22-08

Action Monitoring X

Background:

On January 17, 2022, the Trustees passed the following motion (Resolution #22-08)

“That the HWDSB prepare a report on the cost of provisioning every HWDSB student with a medical grade level 2 masks for the remainder of the year and the feasibility of applying COVID-19 related funds including reserves and deficits to pay for masks to ensure that both students and staff are provisioned equally with the PPE needed to safely learn and work.”

This report is intended to provide the information requested by Trustees as part of this motion.

Staff Observation:

Procurement

The medical grade masks that are provided to staff are currently provided by the Ministry of Education. Board staff has been in contact with the Ministry to determine if HWDSB would be able to use the supply chains to purchase masks for students. At this time, this is not available. Therefore, the Board would have to provision masks on their own. Staff believes that there would be an adequate supply of medical grade masks and there are pediatric sized masks that are available.

At this time, there is limited availability of non-fitted N95 masks and therefore, provisioning of these masks would not be possible.

Cost

The cost for masks is approximately \$0.50 per mask. The quantity that is provided to staff is 2 per day so for the purposes of this calculation, staff have assumed that students would be provided with 2 per day.

Therefore, the cost to provision masks to students would be approximately \$1 per day per student. For the purposes of the calculation, staff is estimated that approximately 45,000 students attend in person school on a daily basis. The cost to provision masks to students is therefore estimated at \$45,000 per day. There are 95 days left in the current school year. **The cost to provision medical masks to students for the remainder of the year is \$4.3 million.**

Funding Source

There is no funding source for the provision of medical grade masks to students. The Ministry has provided 3-ply

cloth masks for students and therefore, has not provided funding for other masks. The COVID funding that was received for 2021-22 is mainly for staffing and has already been allocated by the Board. Trustees received an update related to this funding at the January 20, 2022 Finance and Facilities Committee meeting. Therefore, if the Board were to spend this \$4.3 million, it would create a budget deficit. During the 2021-22 budget process, Trustees passed a motion to use up to \$6 million of reserves to reduce class sizes in in person elementary classes. This \$4.3 million would be in addition to this \$6 million and would result in overspending of \$10.3 million for 2021-22. This is just under 2% of the Board's operating budget and therefore, is allowable for 2021-22. However, as discussed during the 2021-22 Budget process, it is not advisable to use this much of the Board's reserve.

Logistics of Distribution

Currently, we have staff that work at the Education Centre that receive the entire shipment of masks, allocate them according to school staff numbers and ship out to the schools. This would be a difficult process to manage for an additional 225,000 masks/week. In addition, a process would have to be created to distribute the masks to students on a daily basis. This additional workload at the school level would be difficult to maintain during this time.

Conclusion:

Staff believes that the provision of medical grade masks to students is not possible. The Board does not have the budget nor the resources to support the distribution at the central or school level.

Notice of Motion: HWDSB's Charity of Choice
Submitted by: Vice-Chair Buck

Whereas; HWDSB is a corporation without share capital established under the Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E. and

Whereas; Hamilton Foundation for Student Success is a registered charity and corporation with share capital incorporated by Certificate and Articles of Incorporation under the Business Corporations Act (Ontario) and,

Whereas; Hamilton Foundation for Student Success is the only registered charitable organization with the sole mandate to raise funds in support HWDSB students recognized by the Canada Revenue Agency and,

Whereas; Hamilton Foundation for Student Success and HWDSB operate under a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) dated August 20, 2019.

Be It Resolved that:

HWDSB name Hamilton Foundation for Student Success as its Charity of Choice.