

**AGENDA: 7:15 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
6. Confirmation of the Minutes: April 8, 2024, and April 16, 2024
7. Correspondence
  - A. E. Biro
  - B. A. Chatterton

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

8. Program – March 26, 2024
9. Human Resources – April 3, 2024
10. Audit – April 4, 2024
11. Special Governance – April 15, 2024

Reports from Legislated Committees:

12. Special Education Advisory Committee – March 27, 2024
13. Report from Committee of the Whole (Private) – April 29, 2024
14. Written Notices of Motion re: HWDSB Nutrition Programs
15. Oral Reports from:
  - A. Student Trustees' Report – Local Activities & Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA) Report
  - B. Director's Report
  - C. Chair's Report

16. Adjournment

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**Trustees:** Kathy Archer (electronically), Becky Buck, Sabriena Dahab, Dawn Danko (electronically), Amanda Fehrman, Maria Felix Miller, Graeme Noble, Paul Tut and Todd White. Student Trustees, Thomas Lin and Harry Wang.

**Regrets:** Trustee Ray Mulholland, Elizabeth Wong

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**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**

Maria Felix Miller, Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm and recited the land acknowledgement.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**RESOLUTION #24-44:** Trustees Buck/White moved that the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

**3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest – None**

**4. Confirmation of the Minutes**

**RESOLUTION #24-45:** Trustees Fehrman/Tut moved that the minutes from March 25, 2024 be approved.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

**5. Correspondence**

**RESOLUTION #24-46A:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the correspondence from J. Weresch, S and A. Waller and H. Alexander be received and filed.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

**RESOLUTION #24-46B:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the correspondence from E. Biro be received and filed.

The motion **CARRIES** on the following division:

**In Favour (8):** Trustees Archer, Buck, Danko, Fehrman, Miller, Noble, Tut and White.

**Opposed (1):** Trustee Dahab.

Student Trustees Lin and Wang we opposed.

**Reports from Trustee Special Committees:**

**6. Policy Committee – March 6, 2024**

**RESOLUTION #24-47:** Trustees White/Noble moved that the Policy Committee report from March 6, 2024 be approved including the Equity & Inclusion, Performance Appraisal and Professional Learning policies.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

**7. Finance and Facilities Committee – March 28, 2024**

**RESOLUTION #24-48:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the Finance and Facilities Committee report from March 28, 2024 be approved noting that the preliminary allocation of the full-time equivalent positions for the 2024-25 school-based staffing be:

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Elementary Teachers        | 2,135.00 |
| Secondary Teachers         | 948.16   |
| Early Childhood Educators  | 277.00   |
| Educational Assistants     | 693.50   |
| Principals/Vice Principals | 158.00   |

|                              |        |
|------------------------------|--------|
| School Office Administration | 201.00 |
| School Custodial             | 357.00 |

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

**Reports from Staff:**

**8. Student Trustees and Shakowennakarátats 2024-2025**

Superintendent Jones shared the election results for the 2024-2025 Student Trustees. Results were captured through electronic ballots allowing every student from grades seven through 12 to vote for their top two candidates to represent their voice votes from each school were tallied, and the top two choices from each school were used to determine the 202425 elected student trustees. Indigenous Education Lead Jolene John shared through a governance meeting on March 20th, CC Rose members ranging from grades 7 to 12 reached consensus on raising their student candidate as Shakowennakarátats.

**RESOLUTION #24-49:** Trustees Fehrman/Buck moved that following students be confirmed to stand as Student trustees and Shakowennakarátats with HWDSB for the term of office August 1 2024 to July 31, 2025.

- Oluwafikunayomi (Fikun) Alabi (Student Trustee)
- Daunte Hillen (Shakowennakarátats)
- Victoria Li (Student Trustee)

*\*names above are listed in alphabetical order by last name*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

**9. Update on Dress Guidelines (Resolution #23-165)**

Superintendent Denomme provided an update which included background on Resolution #23-165 which was passed on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 as a notice of motion regarding Anti-Palestinian Racism. Clarification on student dress guidelines was sent to all staff on December 21, 2023. The current guidelines have been updated and the implementation plan is currently in the development stage. The Student Dress Guidelines will be implemented in the Fall of 2024.

At 7:50 pm the board moved to recess in observation of Ramadan.

**RESOLUTION #24-50:** Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the board move into recess until 8:05 pm.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

Trustee Archer did not return to the meeting following the recess.

**RESOLUTION #24-51:** Trustees Fehrman/Buck moved that the update on Dress Guidelines be received.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

**10. Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation System (HWSTS) Update**

Associate Director Gerard shared that we continue to see a reduction in the number of open routes. Drivers in training have increased, which has increased the number in the spare driver pools across all operators. The feedback being received on the First Student GPS technology (First View) is positive and staff are currently looking at an app (Chipmunk) that will work with some of the software currently in use with other carriers. This Wednesday April 10<sup>th</sup> is the Bus Driver Appreciation event to celebrate our valued bus drivers. The consortium and CAA are currently reviewing the Safety Program for bus patrollers that had been used in the past.

**11. Report from Committee of the Whole (Private) – April 8, 2024**

**RESOLUTION #24-52:** Trustees Tut/White moved that the following report from the Committee of Whole held earlier this evening be approved:

- That the tentative Collective Agreement between the OSSTF D21 OCTU local and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the term of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.

- That the tentative Collective Agreement between OSSTF D21 ESL, and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) for the term of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.
- That the Finance & Facilities Committee report from March 24, 2024 be received.
- That a leave of absence be approved for Trustee Mulholland until July 31, 2024.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

## **12. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:**

### **A. Hamilton-Wentworth Council of Home & School Associations**

Trustee Danko shared that the next meeting will be Thursday April 11, 2024 and will provide an update at the next appropriate board meeting.

### **B. Hamilton Foundation for Student Success**

Trustee Fehrman reminded Trustees this Saturday April 13<sup>th</sup> is Prom Project. Currently there are 739 students registered and if Trustees are available to please come by and show their support.

### **C. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA):**

- Trustee Buck shared that the Central West Regional meeting took place Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> at the Woodland Cultural Centre.
  - Several reports were presented with consensus unanimous for most issues, including the lifting of the moratorium to perform accommodation reviews.
  - The Indigenous Trustees' Council is trying to gather Education Service Agreements from across the province. There is a disparity among different Indigenous communities, including pay for staff and professional learning or special education testing.
- National Food Program - April 1, 2024 Chair Miller, Trustee Buck, Associate Director Nunn, Communications Manager Reynolds were joined by several MPs at Chedoke Elementary for the federal government announcement about the \$1 Billion in funding.
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario has committed to providing OPSBA with funding for a scholarship to be awarded to five students (one from each OPSBA Region) where each recipient will be awarded \$1000. A trustee representative is being sought to join a panel of trustees in Central West.
- Take your MPP to School W - May 21 to 24. This is a great opportunity for Trustees to welcome their local MPP into their schools to showcase what is happening in schools and highlight some of the needs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Reference: [Agenda Package](#) and [Recording](#)

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**Trustees:** Kathy Archer (electronically), Becky Buck (electronically), Sabriena Dahab, Dawn Danko, Amanda Fehrman, Maria Felix Miller, Graeme Noble (electronically), Paul Tut and Todd White.

**Regrets:** Trustee Ray Mulholland, Elizabeth Wong

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**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**

Maria Felix Miller, Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm and recited the land acknowledgement.

**2. Declarations of Conflict of Interest – None**

**3. Resolution Into Committee of the Whole (Private)**

**RESOLUTION #24-53:** Trustees Fehrman/White moved that the Board move into Committee of the Whole (Private) 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.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**4. Report from Committee of the Whole (Private) – April 16, 2024**

**RESOLUTION #24-54:** Trustees White/Fehrman moved that the following report from the Committee of Whole held earlier this evening be approved:

- That the Board of Trustees received an internal report about a potential breach of the Trustee Code of Conduct related to several social media posts made by a Trustee.
- The matter has been reviewed internally by the Board of Trustees and the Board of Trustees is not pursuing the matter any further.

**CARRIED**

Trustee Dahab abstained from voting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm.

Reference: [Agenda](#), [Recording 1](#) and [Recording 2](#)

April 15, 2024

HWDSB Board of Trustees,

I am submitting this correspondence to question why the HWDSB is prioritizing particular community voices over others. In the previous HWDSB board meeting (April 8, 2024), the agenda was finalized with two pieces of correspondence received (Items 7A and 7B). This was publicly posted to the HWDSB website by April 7<sup>th</sup> (I personally verified this). However, at the April 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, it was revealed that 2 additional pieces of correspondence were added to the agenda (Items 7C and 7D). I understand that it is highly unusual to add additional pieces of correspondence to the agenda after finalization. For example, when I tried to add correspondence to the Jan 15<sup>th</sup> board meeting (Item 8, Jan 29<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting) on Friday Jan 12<sup>th</sup>, I was told that the Chair of the Board decided that my correspondence should not be included in the Jan 15<sup>th</sup> agenda, postponing its inclusion to Jan 29<sup>th</sup>.

I fully understand that there may be reasons to update the meeting agenda to include late arriving items. For example, Ms. Heather Miller told me that items to be included in the agenda of the Nov 20, 2024 were received until noon on the previous Friday (Nov 17<sup>th</sup>), due to the high volume of correspondence. As well, I can understand a last-minute update of the agenda if late inclusion of correspondence brings to light issues that must be discussed by the board in a timely manner. However, neither of the above were the case for Items 7C or 7D. There was not a deluge of correspondence requiring lengthening the acceptance deadline, nor was the contents of the correspondence of a timely and critical nature. How do we know that the items 7C and 7D were not of immediate concern? It is because there was no discussion of these items at the meeting. Obviously, if the contents did not need to be immediately discussed, their inclusion in the board meeting could certainly have waited until the April 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. So, this leaves the question *Why were the voices in these letters prioritized?*

The late included letters (Items 7C and 7D) had a particular political viewpoint. By prioritizing the voices in these letters in this way (by updating the set agenda to accommodate their inclusion) shows political bias on the part of the board. This is especially galling considering that there was considerable discussion in Item 7C attacking me, personally, and my letter from March 25<sup>th</sup> (Item 7). Why should a letter attacking a member of the community be prioritized? I have not been voted into office to oversee the equal education of the students of Hamilton. My sole priority when I write to the board is to improve the education and equal treatment of my own children. Also, as a sidenote, many of the attacks made on me were based on the discussion within the March 25<sup>th</sup> meeting, and were not actually based in fact, but this is beside the point. The HWDSB is supposed to be an apolitical body that prioritizes the education and safe learning environment of our children. Making special exceptions for particular viewpoints is counter to this philosophy.

There are rules in place to govern the operation community bodies. These rules are necessary in our multicultural society as they act as a check on the inclinations and

individual political biases of those in-charge. When the spirit of these rules is violated, it sends the message that some viewpoints are acceptable and should be publicized and other opinions should only be tolerated. This will not lead to an “accessible, respectful, and inclusive learning and working environments free of discrimination and harassment” as described in the HWDSB Human Rights Policy (A1.1). Again, I think that this shows that HWDSB policy is insufficient to wholly advise trustees on appropriate behaviour. I repeat my plea from my previous letter (April 8<sup>th</sup>, Item 7B), please have the Governance Committee examine whether the definition of Conflict of Interest in the Trustee Code of Conduct should be expanded to include more of what is commonly seen as a conflict of interest.

Respectfully yours

Elliot Biro (Ward 2)

A solid black rectangular redaction box covering the signature area.

**From:** anna chatterton [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 5:11 PM  
**To:** Maria Felix Miller [Trustee] <mfmiller@hwdsb.on.ca>  
**Subject:** Cell phones in schools

Dear Board of Trustees,

It's Anna who lives on [REDACTED]. I'm reaching out to see if there's anything I can do to try to start a movement in our schoolboard to keep phones out of schools. I know they are not allowed during instruction time, but I really, really disagree with phones being allowed during nutrition breaks. The suing of social media from various school boards including TDSB are a good example of why phones should not be allowed at school at all, except once the school day is over. There is countless evidence now that smartphones are hurting our children's mental health. In the same way that overnight summer camps don't allow cell phones, I feel it should be the same at school. It disconnects our children from each other at school. Kids stand around looking at their phones in the schoolyard, or at their desks at lunchtime, doesn't that seem problematic?

Is there some way that I can help move this issue forward for our school board?

Yours,  
Anna

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: April 29, 2024

From: Program Committee

Date of Meeting: March 26, 2024

The committee held a meeting from 6:02 p.m. to 8:08 p.m. on March 26, 2024, at 20 Education Court, Room EC-340D with Trustee Amanda Fehrman presiding.

Members present: Trustees Kathy Archer (electronically), Dawn Danko (electronically), Amanda Fehrman, and Maria Felix Miller (electronically). Regrets: Trustee Elizabeth Wong.

Also in attendance: Trustee Todd White.

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### MONITORING ITEMS:

#### **A. Multi-Year Strategic Plan – Progress Report on Literacy, Numeracy and Future preparedness (Goals 1-3):**

Associate Director Nunn presented the first [Multi Year Strategic Plan \(MYSP\) progress report](#), with a focus on three specific goals within the Boards Improvement Plan (BIP) by working collaboratively and interconnectedly, centering on all five pillars of the MYSP.

1. **Improved literacy achievement for every student:** Staff collaborated across multiple departments and disciplines (Equity, Specialized Services, English Language Learners, Indigenous Education, and Psychological Services) to develop a detailed HWDSB Reading Strategy. The Reading Strategy focuses on three areas: high-quality, evidence-based instruction to support every learner, effective assessment practices to inform reading intervention, and effective reading interventions in response to identified gaps in reading.
2. **Improved math achievement for every student:** Staff have begun working across all schools to implement the three strategies identified within the Board Improvement Plan. This goal and the specific strategies align with the Ministry's focus on improving mathematics achievement provincially and our own Math Achievement Plan
3. **Improved preparedness for the future of every student:** Preparing our students for their future is a critical part of our Board Improvement Plan. Staff have identified four specific strategies to achieve this goal. Professional Development, Resource Allocation, Community Partnerships and Student credit recovery.

The second monitoring report relating to our work, learning and next steps as it relates to our goals of engagement and well being will be shared at the May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Program Committee meeting. In the fall of 2024, the Program Committee we will provide a detailed overview reflecting on all 5 goals or various performance indicators, where there is growth and where there is improvement.

#### **B. Delegation:**

The chair welcomed Ashleigh Swanson, School Council member from Earl Kitchener School to the meeting.

Ms. Swanson shared information relating to Dual Stream Enrolment Parity at Earl Kitchener and brought light to the unique issues that present themselves when enrolment for French-Immersion is allowed to over represent a public school community.

Ms. Swanson requested that the board follow up on two suggestions:

1. Create a school board strategy to meet their own criteria (dual stream schools have 50-60% enrollment in English or French) and how this will be achieved.
2. Provide more comprehensive parent information on why to choose French Immersion over English.

Staff noted for the committee that they will take away the information that was shared to better understand the situation at Earl Kitchener. IT was also noted that staff are currently reviewing the French Immersion Program as a whole, with a report coming forward to the May 7<sup>th</sup>, Program Committee Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,  
Amanda Fehrman, Chair of the Committee

**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: April 29, 2024

From: Human Resources Committee

Date of Meeting: April 3, 2024

The committee held a hybrid meeting from 6:06 pm to 6:40 pm on April 3, 2024, with Trustee Dawn Danko presiding.

Members present: Trustees Danko, White and Wong (electronically). Regrets from: Trustee Sabriena Dahab

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**MONITORING ITEMS****A. Staffing and Operations, Professional Development and Recruitment Update**

Professional Development and Recruitment continue to recruit for Elementary and Secondary Occasional Teachers in all qualifications. As of January 31, 2024, there were 96 occasional elementary teachers removed from the roster due to failure to complete the required number days of teaching. From September 1, 2023, to February 29, 2024, 133 Education Assistants were hired. At the end of February 2024, an additional 10 school-based EA LTO postings were posted until the remainder of the school year. Since the beginning of the 2023-24 school year, the Board has posted 50 temporary and/or permanent OCTU positions and has added over 43 casual CUPE new hires. In addition, there have been over 15 permanent and 2 temporary PASS hires. As of February 29, 2024, the total number of HWDSB employees is 8,865 people (6,202 permanent employees; 2,663 occasional or casual staff). This represents an increase of 193 permanent employees and a reduction of 24 in Occasional staff. Fill rates up to February 29, 2024, are approximate 84% for teachers and approximately 69% for Education Workers, EA fill rates continuing to be a pressure point. For all other positions, fill rates are approximately 85%. In tandem with community partners, including college collaborators, HWDSB continues to provide opportunities for Teacher's College student placements across various program areas.

**B. Employee Attendance Monitoring Report (Sept 2023 – Feb 2024)**

The HWDSB attendance rate is a review of personal illness, medical appointments, and dental appointments pursuant to central sick leave collective agreement provisions. From September 2023 to February 2024 permanent Board employees utilized an average of 9.24 personal illness days. Relative to September 1, 2022, to February 28, 2023, this is decrease of 0.14 days. The Employee Support and Wellness (ESW) Department continues to support staff with return-to-work planning and accommodations and continues to monitor attendance rates. To continue promoting and supporting employee wellness, ESW continues to expand the new Staff Wellness and Absence Management Program implemented on September 1, 2022. The Board also continues to work closely with our Employee and Family Assistance Provider (EFAP), Homewood Health, in promoting available resources and services to support HWDSB staff through a variety of avenues.

**C. Living Wage Correspondence**

The union delegation was not available for the meeting. On the motion of Trustee White, the Committee deferred the item to the next Human Resources agenda and requested staff to reach out to the delegates regarding a future delegation opportunity.

Respectfully submitted,  
Dawn Danko, Chair of the Committee

Reference: [Committee Package](#) and [Recording](#)

10-1  
**COMMITTEE REPORT**

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: April 29, 2024

From: Audit Committee

Date of Meeting: April 4, 2024

The committee held a hybrid meeting from 6:07pm to 6:16pm on April 4, 2024, with Trustee Paul Tut presiding.

Participating Members were Trustees Paul Tut and Todd White.

External Member participating was Angela Zehr.

Regrets were received from Trustee Dawn Danko and External Member Divya Iyengar.

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**MONITORING ITEMS:**

**A. School Board Sector Issues**

Staff provided a verbal update on the release of the Provincial budget. The Ministry of Education has not yet released the Grants for Student Needs technical papers needed to prepare the 2024-2025 budget.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Tut, Chair of the Committee

Reference: [Committee Package](#) and [Recording](#)

## COMMITTEE REPORT

Presented to: Board

Date of Meeting: April 29, 2024

From: Special Governance Committee

Date of Meeting: April 15, 2024

The committee held a meeting from 6:00 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. on April 15, 2024, at 20 Education Court, Hamilton, ON, in person and through MS Teams, with Trustee Todd White presiding.

Members present were: Trustees Amanda Fehrman, Maria Felix Miller (electronically), Paul Tut (electronically) and Todd White.  
Regrets: Trustee Dawn Danko.

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### ACTION ITEM:

#### **A. Committee Composition – Director’s Performance Appraisal (O. Reg. 83/24)**

Committee Chair White noted that the regulation for Director’s Performance Appraisal was released on March 5, 2024, and that the regulation requires that each board shall establish a committee responsible for conducting a performance appraisal of the director of education, and that one of the committee members shall be elected by the majority of the committee to as the Chair of the Committee on or before May 15. Currently the committee mandate for Governance Committee includes this function related to the DPA, however, the regulation provides an opportunity for consideration of other options. The committee discussed the options presented in the report, noting a desire to increase the membership of the committee composition to the legislation maximum of seven members of the Board of Trustees.

On motion by Trustee Amanda Fehrman, the Governance Committee recommends that a DPA Committee (stand-alone, scenario 2) be established and function as a Trustee Special Committee with the following exceptions:

- the Chair of the DPA Committee will be selected by the committee membership at the first meeting of the committee following the Organizational Board Meeting each year.
- the Board recognizes the decision-making authority given to the Committee and/or Committee Chair by O. Reg. 83/24 which supersedes the Board’s regular approval processes.
- that the committee membership be no fewer than 3 and no more than 7 members of the Board of Trustees, where the Chair and Vice Chair are required members.

The motion failed on a tie-consent vote.

In favour (2): Trustees Fehrman and Tut

Opposed (2): Trustees Miller and White

**On motion by Trustee Miller, the Governance Committee recommends that the Governance Committee (Status Quo – Scenario 1) serve as the committee responsible for conducting a performance appraisal of the Director of Education, as prescribed by O. Reg. 83/24 with the following exceptions:**

- **the Chair of the DPA Committee will be selected by the committee membership at the first meeting of the committee following the Organizational Board Meeting each year.**
- **the Board recognizes the decision-making authority given to the Committee and/or Committee Chair by O. Reg. 83/24 which supersedes the Board’s regular approval processes.**
- **that the committee membership be no fewer than 3 and no more than 7 members of the Board of Trustees, where the Chair and Vice Chair are required members.**

**Consent**

Trustee Tut was not in favour.

Respectfully submitted,  
Todd White, Chair of the Committee

Reference: [Committee Package](#) and [Meeting Recording 1](#) & [Recording 2](#)

## Committee Report

Presented to: Board

Meeting Date: Monday, April 29, 2024

From: Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)

Meeting Date: March 27, 2024

The Committee held a meeting on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, via MS Teams and in person in room 308 at the Education Centre, beginning at 5:41 pm ending at 6:47 pm, with Chair Judy Colantino presiding.

### **Present**

Dawn Danko, Trustee Ward 7, Jessica Malcew, VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children, Judy Colantino, Down Syndrome Association of Hamilton, SEAC Chair, Julie Armstrong, Centre for Diverse Learners, Lindsay Bray, McMaster Children's Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio, SEAC Vice Chair, Maria Felix Miller, HWDSB Chair, Trustee Ward 3 (via MS Teams), Mark Courtepatte, FASD Parent & Caregiver Support Group (via MS Teams), Sarah Pennington, Community Living Hamilton (Alternate) (via MS Teams), Susi Owen, CNIB Hamilton and Niagara

### **Regrets**

Lynn Vanderbrug, Lynwood Charlton Centre, Melanie Roberts, The Association for Bright Children of Ontario, Nancy Silva Khan, Autism Ontario (Central West Chapter), Tracy Sherriff, Community Living Hamilton.

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### **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

#### **A. Disproportionality Data**

Paul Denomme, Superintendent of Equity and Well Being and Sally Landon, Manager of Research and Analytics

- An overview of the data was presented, highlighting four areas of disproportionalities: suspension, attendance, achievement, and well-being. [Disproportionality Data Report](#) and [HWDSB Student Census Data](#)

#### **B. MEMBERS' UPDATE**

##### **Maria Felix Miller, HWDSB Chair, Trustee Ward 3**

- Trustees approved the Trustee Governance Manual
- Collective bargaining agreement reached with Designated Early Childhood Educators

##### **Julie Armstrong, Centre for Diverse Learners**

- We are providing an 8 week [Math Support Program](#) for students in grades 1-10.

##### **Lindsay Bray, McMaster Children's Hospital Developmental Pediatrics and Rehabilitation Portfolio, SEAC Vice Chair**

- World Autism Awareness Day [Silent Auction](#) will be held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at Ron Joyce Children's Health Centre.
- Our [Entry to School Program](#) for children with Autism has a lot of registrations.

##### **Julie Anderson and Kimberly Chute, System Principals, Specialized Services on behalf of Superintendent**

- COPE PA Day April 8<sup>th</sup> at The Grand Olympia – details of the various sessions were provided.
- Community Transition Network hosting [Pathways to Transition](#) Event on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Education Centre.
- Plans are underway for Access Athletics.

At the request of SEAC Chair, staff will update the Committee at a future meeting on the status of renovations to new school builds, in particular buildings redesigned for accessibility.

Respectfully submitted by  
Judy Colantino, SEAC Chair

### **Notice of Motion: Report on HWDSB Nutrition Programs**

Submitted by: Student Trustee Lin (supported by Trustee Dahab)

April 29, 2024

**Whereas:** Several organizations support students across our system with access to nutrition programs (such as breakfast, snack, lunch, and weekends) throughout the day in the City of Hamilton;

**Whereas:** We know that having access to a healthy nutritious meal before school directly correlates with better grades;

**Whereas:** Many students, especially in disenfranchised and underrepresented schools, often can not access three meals throughout the day and need support from their schools to ensure that they are fed;

**And whereas:** There are challenges delivering nutrition programs (due to funding or individuals to oversee programming) currently being experienced by some schools across the system.

**Therefore be it resolved that** staff provide a report on the funding and partnerships of nutrition programs in HWDSB (such as breakfast, snack programs, and lunch programs).

**Be it further resolved that** staff provide a report on the history and evolution of any nutrition programs in HWDSB.

**Be it further resolved that** staff provide a report on which HWDSB schools currently have nutrition programs and how they are sustained (ex: volunteer run, parent council run, separate agency run).