

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Monday, November 23, 2015

LOCATION: Trustee Board Room, 20 Education Court, Hamilton, On L9A 0B9 (Education Centre)

Trustees: Kathy Archer, Jeff Beattie, Christine Bingham, Dawn Danko, Penny Deathe, Wes Hicks, Alex Johnstone, Ray Mulholland, Larry Pattison, Greg Van Geffen, Todd White. **Student Trustees** Scott Robertson, Hannah Tobias-Murray (via tele-conference call later in the meeting).

1. Call to Order

Todd White, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. Profiling Excellence

Superintendent Stephanian introduced the following staff, discussing briefly her achievements:

Staff

- A. Susan Honeyman – Local and Provincial Recipient of the Educational Leader of the Year Award – Ontario Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)
- B. Susan Honeyman – Appointed Chair to the ASD Clinical Expert Committee - Ontario Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)

Chair White announced that Trustee Archer's "Giggles the Clown" won the Gold award in the Hamilton Spectator's Reader's Choice Award (Entertainment/Clown category).

3. Approval of the Agenda

RESOLUTION #15-162: Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: **That the agenda be approved.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Student Trustee Robertson voted in favour.

4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

Reports from Trustee Special Committees

Trustee Johnstone assumed the Chair.

5. Policy Committee – October 14, 2015

RESOLUTION #15-163: Trustee White, seconded by Trustee Danko, moved: **That the report of the Policy Committee – November 11, 2015 be approved, including:**

- A. Property Disposition Policy
- B. Pupil Accommodation Review Policy

Amendment:

Trustee Deathe, seconded by Trustee Pattison, moved: That the inclusion of student engagement opportunity in the Advisory Committee (Pupil Accommodation Review, Terms of Reference) be considered.

Trustee Deathe withdrew her amendment when the Director affirmed that the wording of clauses 3.2 and 3.10 (Composition of the Advisory Committee, Pupil Accommodation Review - Terms of Reference) can be changed to accommodate the trustees' views and suggestions.

To the motion,

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Student Trustee Robertson voted in favour.

Trustee White resumed the Chair.

6. Human Resources Committee – November 12, 2015

RESOLUTION #15-164: Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That the report of the Human Resources Committee – November 12, 2015 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Student Trustee Robertson voted in favour.

7. Program Committee – November 12, 2015

RESOLUTION #15-165: Trustee Archer, seconded by Trustee Pattison, moved: **That the report of the Program Committee – November 12, 2015 be approved, including the revised Secondary Program Strategy timelines.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Student Trustee Robertson voted in favour.

RESOLUTION #15-166: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Pattison, moved: **That staff bring back a report to the Program Committee with an overview of program placement and results in terms of enrolment in the current Secondary Program Strategy.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Student Trustee Robertson voted in favour.

8. Resolution Into Committee of the Whole (Private Session)

RESOLUTION #15-167: Trustee Deathe, seconded by Trustee Danko, moved: **That the Board move into Committee of the Whole (Private), this being done at 7:04 p.m.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

The open session resumed at 8:48 p.m.

9. Reports from Standing Committee

A. Standing Committee – November 16, 2015

RESOLUTION #15-168: Trustee Mulholland, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: **That the report of the Standing Committee – November 16, 2015 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
(Trustee Johnstone was not in the room during the vote.)
Student Trustee Robertson voted in favour.

B. Committee of the Whole (Private) – November 23, 2015

RESOLUTION #15-169: Trustee Hicks, seconded by Trustee Danko, moved: **That the report of the Committee of the Whole (Private) – November 23, 2015 be approved, including:**

- That the Human Resources Committee report from November 12, 2015 be approved.
- That the tentative Collective Agreement between the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) Teacher and Occasional Teacher bargaining units and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the term of September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2017 be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.
- That the tentative Collective Agreement between the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 4153, Custodial, Maintenance and Cooks and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the term of September 1, 2014 to August 31, 2017 be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

(Trustee Johnstone was not in the room during the vote.)
Student Trustee Robertson voted in favour.

10. Notice of Motion – Syrian Refugees

Trustee Johnstone returned to the meeting.

Student Trustee Tobias-Murray joined the meeting via tele-conference call.

Trustee Van Geffen read his Notice of Motion.

RESOLUTION #15-170: Trustee Van Geffen, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That the Chair of Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board write a letter to Wesley Urban Ministries, offering to engage in a conversation regarding vacant school properties in our inventory that may be used as emergency shelters to assist in the settlement efforts of those Syrian Refugees who come to Hamilton.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

13. Oral Reports**A. Student Trustees' Report - Local Activities and Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA)**

Student Trustee Tobias-Murray advised that the next OSTA conference will be in Ottawa in February 2015, noting OSTA has been working on many initiatives, including an upcoming Mental Health Conference.

Student Trustee Robertson spoke about the October 28th Student Senate meeting where Student Senators engaged in discussion on many key items, e.g., the Student Council's Constitution and ideas around student engagement.

B. Director's Report

The Director highlighted the following summary of accomplishments since he started as Director on August 1st. He expressed his thanks to all Executive Council members for their support and efforts through the team approach. The Director was appreciative of Executive Council team and the Board of Trustees for providing him time and willing collaboration in assessing his time in this new position.

- Student Achievement
 - Improved graduation rates
 - Math strategies
 - Support for students with special needs
 - Implementation of full-day Kindergarten
 - Critical thinking creativity
- Relationships

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- Working as a team
 - Maintaining local relationships
 - Transforming Learning Everywhere
 - Full implementation and looking at this new way of learning; now moving forward
 - Renewal of Capital Projects – there has been a lot of energy as staff/team is focused on these projects
 - Health and Physical Education Curriculum – there was conversation with the community through question and answer forums
 - Engagement – excitement with the Reimagine HWDSB and development of the draft Strategic Directions document

C. Chair's Report

Highlights of Chair White's report included the following:

- End of November signals the year end for the current Board
- Proud of the work that has been done to date
- Had four different Directors in the past year
- Reimagine initiative will look at what direction HWDSB wants to take in the next five years
- Five strong points stood up in the past year
 - Success with partnerships and different opportunities explored
 - Relationships
 - Facility Structure/Renewal
 - Secondary School Program Strategy (also started development of Elementary School Program Strategy this year)
 - Board communication has improved in many ways
 - Culture and Wellness of our organization

Chair White thanked staff and fellow trustees for their concerted efforts, noting as well the strong leadership of the Chairs for the Trustee Special, Legislated and Advisory Committees.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

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