

Minutes of the Board Meeting

Monday, February 29, 2016

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

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

1. Call to Order

Todd White, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

2. Presentation: Jeff Butters – painting by E. Robert Ross

Jeff Butters, a retired HWDSB teacher and administrator presented an E. Robert Ross painting to the Board. E. Robert Ross is a noted Hamilton artist that has many pieces displayed in Hamilton public buildings. The painting, which J. Butters donated as a gesture of appreciation, will find a home on display at the Education Centre.

3. Profiling Excellence

Superintendent Stephanian introduced the following students and staff, discussing briefly their achievements:

Students

- Westdale Warriors – 2015 OFSAA Northern Bowl Championship

Jack Berkopce Defensive Back	Brodie Bistrovich Quarterback	Michael Camillo Defensive Back	Jason Connelly Defensive Back	Bogdan Craciun Running Back
Kyle Crooks Defensive Back	Chris Csontos Defensive Back	Rhys Cumpstey Defensive Line	Marcus Cunha Defensive Line	Mustafa El-Jnainati Defensive End
Liam Garland Wide Receiver	Mitchell Garland Defensive Back	Travis Gelly Wide Receiver	Samuel Gencher Defensive Back	Elliot Graham Defensive Back
Kyle Greene Wide Receiver	Lawrence Jeon Offensive Line	Spencer Johnson Offensive Line	Nathan Jones Linebacker	Elias Korstanje Linebacker
Tyler Lamb Offensive Line	Noah Lesperance Offensive Line	Max McCarron Defensive End	Spencer McKechnie Defensive Back	Shaheed Najak Linebacker
Stephane Nzapa Running Back	William Pedersen Defensive Line	Matthew Phillips Wide Receiver	Tristan Phipps Defensive Back	Aksum Polk Running Back
Adam Samek Wide Receiver	Rolland Simmons Defensive Back	Dewan Soyer Defensive Line	Daniel Sussman Defensive End	Gordon Swenor Defensive End
Nikolas Towsley Defensive Line				

Staff

- Westdale Warriors – 2015 OFSAA Northern Bowl Championship

Dave Walters Head Coach	Mark Brown Assistant Coach	Trevor Nurmi Assistant Coach	Ben Britton Assistant Coach	Garrison Delguidice Assistant Coach
Kareem Ferreira Assistant Coach	Luke Lillicrop Assistant Coach	Ronnie Lumsden Assistant Coach		

- Bev Kukhta-Jackson - Winner of the 2015 Concours des professionnels créatifs (Creative Professional Contest)

4. Approval of the Agenda

RESOLUTION #16-23: Trustee Van Geffen, seconded by Trustee Beattie, moved: **That the agenda be approved.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

5. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

6. Appointment to Trustee Special Committee

- **Governance Committee (seeking 1 additional committee member)**

The Chair called for nominations for the additional committee member on the Governance Committee.

Trustee Van Geffen expressed his interest for the position.

The Chair called for nominations three times and no other nominations were received.

Trustee Pattison, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That the nominations be closed.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

RESOLUTION #16-24: Trustee Pattison, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That Trustee Van Geffen be appointed member of the Governance Committee.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

Reports from Trustee Special Committees**7. Policy Committee – February 10, 2016**

RESOLUTION #16-25: Trustee Beattie, seconded by Trustee Van Geffen, moved: **That the report of the Policy Committee – February 10, 2016 be approved, including the Use of Board Facilities Scoping Report.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

Trustee Beattie resumed the Chair.

8. Governance Committee – February 16, 2016

Trustee White presented the report, drawing attention to the Mission Statement section where the Governance Committee members did not reach a consensus on the appropriate mission statement.

Trustee Deathe, seconded by Trustee Johnstone, moved: That the Mission statement “HWDSB provide students with diverse learning opportunities and supportive relationships empowering them to be life-long learners” be approved.

The motion was **LOST** on the following division of votes:

- In favour (3) Trustees Deathe, Johnstone and Pattison; Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray.
Opposed (7) Trustees Beattie, Bingham, Danko, Hicks, Mulholland, Van Geffen and White.

Trustee Danko had ended the conference call at this time.

Trustee White, seconded by Trustee Van Geffen, moved: That the Mission statement “We inspire students to learn and grow to their full potential” be approved.

Amendment:

Trustee Deathe, seconded by Trustee White, moved: That the word “inspire” be changed to “empower”.

The amendment was **CARRIED** on the following division of votes:

- In favour (8) Trustees Beattie, Bingham, Deathe, Hicks, Johnstone, Pattison, Van Geffen and White;
Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray.
Opposed (1) Trustee Mulholland.

The amended motion was **LOST** on the following division of votes:

- In favour (4) Trustees Beattie, Hicks, Van Geffen and White.
Opposed (5) Trustees Bingham, Deathe, Johnstone, Mulholland and Pattison; Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray.

The following motions were moved and subsequently withdrawn by the respective movers:

Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Pattison, moved: That the six options relating to the Mission statement be referred back to the Governance Committee.

Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Pattison, moved: That the item on Mission Statement be referred to Governance Committee for consideration of two items: (1) Do we need a mission statement? and (2) What elements should be included in the Mission statement (how and why) and that this be referred to Student Senate for input.

Amendment:

Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: That the item on Mission Statement be referred to the Governance Committee relative to: 1) determining if the Board wants a mission statement; 2) the elements of Mission statement - what, why and how; 3) if options 5 and 6 meet the elements of a Mission statement; 4) determining a Mission statement; and 5) referring to Student Trustees for consultation to their student network and back to Governance Committee with a subsequent report presented to the Board.

RESOLUTION #16-26: Trustee White, seconded by Trustee Pattison, moved: **That the following two Mission statement options be referred to the Governance Committee for further discussion and to provide a recommendation back to the Board of Trustees on one of these options or an alternate as a Mission Statement.**

- i. **HWDSB provides students with diverse learning opportunities and supportive relationships empowering them to be life-long learners.**
- ii. **We empower students to learn and grow to their full potential.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

The Chair advised that the remainder of the report will be considered at the next Board meeting.

Trustee White resumed the Chair.

9. Program Committee – February 18, 2016

RESOLUTION #16-27: Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Pattison, moved: **That the report of the Program Committee – February 18, 2016 be received.**

Trustees received confirmation that the ongoing renovations due to damage at Glendale School's auditorium is on track and will be completed prior to September 2016.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Trustee Hicks and Student Trustee Robertson were not in the room during vote.
Student Trustee Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

Reports from Staff

Trustee Hicks and Student Trustee Robertson were back in the room.

10. 2016-2017 School Year Calendars (Post-Consultation)

RESOLUTION #16-28: Trustee Beattie, seconded by Trustee Van Geffen, moved: **That the 2016-2017 School Year Calendars be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Student Trustees Robertson and Tobias-Murray voted in favour.

12. Oral Reports

A. Student Trustees' Report – Local Activities and Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA)

Student Trustee Robertson reported the following:

- February 24th Student Senate meeting where Director Figueiredo was in attendance. Student Senators welcomed the opportunity to speak with the Director and gain interesting insights from the interaction. Students expressed their gratitude for the Board's continuing high regard for student voice and participation on key issues.
- Student Engagement Consultation, facilitated by Trustee Johnstone and Superintendent Nunn – consideration of this item was deferred to the next Student Senate meeting due to inclement weather.
- Student Trustees are participating at the Together we Create Change conference, organizing it with staff and are currently looking for a team of students to help out.
- Student Trustee Information Session – this was a success, thanks to Trustees and staff for their continuing support and provision of opportunities to students with this annual event.

Student Trustee Tobias-Murray noted the following:

- Student Trustees attended the Board Council conference in Ottawa which provided excellent Professional Development opportunities. A number of prominent guest speakers were in attendance. There will be an opportunity for Student Trustee mentors and Directors to attend an OSTA session at future Annual General Meetings, to provide them a chance to see what OSTA does and its varied initiatives.
- OSTA will be celebrating its anniversary and will grant Student Voice Awards in various fields.
- A province-wide Student Survey is forthcoming in a few weeks

B. Director's Report

Director Figueiredo highlighted the following in his report:

- Syrian Newcomer Update
 - Staff have been working at the system and school level to support the arrival of the Syrian newcomer students.
 - At present 167 students have registered for school (30 of these students are secondary and the remainder are elementary, mainly primary. An additional 66 students are being assessed this week.
 - Families are moving into permanent housing across the city resulting in 27 schools welcoming these newcomers.
 - A number of HWDSB working groups are meeting to provide proactive and responsive support to schools. This includes: Program Workgroup, Student Service Supports Workgroup, Community/Volunteer Support Workgroup and Entry/Assessment Workgroup.
 - Support of community partners in coming together to support HWDSB's work includes Wesley Urban Ministries, SWIS (YMCA and Thrive). HWDSB Foundation has also garnered new support dedicated to our Syrian newcomer population.

- January 29th OPSBA's Public Education Symposium - Gabe Sekaly (Ministry of Education) reviewed the budget workbook with the Executive Team.
- February 5th Peace Tree Celebration: HWDSB's Positive Climate Team led the Director's Coffee Break with the Chinese New Year celebration.
- February 10th Bulldogs Literacy Day – 6,000 students were in attendance at this very exciting and successful event. Bulldogs representatives indicated that both the students and the players have gained role models both ways, particularly in terms of character development.
- The Director attended the February 24th Student Senate meeting and had the opportunity to interact and converse with Student Senators on many key issues.
- United Way – HWDSB staff had various campaign activities/projects both at the schools and Education Centre during February (Pie in the Face with Executive Council members, coffee carts every Friday, Soupfest and Parking Space raffle). The campaign will wrap up on March 1st.
- Professional Development - Staff:
 - Construction and Green Industries – teachers looked at discipline compliance manuals as mandated by the Ministry of Labour.
 - Feedback with the OSSLT lens (participated by teachers who lead literacy and assessment/evaluation focused on OSSLT; Student Success Mentoring EAs looked at best practices and positive school climate; Let's Talk Data – Part 2 – learning on how data (qualitative and quantitative) will help move forward the work teachers do in schools
 - Department Heads and Applied Math teachers from 5 secondary schools worked with Grade 7 teachers from their feeder schools in the Cross Panel portion of the Match Strategy.
 - Commitment to “each student reading by the end of Grade 1” – collaboration, as interdisciplinary support teams, by speech and language pathologists, psycho-educational consultants, early years educators, instructional coaches and program consultants.

The following clarifications were provided in response to a question regarding support for Syrian newcomers into HWDSB schools:

- Many of these students are getting settlement support and assistance through mentors and other caring adults who speak these students' language.
- The SWIS (YMCA) support program is not a new concept; the only difference with assisting the Syrian newcomers is the current high volume of these students needing support. SWIS will be providing additional support staff and resources.
- School boards are required to track expenses for this Syrian refugee initiative, particularly in terms of additional staffing.

C. Chair's Report

Chair White's report included the following:

- The Westdale Schools' Community Event (February 11th Trivia Night) in support of Syrian refugees had a good turnout; thanks to trustees, led by Trustee Bingham, and Board staff for their tremendous support for the Syrian student refugees.
- Directors, Chairs and Vice Chairs had a provincial Round Table meeting in Toronto with very good presentation in terms of roles and expectations.
- Ongoing Accommodation Reviews - all processes have been smoothly and on track. Community information is expected in a couple of months. Thanks to Superintendents Gillies and Reinholdt for their work and support in facilitating these reviews.
- OPSBA's Public Education Symposium – a number of HWDSB trustees and Student Trustee Tobias-Murray were in attendance.
- OPSBA's Regional meeting, Labour Symposium and Annual General Meeting (AGM) are forthcoming. More details will be provided as soon as available.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.