

Board Minutes May 25, 2020

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

Trustees: Kathy Archer, Christine Bingham, Becky Buck, Dawn Danko, Penny Deathe, Cam Galindo, Alex Johnstone, Maria Felix Miller, Carole Paikin Miller, Ray Mulholland and Paul Tut. Student Trustees Ahona Mehdi and Cameron Prosic.

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approval of the Agenda:

RESOLUTION #20-48: Trustee Archer, seconded by Trustee Bingham, moved: **That the agenda be approved.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Mehdi voted in favour Student Trustee Prosic was not present for the vote

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes – May 11, 2020

The minutes of May 11, 2020 were confirmed.

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

5. Finance & Facilities Committee – May 14, 2020

<u>RESOLUTION #20-49:</u> Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Paikin Miller, moved: **That the Finance &**Facilities Committee Report – May 14, 2020 be approved including that a letter be written to the Minister of Education explaining the significant impacts and challenges that school boards face when funding, particularly the Partnerships and Priority funding, are not confirmed in a timely fashion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Mehdi voted in favour Student Trustee Prosic was not present for the vote

Reports from Legislated Committees:

6. Special Education Advisory Committee – April 22, 2020

<u>RESOLUTION #20-50:</u> Trustee Buck, seconded by Trustee Archer, moved: **That the Special Education Advisory Committee Report – April 22, 2020 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Mehdi voted in favour Student Trustee Prosic was not present for the vote

Reports from Staff:

7. Bullying Prevention & Intervention Review Panel – Interim Report

Staff and Dr. Jean Clinton presented the report to the Board and responded to Trustee questions.

RESOLUTION #20-51: Trustee Tut, seconded by Trustee Bingham, moved: That the following motion from December 16, 2019 be reconsidered:

curiosity · creativity · possibility

RESOLUTION #19-165: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved: That the date of May 31, 2020 be changed to September 30, 2020 for the Bullying Prevention & Intervention Review Panel to present their final report in order to allow them the appropriate amount of time to complete a well recorded report.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Prosic and Mehdi voted in favour

<u>RESOLUTION #20-52:</u> Trustee Tut, seconded by Trustee Galindo, moved: That the That the final report from the Bullying Prevention & Intervention Review Panel be submitted to the Director of Education and shared with the Board of Trustees no later than December 16, 2020.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Prosic and Mehdi voted in favour

8. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

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

Student Trustee Mehdi shared that the final meeting of the year will take place on June 10, 2020.

Student Senate has continued to share feedback regarding distance learning and this in turn will be shared with Executive Council. They are working at introducing and engaging the three new incoming Student Trustees with the Student Senate.

OSTA closed the Equity Survey and the results will be shared in the upcoming year. The AGM was held online this year with over 70 Student Trustees participating in the meetings/webinars and professional development. Communications team received a flood of comments regarding the Mindcraft Graduation. It was well received.

B. Director's Report – The Director thanked everyone for all of their support as it has been an intense month. He thanked staff from service departments for stepping up to the challenges. The focus continues to be on staffing and budget in preparation for the fall. The equity work is continuing to support the students with technology, food supplies and working with community partners. There is a focus at the moment on what summer programs will look like and what funding will be available for the summer programs. There were over 4000 parents and caregivers who responded to the "thought exchange" survey. It was made clear by the respondents that more direct teaching and interaction was desired as well as more consistency and structure. Another important feedback was the need for standardizing virtual platforms. Parents also shared concerns about what school will look like when schools re-open. The Director thanked the families, parents and caregivers for their flexibility. On the staff survey it was shown how appreciative the staff/teachers are for the support of the service departments and their leaders for the quick two week turn around to get their virtual classrooms up and running. They also shared that clear expectations are needed especially with the week to week changes that occurred as well as the need for professional development for these new platforms. There were some concerns around video learning as well as the re-opening of schools. Communication will be going out in late June or early July to both families and staff in order that they know that their concerns have been heard and sharing what Phase 2 will look like.

C. Chair's Report

The Board of Trustees have been working with their communities and supporting the families as they share their concerns. They have also been involved in supporting their local communities e.g. Mountain kids clubs, making face masks and monetary donations to the food bank. All 72 Directors/Chairs had a phone conference with Minister Lecce and shared

concerns about public announcements being made ahead of school boards and the need for greater consultation with the Boards. As a result the Minister committed to weekly phone calls with the Director's and Chairs.

Trustees Mulholland left the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

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

RESOLUTION #20-53: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Danko, moved: That the Board move into Committee of the Whole (Private Session), this being done at 8:58 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Prosic and Mehdi voted in favour

The open session resumed at 9:12 p.m. Trustees Mulholland, Paikin Miller and Tut as well as Student Trustees Mehdi and Prosic did not return to the meeting.

10. Committee of the Whole (Private) – May 25, 2020

<u>RESOLUTION #20-54</u>: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That the report of the Committee of the Whole (private) – May 25, 2020 be approved including:**

That the tentative Collective Agreement between the OSSTF Teachers/Occasional Teachers
Bargaining Unit –District 21 and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the term of
September 1, 2019 to August 31, 2022 be approved and amended as per the School Boards
Collective Bargaining Act.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.