
Trustees: Kathy Archer (electronically), Christine Bingham (electronically), Becky Buck (electronically), Dawn Danko, Penny Deathe (electronically), Cam Galindo, Alex Johnstone, Maria Felix Miller, Ray Mulholland and Paul Tut (electronically). Student Trustees Ethan Hesler, Skylar Seggie and Fatima Zakar.

Regrets: Trustee Carole Paikin Miller

1. Call to Order

Alex Johnstone, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

RESOLUTION #20-116: Trustee Bingham, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: **That the agenda be approved.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler, Seggie and Zakar voted in favour

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes – October 19, 2020

The minutes were confirmed.

Reports from Staff:

5. School Re-Opening Update #6

The Director shared the latest changes that will be taking place with the upcoming reorganization. There are an additional 300 students that will be moving to remote learning. Staff gave an overview of the following areas:

- Enhanced Public Health Measures
- Support for Students – Public Health Nurses and Student Mental Health and Well-Being
- Support for Staff – Remote Learning and System Leaders
- Engagement and Communication – Confirmed case management communication
- Elementary Schools - Remote Learning and Transitions
- Secondary Schools
- Students Requiring Special Education Supports and Services
- Transportation - there were originally 22 open routes and this has been reduced to 14 open routes.
- Technology
- Financial Implications – to date \$7.5 million of the allocated \$9 million reserve funds have been used for 78 additional teachers and 14 DECEs above the 2020-21 Revised Budget staffing number. The average in-person class size is 20.6.

Trustee Tut left the meeting at 8:06 p.m.

RESOLUTION #20-117: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That the Board reaffirm its commitment to use up to \$9 million reserve funds with a focus on safety (physical distancing) by ensuring lower class size averages in Kindergarten and grades 4-8 with a focus on addressing equity needs in High Priority Schools across all grades.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler, Seggie and Zakar voted in favour

RESOLUTION #20-118: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Galindo, moved: **That the Board write a letter to the Ministry to:**

- 1) request our share of the \$50M in Federal funding from the Ministry of Education to support student safety as community cases rise in Hamilton.
- 2) request that the Ministry fund the GSN based on our projections instead of the Oct 31st actuals for the first half of the school year.
- 3) request that the Ministry increase funding for sick and replacement costs relating to COVID 19 as we have already seen increased staff absences relating to COVID 19.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler, Seggie and Zakar voted in favour

6. Monitoring Report – Termination of Police Liaison/School Resource Program in Schools

Staff shared an update with Trustees outlining:

- Short Term Actions – Principal and Vice-Principals were surveyed as to their immediate questions related to the termination of the Police Liaison Program. Staff met with representatives of Hamilton Police Services to review areas of communication. Staff also met with Hamilton Police Services to provide clarity around what will and will not continue in schools. Police involvement in schools will be limited to supports necessary for safe and secure schools as outlined in the Police/School Board Protocol. Unless in an emergency situation, police will only be in the school at the invitation of the school at a scheduled date and time for matters related to safe or secure schools.
- Long-Term Actions – A community-based working group, supported by Safe School Ad Hoc Committee, will be established to consider alternative discretionary supports and interventions (internal and within the community).
- School and classrooms – Removing barriers to ensure that school and classroom practices reflect and respond to the diversity of students, staff and the community.
- Positive Culture and Well-Being – Create a positive organization culture and environment where all students and staff feel safe, supported and accepted.

RESOLUTION #20-119: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That the meeting be extended until 10:30 p.m.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler, Seggie and Zakar voted in favour

RESOLUTION #20-120: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Galindo, moved: **That the Monitoring Report – Termination of Police Liaison/School Resource Program in Schools be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler, Seggie and Zakar voted in favour

RESOLUTION #20-121: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That the meeting be extended until 11:00 p.m.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler, Seggie and Zakar voted in favour

7. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

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

- OSTA/AECO held the Fall AGM virtually on October 22-25, 2020. This provided an opportunity to introduce the working groups to the Student Trustees.
- Student Senate will have their first virtual meeting on October 28, 2020 with Kristen Roy supporting the meeting.

B. Director's Report

The Director highlighted the challenges that are in front of the Senior team. The team will be looking at an Annual Plan with goals that are realistic from a strong equity lens and will consider the work load in schools as a result of the pandemic.

C. Chair's Report

The Chair shared that October is Islamic Heritage month. Trustees have spent October being strong advocates for public education.

8. Adjournment and Resolution into Committee of the Whole (Private session)

RESOLUTION #20-122: Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That the Board Adjourn and move into Committee of the Whole (Private session) 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, this being done at 10:32 p.m.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler, Seggie and Zakar voted in favour