
Trustees: Kathy Archer (Electronically), Becky Buck (Electronically), Dawn Danko, Cam Galindo, Alex Johnstone (Electronically), Maria Felix Miller (Electronically) and Carole Paikin Miller (Electronically), Ray Mulholland (Electronically) and Paul Tut (Electronically). **Student Trustees** Ethan Hesler (Electronically) and Fatima Zakar (Electronically).

Regrets were received from Trustees Christine Bingham, Penny Deathe and Student Trustee Skylar Seggie.

1. Call to Order

Dawn Danko, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda:

Trustee Danko requested that the Chair's Update be added to the agenda.

RESOLUTION #21-01: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Paikin Miller, moved: **That the agenda be approved as amended.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None.

4. Confirmation of the Minutes – December 7, 2020 and December 14, 2020

The minutes were confirmed.

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

5. Finance and Facilities Committee – December 17, 2020

RESOLUTION #21-02: Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Tut, moved: **That the Finance and Facilities Committee – December 17, 2020 be approved including: That staff be directed to engage in a public consultation process for the development of the budget priorities to guide the development of the 2021-22 budget.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour

Reports from Legislated Committees:

6. Special Education Advisory Committee – December 8, 2020

RESOLUTION #21-03: Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Archer, moved: **That the Special Education Advisory Committee – December 8, 2020 be approved received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour

Reports from Community Advisory Committees:

7. Human Rights & Equity – December 10, 2020

RESOLUTION #21-04: Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved: **That Human Rights & Equity – December 10, 2020 be received.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour

8. Appointment to the Community Advisory Committee – Human Rights & Equity – seeking 1 additional member.

The Chair called for nominations for the Human Rights & Equity Member. Trustee Johnstone self-nominated.

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

RESOLUTION #21-05: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Buck: **That Trustee Johnstone be the new member on the Human Rights and Equity Committee.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour

9. Committee of the Whole (Private) – January 11, 2021

RESOLUTION #21-06: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Miller, moved: **That the report of the Committee of the Whole (private) – January 11, 2021 be approved:**

- **That the Finance & Facilities Committee report from December 17, 2020 be approved including declaring Mountain View property surplus to the Board’s needs and engaging in Phase 1 of the Property Disposition Process.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour

10. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

A. City/School Board Liaison Committee

There is nothing to report at this time.

B. Hamilton-Wentworth Home & School Association

There is nothing to report at this time.

C. Hamilton Foundation for Student Success (HWDSB Foundation)

- The Foundation will be hosting its Showcase of heARTS event on February 4th. The event will raise funds for HWDSB students while celebrating their artistic achievements. Beginning at 6:30 p.m., guests will enjoy both live and pre-recorded material in an upbeat, fun, and reimagined experience with real time engagements and interactions. Our students’ hard work and perseverance over the last year will be recognized through a showcase of their many abilities. With concerts, recitals, and events put on hold, this is their chance to shine!
- The Foundation is seeking two community at large members for its Board of Directors. The deadline for submission of a nomination application is January 15, 2021. More information and the online application can be found on the Foundation’s website www.hamiltonfoundationforstudentsuccess.com

D. Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA)

- A recap of December’s announcements was covered outlining the shutdown dates.
- Covid-19 reporting for Elementary schools has not been updated due to remote learning.
- 2021-2022 Grants for Student needs were shared.
- Student Trustee elections are extended to April 30, 2021.
- The Public Education Symposium will be held virtually on January 28, 2021.
- The Student Transportation Advisory Group with OPSBA met on January 11, 2021 and are reviewing the funding model.

E. Chair's Update

- The Chair spoke of the significant challenges that we have faced the last couple of weeks.
- On December 17, 2020 the Ministry acknowledged that there may be some changes for January and staff and students were told to take items home.
- On December 21, 2020 it was announced that students would be returning to school remotely.
- A huge thank you to the Communications Team for getting the information out to the communities, IIT, Custodians and staff who packaged and distributed I-Pads to the students.
- Teacher consultants prepared packages for pick-up and delivery for those students who could not participate remotely.
- We shared about 6,000 devices in addition to the 18 or 19 thousand that we already have out there.
- In person support and instruction for our special education students starting on January 4, 2021.
- Received a lot of positive feedback from families.
- January 7, 2021 learned that the remote learning will be extended.
- January 8, 2021 learned about Emergency Child Care eligibility for school aged students.

Chair Danko brought forth a proposal to write a letter to the Ministry, the Ontario and Federal governments and under the suggestion of Trustee Johnstone that the Municipal government be included.

RESOLUTION #21-07: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Johnstone, moved: **That the Board write a letter to the Ministry, the Ontario and Federal governments and the Municipal government advocating for the following:**

1. **Pandemic pay for EA's and teachers who have and are providing in-person instruction to our students with special needs, starting from Jan 4, 2021 until Jan 22nd or until schools return to in-person instruction.**
2. **The educators above (working with our special education students in-person) be prioritized for vaccination as soon as possible (noting this would be a personal choice to receive the vaccine).**
3. **Additional supports for working families who are struggling between earning an income and supporting children at home with remote learning through grant funding like the CERB**
4. **Clear and timely decisions and communication around the model of learning beyond Jan 22nd so that family, staff and Boards can be prepared.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour

11. Adjournment and Resolution into Standing Committee.

RESOLUTION #21-08: Trustee Mulholland, seconded by Trustee Paikin Miller, moved: **That the Board move into Standing Committee**, this being done 6:54 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustees Hesler and Zakar voted in favour