

# Board Minutes June 7, 2021

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

Trustees: Kathy Archer (Electronically), Christine Bingham (Electronically), Becky Buck (Electronically), Dawn Danko (Electronically), Penny Deathe (Electronically), Cam Galindo (Electronically), Alex Johnstone (Electronically), Carole Paikin Miller (Electronically), Maria Felix Miller (Electronically), and Paul Tut (Electronically). Student Trustees Ethan Hesler (Electronically).

Regrets were received from Trustee Ray Mulholland and Student Trustees Skylar Seggie and Fatima Zakar.

#### 1. Call to Order

approved.

Dawn Danko, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

#### 2. Approval of the Agenda:

Trustee Danko requested that the agenda be amended to include a Covid-19 update. **RESOLUTION #21-110:** Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Galindo, moved: **That the amended agenda be** 

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

Student Trustee Hesler voted in favour

#### 3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

None were received.

#### **Reports from Trustee Special Committees:**

4. Policy Committee – May 26, 2021

<u>RESOLUTION #21-111:</u> Trustee Miller, seconded by Trustee Buck, moved: That the Policy Committee Report – May 26, 2021 be approved including the approval of:

- Occupational Health and Safety Policy
- Workplace Violence and Harassment Prevention Policy
- Human Rights Scoping Report
- Anti-Black Racism Scoping Report

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

Student Trustee Hesler voted in favour

5. Audit Committee - May 27, 2021

<u>RESOLUTION #21-112:</u> Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Bingham, moved: **That the Audit Committee** Report – May 27, 2021 be received.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

Student Trustee Hesler voted in favour

# **Reports from Legislative Committees:**

6. Special Education Advisory Committee – May 26, 2021

<u>RESOLUTION #21-113:</u> Trustee Johnstone, seconded by Trustee Deathe, moved: That the Special Education Advisory Committee Report – May 26, 2021 be received.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

Student Trustee Hesler voted in favour

# curiosity · creativity · possibility

7. Committee of the Whole (Private) – June 7, 2021

<u>RESOLUTION #21-114</u>: Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Tut, moved: That the report of the Committee of the Whole (private) – June 7, 2021 be approved including:

- That the Audit Committee report from May 27, 2021 be approved including the 2021-22 Regional Internal Audit Plan.
- That the terms and conditions for Executive Council be approved for a three-year term (September 2021 to August 2024)
- And that a letter be submitted to the Minister of Education, as per amendment 7.1 of the Broader Public Sector Executive Compensation Act, requesting an exemption for HWDSB to unfreeze the current executive pay grid, with no additional grid increases, in order to avoid a risk of an Ontario Human Rights Code Violation as HWDSB continues to implement their Equity Action Plan, specifically the Employment Equity Action Plan.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

Student Trustee Hesler voted in favour

**8.** Notice of Motion Re: Renaming Ryerson Elementary School and Initiating a review of all HWDSB schools named after individuals

Submitted by: Trustee Cam Galindo

**Whereas**: Ryerson Elementary School is named after Egerton Ryerson, architect of the residential school system in Canada.

**Whereas**: The bodies of 215 children were discovered at a Kamloops Indian Residential School, confirming what many Indigenous people already knew.

Whereas: The policy that ripped Indigenous children from their families and placed them in residential schools amounted to "cultural genocide" as described by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in 2015.

**Whereas:** We are still on a path to truth and reconciliation and must continue our work on Indigenous Education so that all Indigenous students and staff feel that they belong, and their identities are valued, recognized, and affirmed in our schools.

Whereas: The naming of a school should reflect HWDSB's mission, vision, values, commitments, and community composition; provide inspiration to students; have community acceptance; be appropriate for the whole district; have local community, district, provincial, Canadian, or international significance; and, where appropriate and possible, address underrepresented groups (as outlined in the Naming of Schools Procedure Policy 2.3).

**Be it Resolved:** In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, that an Indigenous process that is both locally relevant and responsive be struck to rename Ryerson Elementary school, through ethical engagement and in consultation with local Indigenous communities and key beneficiaries and stakeholders.

**Further, be it Resolved**: That staff initiate a review of all HWDSB schools named after individuals, in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, to ensure they reflect our board's mission, vision, values and the application of human rights, decolonization, anti-racism and anti-oppression principles.

<u>RESOLUTION #21-115:</u> Trustee Galindo, seconded by Trustee Bingham, moved: That In the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, that an Indigenous process that is both locally relevant and responsive be struck to

rename Ryerson Elementary school, through ethical engagement and in consultation with local Indigenous communities and key beneficiaries and stakeholders.

That staff initiate a review of all HWDSB schools named after individuals, in the spirit of Truth and Reconciliation, to ensure they reflect our board's mission, vision, values and the application of human rights, decolonization, anti-racism and anti-oppression principles.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY** 

Student Trustee Hesler voted in favour

Trustee Paikin-Miller left the meeting.

#### 9. COVID-19 Update #13

Staff shared a COVID-19 presentation with the Board. Trustees voiced their frustration with last week's announcement. There was also discussion of the graduation process and it was noted that all graduates will receive a lawn sign and the graduating students and staff decided what swag they would receive on a school to school basis.

<u>RESOLUTION #21-116:</u> Trustee Danko, seconded by Trustee Johnstone, moved: That the Chair write a letter to the Ministry to request that our Elementary students can return in-person at HWDSB, in collaboration with Public Health, for the last 5 to 7 days of school.

The motion **CARRIED** on the following division of votes:

In Favour (7): Trustees Buck, Bingham, Danko, Deathe, Galindo, Johnstone and Miller. Student Trustee Hesler Opposed (2): Trustees Archer and Tut

### 10. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

# A. City/School Board Liaison Committee

There is nothing to report at this time. The Chair will be reaching out to the Mayor's office to re-schedule meetings for the Fall.

#### B. Hamilton-Wentworth Home & School Association

The Hamilton-Wentworth Home & School Association will hold a meeting on June 10, 2021 at which time elections will be held. The Ontario Federation of Home & School Association Board of Directors meeting will be held on June 12, 2021.

# C. Hamilton Foundation for Student Success (HWDSB Foundation)

- From October 1, 2020 to May 28, 2021, the Foundation supported 267 HWDSB students with Student Support Grants totaling over \$52,000.00.
- To better align with HWDSB's Board Annual Plan and Equity Action Plan Foundation staff have been asked to explore program opportunities related to Equity, Diversity and Inclusion initiatives with HWDSB.
- The Hamilton Foundation for Student Success has received a grant from the Hamilton
  Community Foundation's Pandemic Response fund in the amount of \$100,000.00. This generous
  grant will be used to support the critical needs of HWDSB students. The Foundation will be
  working with the Board to determine the most worthwhile priorities to focus these funds on. We
  are extremely grateful to the Hamilton Community Foundation for this tremendous investment
  in well-being of our students.

# D. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

- Covid0-19 and Legislative updates were shared.
- The AGM is being held on Saturday, June 12, 2021 via Zoom.

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m. and moved into Standing Committee.