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**Trustees: Kathy Archer (electronically), Becky Buck, Sabreina Dahab, Dawn Danko, Amanda Fehrman, Maria Felix Miller, Ray Mulholland, Graeme Noble, Paul Tut, Todd White, and Elizabeth Wong (electronically). Student Trustees Thomas Lin and Harry Wang.**

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**1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement**

Maria Felix Miller, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and recited the land acknowledgement.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

**RESOLUTION #24-01:** Trustees Noble/Danko moved that the agenda be approved.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour  
Trustee Mullholland was not present for the vote

**3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest – None**

**4. Confirmation of the Minutes:**

**RESOLUTION #24-02:** Trustees Dahab/Buck moved that the minutes from December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 be approved.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour

**5. Correspondence:**

**A. Waterloo Region DSB re: letter to Minister – Toronto Youth Council Mental Health**

**RESOLUTION #24-03:** Trustees Noble/Dahab moved that the Chair write a similar letter directly to the Minister in support of the letter from Waterloo Region DSB and Toronto Youth Cabinet regarding child and youth mental health concerns in Ontario.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour

**B. Paul Berton re: Proposed Trustee Policy Manual Revisions**

**RESOLUTION #24-04:** Trustees White/Dahab moved that the correspondence from Paul Berton re: Proposed Trustee Policy Manual Revisions (item 7B) be referred to the Governance Committee for review and further discussion.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour

**Reports from Legislated Committees:**

**6. Parent Involvement Committee – December 12, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #24-05:** Trustees Fehrman/Buck moved that the Parent Involvement Committee report from December 12, 2023 be received.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour

**Reports from Community Advisory Committees:**

**7. Faith Community Advisory Committee – December 5, 2023**

**RESOLUTION #24-06:** Trustees Buck/White moved that the Faith Community Advisory Committee report from December 5, 2023 be received.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour

**8. Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Request for Trustee representation**

Trustee Miller thanked Trustee Dahab for her ongoing commitment to SEAC and acknowledged she could no longer serve on the committee due to scheduling conflicts. The committee can accept up to two Trustee appointments and Trustees were asked if there was any additional interest from the Board in filling the available spot, as Trustee Danko is also a current member of SEAC.

**RESOLUTION #24-07:** Trustee Miller be appointed to the Special Education Advisory Committee for the remainder of the Trustee term.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour

**9. Report from Committee of the Whole (private) – January 15, 2024**

**RESOLUTION #24-08:** Trustee Tut/Buck moved that the Committee of the Whole report from January 15, 2024, be received including an update related to personnel matters.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Trustees Lin and Wang voted in favour

**10. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:**

**A. Hamilton-Wentworth Council of Home & School Associations**

- Trustee Danko thanked the PIC Chairs and Superintendent Goodacre for inviting HWCHSA to the PIC Startup Event and PIC December meeting. Parent engagement is extremely important and they will continue to support in all its various forms.
- HWCHSA also met with the Director and both Associate Directors regarding the fundraising policy draft and the issues around lack of consultation and have provided their feedback.
- The School Year Calendar's public survey has gone out and has been shared with all their Associations noticing the calendar reflects the suggestions made by HWCHSA and they look forward to the results of the public feedback.
- An informal conversation with Safe Schools Superintendent Gerry Smith regarding families concerns about critical communication going out to caregivers during stressful and dangerous times. They will follow up with the Safe Schools committee and Communications to improve how information is shared with parents.
- There has been discussion regarding HWDSB trustees and the intent to restrict their abilities to communicate on social media and to the media. As publicly elected officials, they represent the voices and concerns of their constituents, and it is the voting public's right to know how their ward trustees are representing them.

**B. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)**

- Trustee Buck shared that OPSBA sent a modified [version](#) of its 2024-25 Education Funding Consultation Guide/ Grants for Student Needs (GSN) submission to the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs. The Association reminds all trustees to participate in the province's 2024 Pre-Budget Consultation [online survey](#) – the deadline is January 31, 2024.
- Reminded Trustees of the upcoming OPSBA Public Education Symposium and registration is still open, if interested contact Trustee Officer Miller.
- Bill C-322 National Framework for a School Food Program Act the legislation has been sent to the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities. OPSBA would like to remind trustees/member boards to use the template letter and send it to their local Members of Parliament supporting the legislation and its passage.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

Reference: [Agenda Package](#) and [Recording](#)