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

Regrets: Trustee Ray Mulholland, Elizabeth Wong

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement

Maria Felix Miller, Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm and recited the land acknowledgement.

2. Approval of the Agenda

RESOLUTION #24-44: Trustees Buck/White moved that the agenda be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

3. Declarations of Conflict of Interest – None

4. Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLUTION #24-45: Trustees Fehrman/Tut moved that the minutes from March 25, 2024 be approved.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

5. Correspondence

RESOLUTION #24-46A: Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the correspondence from J. Weresch, S and A. Waller and H. Alexander be received and filed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

RESOLUTION #24-46B: Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the correspondence from E. Biro be received and filed.

The motion **CARRIES** on the following division:

In Favour (8): Trustees Archer, Buck, Danko, Fehrman, Miller, Noble, Tut and White.

Opposed (1): Trustee Dahab.

Student Trustees Lin and Wang we opposed.

Reports from Trustee Special Committees:

6. Policy Committee – March 6, 2024

RESOLUTION #24-47: Trustees White/Noble moved that the Policy Committee report from March 6, 2024 be approved including the Equity & Inclusion, Performance Appraisal and Professional Learning policies.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

7. Finance and Facilities Committee – March 28, 2024

RESOLUTION #24-48: Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the Finance and Facilities Committee report from March 28, 2024 be approved noting that the preliminary allocation of the full-time equivalent positions for the 2024-25 school-based staffing be:

Elementary Teachers	2,135.00
Secondary Teachers	948.16
Early Childhood Educators	277.00
Educational Assistants	693.50
Principals/Vice Principals	158.00

School Office Administration	201.00
School Custodial	357.00

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

Reports from Staff:

8. Student Trustees and Shakowennakarátats 2024-2025

Superintendent Jones shared the election results for the 2024-2025 Student Trustees. Results were captured through electronic ballots allowing every student from grades seven through 12 to vote for their top two candidates to represent their voice votes from each school were tallied, and the top two choices from each school were used to determine the 202425 elected student trustees. Indigenous Education Lead Jolene John shared through a governance meeting on March 20th, CC Rose members ranging from grades 7 to 12 reached consensus on raising their student candidate as Shakowennakarátats.

RESOLUTION #24-49: Trustees Fehrman/Buck moved that following students be confirmed to stand as Student trustees and Shakowennakarátats with HWDSB for the term of office August 1 2024 to July 31, 2025.

- Oluwafikunayomi (Fikun) Alabi (Student Trustee)
- Daunte Hillen (Shakowennakarátats)
- Victoria Li (Student Trustee)

**names above are listed in alphabetical order by last name*

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

9. Update on Dress Guidelines (Resolution #23-165)

Superintendent Denomme provided an update which included background on Resolution #23-165 which was passed on December 4th, 2023 as a notice of motion regarding Anti-Palestinian Racism. Clarification on student dress guidelines was sent to all staff on December 21, 2023. The current guidelines have been updated and the implementation plan is currently in the development stage. The Student Dress Guidelines will be implemented in the Fall of 2024.

At 7:50 pm the board moved to recess in observation of Ramadan.

RESOLUTION #24-50: Trustees Tut/Buck moved that the board move into recess until 8:05 pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

Trustee Archer did not return to the meeting following the recess.

RESOLUTION #24-51: Trustees Fehrman/Buck moved that the update on Dress Guidelines be received.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

10. Hamilton Wentworth Student Transportation System (HWSTS) Update

Associate Director Gerard shared that we continue to see a reduction in the number of open routes. Drivers in training have increased, which has increased the number in the spare driver pools across all operators. The feedback being received on the First Student GPS technology (First View) is positive and staff are currently looking at an app (Chipmunk) that will work with some of the software currently in use with other carriers. This Wednesday April 10th is the Bus Driver Appreciation event to celebrate our valued bus drivers. The consortium and CAA are currently reviewing the Safety Program for bus patrollers that had been used in the past.

11. Report from Committee of the Whole (Private) – April 8, 2024

RESOLUTION #24-52: Trustees Tut/White moved that the following report from the Committee of Whole held earlier this evening be approved:

- That the tentative Collective Agreement between the OSSTF D21 OCTU local and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board for the term of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.

- That the tentative Collective Agreement between OSSTF D21 ESL, and Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board (HWDSB) for the term of September 1, 2022, to August 31, 2026, be approved and amended as per the School Boards Collective Bargaining Act.
- That the Finance & Facilities Committee report from March 24, 2024 be received.
- That a leave of absence be approved for Trustee Mulholland until July 31, 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Trustee Lin and Wang voted in favour

12. Oral Reports from Liaison Committees:

A. Hamilton-Wentworth Council of Home & School Associations

Trustee Danko shared that the next meeting will be Thursday April 11, 2024 and will provide an update at the next appropriate board meeting.

B. Hamilton Foundation for Student Success

Trustee Fehrman reminded Trustees this Saturday April 13th is Prom Project. Currently there are 739 students registered and if Trustees are available to please come by and show their support.

C. Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA):

- Trustee Buck shared that the Central West Regional meeting took place Saturday April 6th at the Woodland Cultural Centre.
 - Several reports were presented with consensus unanimous for most issues, including the lifting of the moratorium to perform accommodation reviews.
 - The Indigenous Trustees' Council is trying to gather Education Service Agreements from across the province. There is a disparity among different Indigenous communities, including pay for staff and professional learning or special education testing.
- National Food Program - April 1, 2024 Chair Miller, Trustee Buck, Associate Director Nunn, Communications Manager Reynolds were joined by several MPs at Chedoke Elementary for the federal government announcement about the \$1 Billion in funding.
- The Association of Municipalities of Ontario has committed to providing OPSBA with funding for a scholarship to be awarded to five students (one from each OPSBA Region) where each recipient will be awarded \$1000. A trustee representative is being sought to join a panel of trustees in Central West.
- Take your MPP to School W - May 21 to 24. This is a great opportunity for Trustees to welcome their local MPP into their schools to showcase what is happening in schools and highlight some of the needs.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

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