

AGENDA: Immediately following Board Meeting

1. Call to Order
2. Meeting Roll Call

Delegation

- A. [School Year Calendar 2022-23](#) - Aine Leadbetter, Manager Elections, Print and Andrea Holland, City Clerk, City of Hamilton (5 mins)

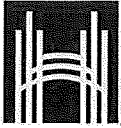
3. Approval of the Agenda
4. Declarations of Conflict of Interest

Reports from Staff:

5. [School Year Calendars 2022-23](#)
6. Adjournment

Meeting times and locations are subject to change. Please refer to our website for the latest information.

<http://www.hwdsb.on.ca/trustees/meetings/>



Hamilton

City of Hamilton
City Hall, 71 Main Street West
Hamilton, Ontario
Canada L8P 4Y5
www.hamilton.ca

Office of the City Clerk
Physical Address: 71 Main Street West
Phone: 905.546.2424
Email: clerks@hamilton.ca

September 28, 2021

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

Dear Chair and Members of the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board

Subject: Request for Professional Activity Day on October 24, 2022 (Municipal and School Board Election)

The next Municipal and School Board election will be held on October 24, 2022.

The City of Hamilton relies on the school space provided by school boards as voting locations in municipal council and school board elections. Schools provide an accessible, convenient, and community-based voting location and it is our intention to utilize space in schools in the 2022 municipal election in accordance with the *Municipal Elections Act, 1996*.

While we are focused on delivering a safe and fair election for the electorate of the City of Hamilton in 2022, the pandemic has created another layer of complexity. We are therefore requesting that October 24, 2022 be designated as a professional activity day for the Hamilton-Wentworth District School Board. Many school boards across the province have designated PA days in the past on municipal voting days with positive results, including the Hamilton-Wentworth Catholic District School Board during the 2018 municipal election.

It is our intention to keep public health and the safety of students at the forefront of our election planning for 2022. We would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this option with you and any members of the Board at your next Board meeting and will be reaching out to schedule time on the agenda. We greatly look forward to discussing this further.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Andrea Holland in black ink.

Andrea Holland
City Clerk

Handwritten signature of Aine Leadbetter in black ink.

Aine Leadbetter
Manager, Elections, Print & Mail



EXECUTIVE REPORT TO STANDING COMMITTEE

TO: BOARD

FROM: Manny Figueiredo, Director of Education

DATE: December 6, 2021

PREPARED BY: Estella Jones, Superintendent of Student Achievement

RE: 2022-2023 Draft School Year Calendars

Action X Monitoring

Recommended Action:

That the Draft 2022-2023 School Year Calendars be approved for public consultation.

Rationale/Benefits:

The 2022-2023 School Year Calendars (Elementary and Secondary) have been prepared in consultation with the School Year Calendar Advisory Committee and endorsed by Executive Council.

The calendars comply with Ontario *Regulation 304, School Year Calendars and Professional Activity Days*. As per the requirements of O. Reg 304, the deadline for submission of regular and modified school calendars is March 1, 2022.

Public consultation will be undertaken from December 14, 2021 to January 17, 2022 to receive community feedback regarding the draft calendars.

Background:

Ontario Regulation 304, School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days sets the requirements for preparation and submission of school year calendars to the Ministry of Education. This includes a minimum of 194 school days between September 1 and June 30. To prepare a calendar with 194 school days, two PA days have been placed prior to the Labour Day holiday (Thursday, September 1, 2022 and Friday, September 2, 2022) and two board holidays have been placed at end of the school year (Thursday, June 29, 2023 and Friday June 30, 2023).

Regulation 304 establishes holidays for the school year that includes a Winter Holiday Break (December 19, 2022 to January 2, 2023) and the March Break (March 13 to 17, 2023). However, to accommodate local needs, school boards may request a modified school year calendar that is organized differently from the criteria outlined in Regulation 304. This year, the draft calendars for the 2022-2023 school year includes one modification with a proposed winter break from December 26, 2022 to January 6, 2023.

The Ministry of Education requires school boards to arrange up to seven Professional Activity (PA) days in the school year. The PA day plan must include three mandatory PA days dedicated to provincial education priorities established by the Minister, a half PA day dedicated to violence prevention training, and integration of education priorities within the remaining PA days in the school year.

Development of the Draft 2022-2023 School Year Calendars has been undertaken in consultation with the School Year Calendar Advisory Committee that consists of members representing: Elementary and Secondary Principals (HWPC);

Elementary and Secondary Teachers (HWETL, OSSTF, HWOTL); Parents (HW Council of Home & School Associations; HWDSB PIC); Educational Assistants and Child and Youth Care Practitioners (COPE), Early Childhood Educators (HWDECEL), ESL Instructors, Professional Student Services (PSSP) and School Office Assistants (OCTU).

The School Year Calendar Advisory Committee reviewed and provided feedback on the draft elementary and secondary calendars. The committee will meet again in February to review results of the public consultation process and provide further input. The consultation process will also include discussions with the coterminous board to align PA days wherever possible to reduce transportation costs and disruption.

One additional date to note is October 24, 2022. This is the date of the Municipal Elections and is a regular school day for students as per past practice.

Executive Council supports the Draft School Year Calendars (Appendix – 1 and 2) that include:

Elementary

Start and End Dates for Students	Tuesday September 6, 2022 and Tuesday June 27, 2023
Professional Activity Days	September 1, September 2, November 25, 2022 and January 27, March 3, June 2, June 28, 2023 (7 days)

Secondary

	<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>
Start and End Dates for Students	September 6, 2022 to January 31, 2023	February 2 to June 26, 2023
Examination Days (5)	January 25 – 31, 2023	June 20 – 26, 2023
Professional Activity Days	September 1, September 2, November 25, 2022 (3 days)	February 1, March 3, June 27, June 28, 2023 (4 days)

Professional Activity Days

Dates for Professional Activity (PA) days have been informed by the School Year Calendar Advisory Committee and have been determined through Executive Council to prioritize timely professional learning opportunities for staff that adhere to provincial requirements and maximize influence on student learning, achievement and well-being.

	ELEMENTARY	Focus		SECONDARY	Focus
X	September 1	Mandatory Provincial Education Priorities	X	September 1	Mandatory Provincial Education Priorities
X	September 2	Health & Safety Training Violence Prevention Training	X	September 2	Health & Safety Training Violence Prevention Training
X	November 25	Mandatory Provincial Education Priorities	X	November 25	Mandatory Provincial Education Priorities
	January 27	Evaluation & Reporting		February 1	Transition/Promotion
X	March 3	Mandatory Provincial Education Priorities	X	March 3	Mandatory Provincial Education Priorities
	June 2	Evaluation & Reporting		June 27	Transition/Promotion
X	June 28	Improvement Process	X	June 28	Improvement Process

X=Joint Elementary and Secondary PA Day

Professional learning topics for mandatory PA days (September 1, November 25, and March 3) will be based on PPM 151 - Professional Activity Days Devoted to Provincial Education Priorities. Based on learning topics for this current school year, the three mandatory PA days may include the following topics:

- Health and safety protocols, mental health and well-being
- Learning recovery and intervention strategies
- Mathematics, including the elementary math curriculum and Grade 9 de-streamed math course
- Anti-racism, anti-discrimination training
- Instructional approaches to online/remote learning
- Anti-sex trafficking and anti-bullying, including cyber-bullying

Subject to revision of PPM 151, the following professional learning topics may also be included for PA days throughout the school year:

- Advice from local health units within the context of the current provincial health guidelines;
- Ways to confront racism and intersecting forms of discrimination that negatively affect student learning, achievement, and well-being, with the goal of eliminating disparities in outcomes for all students, including Black, Indigenous, and other racialized students. This included developing practices that promote and uphold human rights and that help create welcoming and inclusive school environments;
- Equity and inclusive education policies;
- Ways to develop knowledge of the impact of the Indian Act on Indigenous peoples in Canada, the residential school system, treaties and systemic racism, as well as understanding of First Nation, Métis, and Inuit perspectives, cultures, histories, contributions, and the contemporary realities of Indigenous students;
- Tools and strategies to help deliver safe and meaningful remote learning, while providing differentiated instruction and support to all students;
- Strategies to support the mental health and well-being of all students, with a strong focus on building students' social-emotional learning skills during school re-entry and throughout the school year;
- Approaches that help educators foster a welcoming, inclusive, and safe return to school that supports equity, helps prevent bullying and cyber-bullying, and promotes positive student behaviour;
- Ways to provide equitable learning opportunities to support students who have special education needs and who experience intersecting systemic barriers through a teaching and learning approach that recognizes individual strengths and needs.

Public Consultation & Next Steps

The Draft 2022-23 School Year Calendars along with an overview/rationale of proposed PA Day topics will be posted on the HWDSB website from December 14, 2021 to January 17, 2022 for public feedback. Results of the consultation will be analysed by HWDSB Research & Analytics Department and provided for review by Executive Council, the School Year Calendar Advisory Committee, and the Board of Trustees prior to final approval of the calendars for submission to the Ministry of Education by March 1, 2022.

