



June 7, 2022

To: The Ministry of Education

Effie Triantafilopoulos, MPP

Natalie Pierre, MPP

Parm Gill, MPP

Stephen Crawford, MPP

Ted Arnott, MPP

Adam VanKoeverden, MP

Anita Anand, MP

Karina Gould, MP

Pam Damoff, MP

Ontario School Board Chairs (English Public, English Catholic, French Public, French Catholic)

Cathy Abraham, President, Ontario Public School Boards' Association

In July 2020, the Trustees of the Halton District School Board (HDSB) [sent a letter](#) to the Minister of Education requesting a “limited-term, defined scope multi-stakeholder task force be struck to be critically reflective and develop big picture, innovative opportunities about how the publicly funded school system in Ontario can ‘build back better’ in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic”. The associated motion noted that “should the Minister not pursue this, that the Trustees of the Halton District School Board will seek partners and coordinate a forum to develop these opportunities by the end of 2020”. As the pandemic continued to extend beyond expectations, HDSB Trustees began discussions for an initiative to invite people from Halton and beyond to tackle the challenges outlined. Engaging with the entire community is also a way that the Trustees support the values described in the HDSB 2020-2024 [Multi Year Strategic Plan](#) and support innovative generative thinking for continuous improvement.

The HDSB launched “Reimagine Forward” on April 22, 2022, encouraging everyone with an interest in public education to consider:

**“What are the big moves needed to reimagine public education?”**

Between April 22 and May 23, 2022, people were invited to reflect, consider and provide input via the [engageHDSB.ca](#) platform. The overarching idea was to bring people together to think about public education and develop some positive, big picture moves. Trustees were inspired by and grateful for all of the feedback provided by students, staff, parents, as well as people affiliated with industry, post-secondary institutions and the broader community. Participants were from Halton Region, and beyond.

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At our June 1, 2022 board meeting, the board of trustees unanimously supported the motion:

**Be it resolved that the Chair share this report with the Director of Education, participants, Chairs of all School Boards in Ontario, OPSBA President, local MPs and MPPs, and the Minister of Education, when appointed, and request that consideration be given to this information in planning, policies, processes, and practices.**

**Be it further resolved that the Reimagine Forward Subcommittee seeks anecdotal process-related insights for the benefit of future engagement activities.**

**Be it further resolved that the Director be directed to report back by January 2023 with potential policy and/or operational opportunities that may result from further analysis of the input received through Reimagine Forward.**

The full report can be accessed [here](#) and at the end of the letter, including links to the raw data and materials submitted by participants.

The HDSB Trustees recognize that a number of the ideas provided through this initiative are already starting to grow in the HDSB and boards across the province. Programs like HDSB's own [SHIFT](#) team, is building a culture of innovation, as are staff, students and families who are adapting and adopting new practices for positive change every day.


Trustees are reflecting on how this input can inform our work. We asked the HDSB Director of Education to report back by January 2023 with potential policy and/or operational opportunities that may result from further analysis of the input received through Reimagine Forward. We also encourage all who receive this report to consider how this information may inform and shape planning, policies, processes, and practices, and encourage you to share your reflections and findings.

If you have any questions or would like further details about Reimagine Forward, please get in touch. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Margo Shuttleworth  
Chair of the Board of Trustees, Halton District School Board

Encl.  Reimagine Forward Themes