

NOVEMBER 20, 2017
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Education Centre Board Room, with the following members in attendance: S. McMillan (Chairperson), J. Hendry, T. Martin, C. Millar, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, N. Waddell, C. Waterfall, C. Watson and K. Woodcock.

Trustee C. Harrington was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustees G. Kenyon was in attendance. Student Trustee K. Shaban not able to attend.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: J. Bryant (Director of Education and Secretary), R. DeBoer, M. Gerard, S. Lomax, A. Mercier, S. Miller, E. Ranney, L. Read, P. Rubenschuh, G. Shantz and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: S. Longeway, N. Manning, S. Reidel and B. Ward.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. McMillan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda is to be amended to remove Amended Motion re Opioid Crisis.

1. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by T. Martin:

That the amended agenda of the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Regrets were received for Trustee C. Harrington and Student Trustee K. Shaban.

Trustee J. Hendry left word he would be late to the meeting.

Trustee K. Woodcock attended the Waterloo Collegiate Institute and the Educational Assistants Association Open House.

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Trustee C. Waterfall walked in the Galt Remembrance Day parade with several students. She also toured three secondary schools today with senior staff.

Trustee M. Ramsay entered the meeting at 7:07 p.m.

Trustee C. Millar attended both the Waterloo Collegiate Institute and the Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School commencements.

Trustee T. Martin attended a joint regional OPSBA meeting in Guelph as well as the Justice Dinner with a number of other trustees..

Chairperson S. McMillan attended a book launch at Elmira District Secondary School. The book highlights “Legendary Lancers” from the school.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations scheduled to speak at this evening’s meeting.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 3002 – Elementary School Size and Configuration

2. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by K. Smith:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3002 – Elementary School Size and Configuration as presented at the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 3003 – Trustee Professional Development

3. Moved by C. Waterfall, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3003 – Trustee Professional Development as presented at the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4012 – School Attendance Areas

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4. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by C. Waterfall:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4012 – School Attendance Areas as presented at the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4013 – Secondary Schools

5. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4013 – Secondary Schools as presented at the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4018 – Fraud Management

6. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4018 – Fraud Management as presented at the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 2010 – Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting

7. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by T. Martin:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 2010 – Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting as presented at the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REPORTS

AD HOC NEW SCHOOL NAMING COMMITTEE REPORT

As presented by Trustee C. Waterfall, the new school name Ad Hoc Committee reviewed suggestions received from public consultation and has shortlisted the following names:

- Huron Trail Public School
- Levi Carroll Public School
- Janet Metcalfe Public School

The report provided a short background on each shortlisted name and the importance of that name. School names typically reflect the community they serve and tend to be named after notable community members, or for nearby geographical or historical characteristics. A full list of suggested names was included in the report. Trustee M. Ramsay expressed an interest in naming the school after Nikola Tesla.

8. Moved by T. Martin, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve naming the new Southwest Kitchener Elementary School Janet Metcalfe Public School.

-Carried-

Opposed: M. Ramsay

AD HOC CODE OF CONDUCT POLICY COMMITTEE DRAFT REPORT

Trustee C. Millar thanked the Ad Hoc Committee for their hard work. The Ad Hoc Committee created an interim revised policy as the Terms of Reference did not permit the committee to fully revise Board Policy G201 to the extent that it would have liked to propose. The Ad Hoc Committee proposed the need for a the creation of a new Ad Hoc Committee to review additional amendments to Board Policy G201 – Trustee Code of Conduct that were not anticipated and/or included in this Ad Hoc Committee’s Terms of Reference.

9. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by C. Watson:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the revised Board Policy G201 - Trustee Code of Conduct; and

That an Ad Hoc Committee be struck to investigate the option of moving to a third party in conducting formal inquiries related to the Board Policy G201 – Trustee Code of Conduct.

Trustee J. Hendry entered the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

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Moved in amendment by M. Ramsay, seconded by K. Smith:

That Motion #9 is amended to include “as an interim policy for a period of 120 days” so that it now reads:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the revised Board Policy G201 - Trustee Code of Conduct as an interim policy for a period of 120 days; and

That an Ad-Hoc Committee be struck to investigate the option of moving to a third party in conducting formal inquiries related to the Board Policy G201 – Trustee Code of Conduct.

Opposed:
C. Millar
N. Waddell

Main motion as amended moved by M. Ramsay, seconded by K. Smith:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the revised Board Policy G201 - Trustee Code of Conduct as an interim policy for a period of 120 days; and

That an Ad-Hoc Committee be struck to investigate the option of moving to a third party in conducting formal inquiries related to the Board Policy G201 – Trustee Code of Conduct.

-Amendment Carried-
-Amended Main Motion Carried-

Trustees discussed the option to have a legal expert review the new interim Board Policy G201 - Trustee Code of Conduct and provide recommendations.

Coordinating Superintendent M. Weinert requested clarification on the scope of the expert legal opinion requested. Trustee M. Ramsay confirmed that the intention is to have the expert review structure of policy, confirm the policy is legally compliant with no known conflicts with legislation, ensure definitions used in the policy are accurate and appropriate and review process for comments, notes of areas which are foreseeably problematic and any other recommendations.

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10. Moved by M. Ramsay, seconded by J. Hendry:

That the Revised interim Board policy G201 Trustee Code of Conduct be referred to staff to submit for expert legal opinion and to report back to the Board with recommendations.

-Carried-

Opposed
T. Martin
N. Waddell
C. Waterfall
K. Woodcock

11. Moved by C. Millar, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the disbanding of the Ad-Hoc Code of Conduct Policy Committee.

-Carried-

STAFF REPORT ON INTEGRATED DRUG STRATEGY (OPIOID RESPONSE)

Introduced by Director J. Bryant, Coordinating Superintendent S. Lomax spoke to the role of K-12 educators in drug prevention. Drug prevention aligns closely with the strategic plan and student well-being. A document was shared with Trustees outlining the drug prevention strategy as part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum for all grades.

Trustee M. Ramsay left the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Coordinating Superintendent S. Lomax introduced Superintendent P. Rubenschuh who spoke about the Waterloo Region Integrated Drug Strategy (WRIDS) and the Board's emergency response plan and resources.

Trustee J. Hendry left the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Coordinating Superintendent L. Read spoke about staff's involvement with the City of Cambridge's Community Outreach Task Force and the Region of Waterloo Public Health teams. A new Administrative Procedure to enhance the reporting and safe disposal of sharps and needles will be developed by the end of January 2018. By the end of December 2017, staff will have completed consultation with Public Health about supervised injection services in the region.

Trustees J. Hendry and M. Ramsay re-entered the meeting at 9:02 p.m.

Public Health is presently making changes to their resources and staff has requested school and youth specific resources and posters.

The new procedure will be complete by January of 2018 and brought forward for information.

MOTION FROM TRUSTEE C. WATSON ON AMENDMENTS TO BOARD POLICY 6000 - SAFE SCHOOLS

Satisfied with information and staff commitment to student safety, Trustee C. Watson did not move the motion previously submitted as a Notice of Motion on October 30, 2017.

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

Chairperson S. McMillan shared a couple of reminders for trustees:

- RSVPs are needed for the December 4, 2017 Inaugural Board Meeting
- November 28, 2017 expulsions hearings require three trustees.

QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee C. Watson requested data on workplace violence and asked if there are any trends emerging. She would like to see three years of data by employee group and site type. Trustee Watson expressed interest in having the Ministry of Education provide additional resources to address this issue. Coordinating Superintendent M. Weinert noted the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Labour are investigating this issue and working toward developing provincial requirements. All trustees were in favour of staff reviewing trends of violence in the workplace and bringing back a report.

Trustee K. Smith advised she has been receiving calls from parents that students with autism without behaviour issues are not receiving the resources necessary to assist with learning needs. The parents expressed concern that priority is being put on students with behavioural needs. Director Bryant agreed to bring the question back to staff for a detailed response. The majority of trustees were in favour of receiving a response.

Dates are not yet confirmed for the Trustee Retreat but the likely dates are February 9-10, 2018.

Coordinating Superintendent S. Lomax addressed the motion from November 13, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting which arose from the delegation from Active Cambridge. It was confirmed that the resources were previously shared with 21 schools in Cambridge and that staff are predominately using the Ontario Physical and Health Education Association (OPHEA) as a resource for curriculum.

MOTION TO EXTEND

12. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by C. Watson:

That the November 20, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting be extended an additional 30 minutes.

-Carried-

Opposed
J. Hendry
T. Martin

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Trustee N. Waddell served the following Notice of Motion as supported by Trustees K. Woodcock and C. Watson:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board direct staff to explore the correlation between learning skills and both student achievement and student well-being; and

Staff to prepare a report on these findings which is to include both quantitative and qualitative data; and

Staff to present this report to trustees before the end of June 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

13. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by J. Hendry:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 20, 2017, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.