

**NOVEMBER 28, 2016
BOARD MEETING**

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

Trustees C. Harrington and N. Waddell were unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustees R. Barnes and H. Jamal were in attendance.

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, P. Rubenschuh, E. Ranney, L. Read, M. Schinkel, G. Shantz and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: J. Herring, N. Manning and L. Slupeiks.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson K. Woodcock called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

That the agenda of the November 28, 2016, Board Meeting be approved.

-Carried Unanimously-

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by C. Watson:

That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of November 28, 2016, and the actions contained therein, be approved (with the exception of Folio 43).

-Carried-

FOLIO 43 – ANNUAL SUSPENSION/EXPULSION REPORT

Trustee C. Watson removed this item from the consent agenda in order to request clarification around the increase in suspensions in grades 10-12. Superintendent P. Rubenschuh responded that some of these do present some challenges and staff have implemented programs to support these students. A brief conversation followed on strategies to keep students in school instead of out of school suspensions and the interventions that are in place to assist these students.

3. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by T. Martin:

That Folio 43 from the consent agenda of the November 28, 2016, Board Meeting, and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

MOTIONS FROM IN CAMERA MEETING

Note: The following motions were approved in the In Camera session held earlier this evening.

4. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by S. McMillan:

That the agenda of the November 28, 2016 , In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.

-Carried-

5. Moved by S. McMillan, seconded by C. Millar:

That the consent agenda of the November 28, 2016, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried Unanimously-

6. Moved by S. McMillan, seconded by M. Ramsay:

That we rise and report in public session.

-Carried-

Note: This concludes the reporting of In Camera motions.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee C. Millar met with Director J. Bryant and Chief Communications Officer N. Manning along with Student Trustees R. Barnes and H. Jamal at Cameron Heights Collegiate Institute and Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate Institute where they all received a tours and information on programs offered at each school.

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Trustee S. McMillan and Director J. Bryant visited Elmira District Secondary School on November 28, 2016, for a tour of the school and information on programs offered at the school.

Trustee K. Smith attended the Muslim Association of Canada Award Ceremony and also reported on the Parent Involvement Workshop which was also attended by Trustee C. Millar and Superintendent G. Shantz. Trustee K. Smith also reported on the recent Digital Citizenship Summit she attended on the ways technology is being used to assist student learning.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS

Communications Officer L. Slupeiks provided a brief overview on recent activities throughout the Waterloo Region District School Board. Some highlights included:

- Continued work on the purpose statement campaign; 1,000 votes as of today!
- Trotibus at Wellesley Public School is the most popular story;
- Capital Funding Announcement re additions at Cedar Creek and Ryerson Public Schools and Grand River Collegiate Institute and also the approval of a new Cambridge public school;
- U-Turn student pilot regarding cell phone pockets;
- Remembrance Day Ceremony at Laurelwood Public School and live-streamed for Education Centre staff;
- Two students from Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School were the local heroes for collecting supplies and clothing for the homeless;
- Westmount Public School received the People's Choice Award for Kitchener's Great Places and the award was chosen by the public;
- Jean Steckle Public School was also nominated in two categories;
- Forest Hill Public School snack program was highlighted on CBC;
- EDSS students donated their time before and after school to design and build a shed for Menno Homes which will be auctioned for charity;
- Sod-turning at Chicopee Hills Public School last week;
- Wellesley Public School hosted a family math night;
- Stewart Avenue Public School has a new Yanmar high-efficiency natural gas heat pump and is one of the first institutions in North America to use this technology.

Upcoming events for December include:

- Secondary school information nights start this week;
- Family math nights are ongoing;
- Seasonal celebrations at schools in December;
- Turkey lunches will start soon!

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations this evening.

REPORTS

CATEGORY III OFF CAMPUS TRIP TO VIMY RIDGE

Superintendent M. Gerard provided trustees with the final decision around the review of the cancellation of Off Campus Trips to Vimy Ridge.

It was noted that staff has recommended a number of changes to the security and safety protocol and procedure in order to allow the previously-cancelled trip to proceed. Some of the recommendations include mandatory workshops for trip supervisors along with an increased number of trip supervisors many of whom are required to have first aid training.

Parents and Caregivers received a letter today informing them of the decision and were invited to attend an information session on the evening of November 29, 2016, at the Education Centre.

Chairperson K. Woodcock and trustees thanked staff for the thoroughness of the review and the comprehensive consultation that has taken place.

COMPREHENSIVE MATH STRATEGY PRESENTATION

Superintendents S. Lomax, E. Ranney, M. Gerard and M. Weinert and Chief Communications Officer N. Manning, provided trustees with a presentation on the Comprehensive Math Strategy and how each department in the organization participates and supports student learning specifically in the area of math.

At the end of the presentation trustees had the opportunity to ask questions and seek additional information on the comprehensive math strategy.

Discussion followed on the methodology that allows staff to focus on numeracy and literacy equally and the supports in place to ensure that our students succeed in both areas.

Chairperson K Woodcock thanked staff for the informative presentation.

TRANSPORTATION UPDATE

Superintendent M. Gerard and General Manager B. Bourgault from the Student Transportation Services provided a report on the use of stop arm cameras in school buses.

It was noted that Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR) will request that interior cameras be included in any Request for Proposal/Tender documents going forward.

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B. Bourgault spoke in favour of interior cameras monitoring the riders, drivers and doors and the role cameras could play in deterring misbehavior and bullying.

Trustee J. Hendry asked if there were currently cameras on buses that were not working and stated that he was aware of an incident that occurred on a bus where the camera was not working and the Board was sued as there was an expectation that the camera would be in working order. B. Bourgault responded that he was not aware of this type of legal action, but would investigate the matter.

7. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board receive as information the report titled 'Transportation Update' as presented at the November 28, 2016, Board Meeting.

-Carried-

COPYRIGHT UPDATE

Senior Superintendent M. Schinkel provided a brief verbal overview on recent changes to the Copyright Procedure and the effect of these changes on school staff.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no reports from Board Members this evening.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

- Rainbow District School Board re One School Board – no action at this time.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (to be referred to Agenda Development Committee)

There were no future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

8. Moved by S. McMillan, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Board Meeting of November 28, 2016, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.