

JUNE 13, 2016
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: K. Woodcock (Chairperson), C. Harrington, J. Hendry, S. McMillan, C. Millar, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, N. Waddell and C. Watson.

Trustee T. Martin was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustees R. Barnes and A. Takhar were in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: J. Bryant (Director of Education and Secretary), M. Deacon, M. Gerard, L. Hodgins, 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 and L. Slupeiks.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson K. Woodcock called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by J. Hendry, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the agenda of the June 13, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Student Trustee A. Takhar announced that Student Trustee R. Barnes had recently been featured in The Record as one of the top students in Waterloo Region.

Trustee N. Waddell announced that she had an opportunity to attend the Sod Turning Ceremony at Groh Public School.

Chairperson K. Woodcock announced that she had received regrets from Trustee T. Martin for this evening's meeting.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations this evening.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 2002 – PARTNERSHIPS AND SPONSORSHIPS

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 2002 – Partnerships and Sponsorships as presented at the June 13, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

–Carried–

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 2010 – ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

Staff distributed revised copies of the policy and noted that the only proposed amendment was a change to the date. Trustees engaged in a lengthy discussion on this policy and questioned if staff were planning any type of evaluation. Director J. Bryant responded that staff has planned to follow-up with an evaluation on the accompanying procedure in the fall of 2016.

In response to the planned procedure evaluation, Trustee S. McMillan question if there would be an opportunity for Trustees to be included in the conversation. Director J. Bryant responded that the Board’s policies on assessment reflect the recommendations from the Ministry of Education, but suggested a Trustee Seminar on assessment could be discussed at an Agenda Development Committee Meeting. During the conversation Student Trustee A. Takhar suggested that the members of Student Senate would also like to provide a student voice during the review.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 2010 – Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting as presented at the June 13, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

–Carried–

MOTION TO REFER TO STAFF

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 2011 – SUN SAFETY AND SHADING

Trustee C. Millar suggested referring Board Policy 2011 – Sun Safety and Shading to staff so that consultation with community partners and experts in the field can develop an effective policy and then a procedure could be developed for staff.

4. Moved by C. Millar, seconded by C. Watson:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board trustees refer Board Policy 2011 – Sun Safety and Shading to staff to allow for consultation with community partners and experts to develop a more effective policy; and

That an accompanying procedure also be developed for staff.

–Carried–

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 3003 – TRUSTEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

5. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by J. Hendry:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3003 – Trustee Professional Development as presented at the June 13, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

–Carried–

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 4019 – WATERLOO COUNTY SECONDARY SCHOOL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

6. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by J. Hendry:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4019 – Waterloo County Secondary School Athletic Association as presented at the June 13, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

–Carried–

REPORTS

RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING STUDENT TRUSTEES

Trustee C. Millar, in her role as Student Trustee Mentor, recognized and thanked outgoing Student Trustees R. Barnes and A. Takhar and presented them with the Student Trustee plaque where their names have been added.

Chairperson K. Woodcock thanked the Student Trustees for all of their efforts in their role as Student Trustees.

MOTION – TRUSTEE N. WADDELL RE VOLUNTEERS

Trustee N. Waddell spoke to a motion she wished to serve recommending that the Board develop a volunteer policy to allow volunteers to act as supervisors under certain circumstances.

Trustee N. Waddell stated that the reason for this motion became evident during the labour disruption when teachers removed themselves from voluntary activities and noted the effect this action had on students. Trustee N. Waddell stated that other boards are currently utilizing volunteers within parameters.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board develop a volunteer policy that includes allowing volunteers to act as supervisors under certain circumstances, after being screened and trained, and only upon the approval of the school principal.

-Carried-

ANNUAL FACILITIES PARTNERSHIP

Manager of Planning D. Cuomo introduced a report to fulfill the requirement under Section 4.6 of Administrative Procedure 4990 – Facility Partnerships, which is to hold a public meeting once a year to consider potential facility partnership opportunities with the community and/or listen to the needs or plans community partners may require.

There were no delegations registered to speak as potential partners, or delegations that have shown an interest in our unfunded projects at this time. It was also noted that we do not have any unused spaces available for partnerships at this time.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board receive as information the report titled, “Annual Facilities Partnership,” dated June 13, 2016.

-Carried-

CAPITAL PRIORITIES – REVISED APPROVALS

Superintendent M. Gerard provided trustees with a report updating trustees on Ministry of Education approved capital funding and seeking approval for expenditures to capital projects.

9. Moved by J. Hendry, seconded by C. Watson:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approves the additional expenditure of \$504,546 for the construction of the New Chicopee Hills Public School to support additional project costs and to align with Ministry approvals. The project Budget is now \$12,951,869; and

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approves the additional expenditure of \$4,567,110 for the construction of a Child Care Centre at the new Riverside Hills Public School, and to support additional project costs and to align with Ministry approvals. The project budget is now estimated to cost \$15,723,001; and

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approves the additional expenditure of \$160,405 for the addition at Silverheights Public School to support additional costs attributable to unique site costs associated with land preparation and to align with Ministry approvals. The project cost was \$6,776,169.

-Carried-

2016 BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANNUAL EVALUATION QUESTIONNAIRE – SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Chairperson K. Woodcock introduced the results of the 2016 Annual Evaluation Questionnaire.

Trustees discussed the results of this year's Trustee Evaluation Questionnaire. During the discussion it was noted this was the highest response rate for the survey in recent years. The discussion continued on the possibility of a Trustee Seminar as some Trustees felt that even though previous attempts at team-building have been helpful, that retaining an outside facilitator could have a positive effect on the current climate among Trustees.

10. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by S. McMillan:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board schedule a Trustee Seminar to assist with team-building, to be held in either late August or early September 2016; and

That an outside facilitator be engaged to assist in this process.

-Carried Unanimously-

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board receive as information the report titled, “2016 Board of Trustees Annual Evaluation Questionnaire – Summary of Results,” dated June 13, 2016.

-Carried-

ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS’ ASSOCIATION – APPROVAL OF MEMBERSHIP FEE

Chairperson K. Woodcock introduced the annual report where trustees approve the annual cost of membership in the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association (OPSBA) as outlined in Board Policy 3007.

12. Moved by M. Ramsay, seconded by C. Harrington:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3007, and continue with membership in the Ontario Public School Boards’ Association for 2016-2017.

-Carried-

2016-2017 BUDGET UPDATE

Superintendent M. Gerard provided trustees with an in-depth overview of new initiatives and clarified that the report will be discussed in depth at the Budget Meeting on Wednesday and was contained in the material already sent to trustees with the COW package on Friday.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions of clarification and in response staff could provide answers to these questions during the Special Committee of the Whole Budget Meeting on Wednesday, June 15, 2016.

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

STUDENT TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT

Student Trustees R. Barnes and A. Takhar spoke to a report that provided Trustees with an overview of the work achieved by Student Trustees in 2015-2016.

13. Moved by C. Harrington, seconded by C. Watson:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board receive as information the report titled ‘Student Trustee 2015-2016 Annual Report’ as presented at the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 13, 2016.

-Carried-

QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee J. Hendry noted that as a result of the change in Cabinet Minister assignments announced earlier in the day that Mitzie Hunter had been announced as the new Education Minister and questioned what impact this would have on the planned parent meeting to discuss changes to the Health & Physical Education Curriculum. Trustee K. Smith suggested sending a letter to the new Education Minister, with a copy to the former Education Minister, requesting a status update in regard to the meeting.

Chairperson K. Woodcock announced that she would initiate some correspondence on behalf of the Board, with the assistance of Communications staff members, in regard to this issue.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

14. Moved by C. Harrington, seconded by S. McMillan:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of June 13, 2016, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.