

APRIL 24, 2017

WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

NOTICE OF MEETING

The regular monthly **Board Meeting** of the Waterloo Region District School Board will be held in the Board Room, Floor 1, Building 2, Education Centre, 51 Ardelt Avenue, Kitchener, on **Monday, April 24, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.**

AGENDA

Call to Order

O Canada

Invocation (To be recited by trustees)

"In preparation for this evening's meeting, let us pause for thirty seconds of silent reflection – to commit our hearts and our heads, and help one another to make the careful and thoughtful decisions that will further the education of all our students."

Approval of Agenda

Consent Agenda**

Receipt/Approval of Minutes:

- 01** Approve Minutes – Committee of the Whole Meeting of April 10, 2017
- 09** Approve Minutes – Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of March 8, 2017
- 14** Receive Minutes – Board Meeting of March 27, 2017

Receipt/Approval of Monthly Reports:

- 19** Staffing Information – Retirements and Resignations M. Weinert
- 22** Staffing Recommendations – Appointments M. Weinert
- 24** Suspension/Expulsion Report as of March 31, 2017 P. Rubenschuh

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Announcements/Celebrating Board Activities

Communications Department Good News Update

L. Slupeiks

Delegations

Reports

- 26** Tim Walker Memorial Awards for Environmental Stewardship T. Martin/R. Barnes/H. Jamal
- Trustee Vacancy Process – Update (*To be distributed at meeting*) Trustees
- 30** Proposed Budget Meeting Dates 2017-2018
- Strategic Plan Update – Student Well-Being J. Bryant/P. Rubenschuh/S. Morrison

Reports from Board Members

Student Trustee Update

R. Barnes/H. Jamal

**All matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered not to require debate by the Board of Trustees and should be approved in one motion in accordance with the recommendation contained in each report.

Board Communications

32 Bluewater District School Board re Special Education Funding Model

35 Response to the WRDSB from the Minister of Education re Qualified French Teachers

Question Period (10 minutes)

Future Agenda Items (Notices of motion to be referred to Agenda Development Committee)

Adjournment



Report to Board of Trustees

April 24, 2017

**Subject: Staffing Information –
Retirements and Resignations**

Recommendation

This report is provided for information of the Board.

Status

The employees listed in Appendix A of this report have received acknowledgement of their retirement or resignation.

Background

The board's practice is to receive information regarding staff retirements and resignations at regular monthly board meetings.

Financial implications

Expenses are within the existing approved budget.

Communications

Employees listed in this report have communicated through Human Resource Services.

Prepared by: Michael Weinert, Coordinating Superintendent, Human Resource Services, in consultation with Coordinating Council.

Staffing Information - Retirements & Resignations
Current at April 24, 2017

Retirements: Elementary Teaching Staff				
First	Last	Position/Location	Retirement Date	Years of Service
Paul	Boadway	Teacher, Wilson Avenue PS	30-Jun-17	24
Sigrid	Beck	Teacher, Bridgeport PS	30-Jun-17	32
Mark	Cote	Teacher, Breslau PS	30-Jun-17	27
Margaret	Dahmer	Teacher, King Edward PS	30-Jun-17	30
Rhiannon	Davies	Teacher, Linwood PS	30-Jun-17	29
Trevor	Davies	Teacher, Suddaby PS	30-Jun-17	27
Sandra	Donders	Teacher, Hillcrest PS	30-Jun-17	27
Anne	Dunbar	Teacher, Lexington PS	30-Jun-17	19
Stephanie	Ertel	Teacher, Elgin Street PS	30-Jun-17	29
Leslie	Fraser	Teacher, Hespeler PS	31-May-17	31
Kathryn	Inch	Teacher, Franklin PS	30-Jun-17	39
Neva	Lunney-Walsh	Teacher, (on leave)	31-May-17	29
Mary	Lehto	Teacher, King Edward PS	30-Jun-17	30
Julie	MacDonald	Teacher, Edna Staebler PS	30-Jun-17	29
Margaret	MacKay-Calder	Teacher, (on leave)	1-Jun-17	28
Hugh	Maclean	Teacher, Linwood PS	30-Jun-17	24
Barbara	MacLeod	Teacher, Clemens Mill PS	30-Jun-17	27
Dale	Mieske	Teacher, Northlake Woods PS	30-Jun-17	25
John	Settle	Teacher, Wellesley PS	30-Jun-17	28
Monica	Sollows	Teacher, Lexington PS	30-Jun-17	26
Carolyn	Sutton	Teacher, Ayr PS	31-Aug-17	31
Michele	Taron	Teacher, Bridgeport PS	30-Jun-17	25
Gregory	Wheeler	Teacher, Avenue Road PS	30-Jun-17	31
Barbara	Witmer	Teacher, WT Townshend PS	30-Jun-17	28

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Retirements: Secondary Teaching Staff				
First	Last	Position/Location	Retirement Date	Years of Service
Loree	Abbott	Teacher, Preston HS	30-Jun-17	31
Peter	Bolton	Teacher, Galt CI	30-Jun-17	11
Catherine	Gendron-Kitamura	Teacher, Preston HS	30-Jun-17	31
Mary	MacMillan	Teacher, Preston HS	30-Jun-17	31
Angela	Martin	Teacher, Southwood SS	30-Jun-17	31
Kim	McCutcheon	Teacher, Waterloo-Oxford DSS	30-Jun-17	32
Monica	Petrus	Teacher, Forest Heights CI	30-Jun-17	19
Barbara	Power	Teacher, Eastwood CI	30-Jun-17	16
Diana	Seebach	Teacher, Bluevale CI	30-Jun-17	34
Troy	Thorne	Teacher, Grand River CI	30-Jun-17	27
Jeff	VanSegbrook	Teacher, Forest Heights CI	30-Jun-17	27
David	Van Tilborg	Teacher, Glenview Park SS	30-Jun-17	24
Kelly	Wood	Teacher, Forest Heights CI	30-Jun-17	28
Savio	Wong	Teacher, Waterloo-Oxford DSS	30-Jun-17	32

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Staffing Information - Retirements & Resignations
Current at April 24, 2017

Retirements: Administrative and Support Staff				
First	Last	Position/Location	Retirement Date	Years of Service
Liz	Arbuckle	Principal, Laurelwood PS	30-Jun-17	35
Kathleen	Bolhuis	Educational Assistant (EA), JF Carmichael PS	30-Jun-17	26
Barb	Brown	Principal, WT Townshend PS	30-Jun-17	29
Ian	Clancy	Vice-Principal, Sir John A. Macdonald SS	30-Jun-17	28
John	Craig	Vice-Principal, Waterloo-Oxford DSS	30-Jun-17	29
Francis	d'Avernas	Educational Assistant (EA), Kitchener-Waterloo CI	30-Jun-17	25
Lynda	Faloon-Guay	Behavioural Consultant, Special Education Services, EdC	30-Jun-17	9
Donna	Kelterborn	Educational Assistant (EA), Forest Glen PS	30-Jun-17	30
Rob	Klea	Behavioural Consultant, Special Education Services, EdC	30-Jun-17	27
Julie	Kovrig	Head Secretary, Country Hills PS	30-Jun-17	37
Johanne	Messer	Educational Assistant (EA), Lexington PS	30-Jun-17	28
Janet	Pegg	Educational Assistant (EA), Northlake Woods PS	30-Jun-17	24
Heather	Preddie	Principal, Glencairn PS	30-Jun-17	27
Jane	Reid	Educational Assistant (EA), Centennial PS (Camb)	30-Jun-17	22
Al	Souto	Supervisor, Custodial Services, Galt CI	31-Jul-17	38
Darlene	Stubbs	Principal, Forest Glen PS	30-Jun-17	17
Patricia	Walsh	Educational Assistant (EA), Mary Johnston PS	30-Jun-17	20
Janet	Zilio	Secretary, Learning Services, Education Centre	20-Jul-17	19

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Resignations:			
First	Last	Position/Location	Effective Date
David	Kampen Robinson	Elementary Teacher, Brigadoon PS	30-Jun-17
Sarah	Grill	Elementary Teacher, Coronation PS	3-Jul-17
Michelle	Ranger	Educational Assistant (EA - Supply)	17-Apr-17
Kimi	Straus	Secondary Teacher, Bluevale CI	30-Jun-17
Donna	Uez	Educational Assistant (EA), Winston Churchill PS	22-Mar-17



Report to Board of Trustees

April 24, 2017

Subject: Staffing Recommendations – Appointments

Recommendation

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the appointments to staff as outlined in the report titled “Staffing Recommendations – Appointments, dated April 24, 2017.

Status

The staff appointments as noted on Appendix A of this report are effective the dates indicated.

Background

The board’s practice has been to have appointments presented for information at regular monthly board meetings.

Financial implications

Expenses are within the existing approved budget.

Communications

Employees listed in this report have, or will be advised of the appointments.

Prepared by: Michael Weinert, Coordinating Superintendent, Human Resource Services, in consultation with Coordinating Council.

Staffing Information - New Appointments

Current at April 24, 2017

New Appointments: Elementary Teaching Staff				
First	Last	Position	Location	Effective Date
Rebecca	Cudney	Teacher	J.W. Gerth PS	29-Mar-17
Christine	Herner	Teacher	A.R. Kaufman PS	10-Apr-17
Brent	Hewitt	Teacher	Laurelwood PS	6-Apr-17
Paul	Koop	Teacher	Sunnyside PS	6-Apr-17
Gary	Moorby	Teacher	Brigadoon	7-Apr-17

New Appointments: Secondary Teaching Staff

Nil Report.

New Appointments: Administrative and Support Staff				
First	Last	Position	Location	Effective Date
Jay	Attwal	Custodian (part-time)	Highland PS	18-Apr-17
Ammie	Brodrecht	Human Resources Assistant	Human Resource Services, EdC	22-Mar-17
Robin	Hearn	Custodian (part-time)	Howard Robertson PS	12-Apr-17
Colin	Irwin	Custodian	Grandview PS, Cambridge & Ryerson PS	19-Apr-17
Rose	LaRose	DECE Extended Day Deployment	Human Resource Services, EdC	10-Apr-17
Tanya	Laurie	Custodian	Southwood SS	13-Apr-17
Matt	LeGault	Custodian (part-time)	Sandowne PS	21-Apr-17
Nadine	Risk	Custodian (part-time)	New Dundee PS	24-Apr-17
John	Wood	Custodian (part-time)	A.R. Kaufman PS	11-Apr-17

** The above hirings are full and part time positions and are replacements due to recent retirements or resignations.



Report to Board

April 24, 2017

Subject: Student Suspension/Expulsion Report March 31, 2017

Recommendation

It is recommended that trustees enter this report into the minutes of the meeting.

Status

Comparing Year to Date from March 2015-2016 and March 2016-2017, Elementary suspensions have increased by 131 and Secondary suspensions have decreased by 6.

Comparing Year to Date from March 2015-2016 and March 2016-2017, School expulsions have increased by 3 and Board expulsions has increased by 5.

The most recent month's suspension and expulsion data is included below. This data is accurate up to, and including, the date of collection.

Suspensions

- Total Elementary School Suspensions for the month of March 2017 were 117
- Total Year to Date Elementary School Suspensions as of March 2017 were 748
- Total Elementary School Suspensions for the month of March 2016 were 65
- Total Year to Date Elementary School Suspensions as of March 2016 were 617
- Total Secondary School Suspensions for the month of March 2017 were 163
- Total Year to Date Secondary School Suspensions as of March 2017 were 958
- Total Secondary School Suspensions for the month of March 2016 were 108
- Total Year to Date Secondary School Suspensions as of March 2016 were 964

School Expulsions

- Total School Expulsions for the month of March 2017 were 0
- Total Year to Date School Expulsions as of March 2017 were 3
- Total School Expulsions for the month of March 2016 were 0
- Total Year to Date School Expulsions as of March 2016 were 0

Board Expulsions

- Total Board Expulsions for the month of March 2017 were 2
- Total Year to Date Board Expulsions as of March 2017 were 14
- Total Board Expulsions for the month of March 2016 were 2
- Total Year to Date Board Expulsions as of March 2016 were 9

Violent Incidents

The term violent incident is defined as the occurrence of any one of the following or the occurrence of a combination of any of the following: possessing a weapon, including possessing a firearm, physical assault causing bodily harm requiring medical attention, sexual assault, robbery, using a weapon to cause or to threaten bodily harm to another person, extortion, hate and/or bias-motivated occurrences.

Total Elementary and Secondary Violent Incidents

- Total Violent Incidents for the month of March 2017 were 7
- Total Year to Date Violent Incidents as of March 2017 were 29
- Total Violent Incidents for the month of March 2016 were 4
- Total Year to Date Violent Incidents as of March 2016 were 21

Background

As requested by the Board, suspension/expulsion data will be presented at the Board meeting each month.

Financial implications

No financial implications

Communications

Upon request, suspension/expulsion data is communicated to the Ministry of Education for statistical purposes.

Prepared by: Peter Rubenschuh, Superintendent, Student Achievement and Well-Being
Jim Woolley, System Administrator, Specialty Programs and Supports
JK-12
in consultation with Coordinating Council



Report to Board of Trustees

April 24, 2017

Subject: Recipients of the 2016-17 Tim Walker Memorial Award for Environmental Stewardship

Recommendation

This report is for the information of the Board.

Status

The Adjudication Committee, comprised of Stephanie Walker (mother of the late Tim Walker), Trustee Martin and Student Trustees Barnes and Jamal, reviewed applications submitted by the following schools:

<u>Elementary/Senior Public Schools</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
A.R. Kaufman Public School	Rebecca Riche, Teacher
Country Hills Public School	Joy Good, Teacher
Forest Glen Public School	Amy Zister, Parent, Greening Committee
J.F. Carmichael Public School	Tyler Yantzi, Teacher
J.W. Gerth Public School	Gillian Brooks, Teacher
Laurelwood Public School	Liz Arbuckle, Principal
Lester B. Pearson Public School	Ashley Freeman, Early Childhood Educator
Park Manor Public School	Sharlene McHolm, Principal
Sandhills Public School	Silvana Hoxha, Principal
Smithson Public School	Diane Sergeant, Teacher

<u>Secondary Schools</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>
Glenview Park Secondary School	Bobbi-Jo Wade, Teacher
Huron Heights Secondary School	Ian McGaire & Aaron Holmes, Teachers
Jacob Hespeler Secondary School	Andrea Bell, Teacher
Kitchener-Waterloo C.I.	Mike Jones, Teacher

The following criteria were taken into consideration:

1. Staff and student involvement (current and future) and environmental stewardship.
2. Impact on student learning/fostering learning and engaging students.
3. Environmental benefits – shading, greening, waste reduction, recycling – organized action/school environmental club or committee.

The following recipients were confirmed to meet the criteria and were selected to receive the 2016-2017 Tim Walker Memorial Award:

- J.F. Carmichael Public School
- J.W. Gerth Public School
- Huron Heights Secondary School
- Jacob Hespeler Secondary School

Attached to this report is a synopsis of the projects submitted by the 2016-2017 recipients of the Tim Walker Award for Environmental Stewardship. (Appendix A)

Background

In May 2006, the Board passed a motion to administer the Tim Walker Memorial Award for Environmental Stewardship annually to honour the life of secondary school teacher Tim Walker and his contribution to education and environmental initiatives. The annual award is \$2,000, which is to be equally distributed among two elementary and two secondary schools (i.e., \$500 per school). At a meeting on March 28, 2017, an adjudication committee reviewed the applications submitted for the 2016-2017 Tim Walker Memorial Award for Environmental Stewardship.

Financial implications

An amount of \$2,000 will be charged annually to the Trustee expenses budget (this action commenced in the 2006-2007 school year). This is the eleventh year the award has been issued.

Communications

The announcement of the Tim Walker Memorial Award recipients will be shared with all schools, staff, students and the public via a Board news release.

Prepared by: John Bryant, Director of Education
Jayne Herring, Manager, Corporate Services
in consultation with Coordinating Council

2016-2017 Tim Walker Memorial Award for Environmental Stewardship

Project Synopsis

Elementary Award Recipients

J.F. Carmichael Public School – Pollinator Garden Creation: Phase 2

Pollinators are an essential part of our ecosystem. Taking action to support pollinator populations promotes a healthy, well-balanced ecosystem. Two years ago, Grade 6 students planted a pollinator garden. The garden is a circle covering an area of approximately 60 metres squared. It includes native perennial plants like Black-Eyed Susan, Columbine, Blue Rye Grass, Asters, Echinacea and Milkweed. These plants attract pollinators and support their populations. Funds from this grant would allow us to purchase more native plants to help increase their density and help the garden more quickly establish itself and win the battle against the weeds.

J.W. Gerth Public School – Stream of Dreams

Stream of Dreams is an eco-educational program, run in conjunction with the Grand River Conservation Authority, which teaches children about their local waterway, and the impact humans have on conserving and protecting our environment. The project started out west, when a girl noticed some fish had been killed from a company dumping pollutants in the local waterway. She wanted to have children from all over the world, be more knowledgeable about their waterways and become stewards for the environment. In the local program, the students get the opportunity to participate in a program that explores their local community waterways, find out what happens when pollutants are poured down drains or sewers and discover where their local drinking water comes from. At the completion of the project, each student will be given the opportunity to design and paint their own "dreamfish", which represents their hopes for their future. These dreamfish will be mounted on the fence surrounding the school year, in an artistic mural, that mimics the flow of wild salmon swimming.

Secondary Award Recipients

Huron Heights Secondary School – Food Forest

Our plan is to create a food forest, and in doing so, create a green space that supplements the nutritional and educational needs of students at Huron Heights Secondary School. A food forest is inexpensive and self-sustaining so it will be easy to implement and maintain on a reasonable budget. Our Food Forest will provide food for the school (e.g., Nutrition for Learning, Life Skills/Dev Ed Class and Family Studies courses) and greater community, provide a quiet place for mindfulness and reflection, improve the air quality of the area and provide students with additional greenery in the school space.

Jacob Hespeler Secondary School – Canada 150 Celebration Tree Dedication

We plan on dedicating **five trees that are native to Canada** to each class of this 2017 year (grade 9's, 10's, 11's, 12's and staff). Each grade will vote on their maple of choice through a google form. Choices will include: Red Maple (Canada's flag), Silver Maple, Sugar Maple, Big Leaf Maple, Douglas Maple, Black Maple, Striped Maple, Vine Maple, and Mountain Maple.

The trees will be labeled with a dedication plaque (through other funds) identifying the Canada 150 celebration, the "Tim Walker Memorial Fund", the class that the tree was dedicated to, the type of tree and identifying features of the tree indicating its native status. They will add to our ongoing habitat naturalization projects at JHSS. Several native trees have been planted on the front east side of the school property along with native wildflower gardens to increase the biodiversity on our school property. At present, there is minimal tree cover (only 4 mature trees) at the back of the school, alongside the sports fields that are shared with the City of Cambridge. Increasing tree cover globally is paramount in addressing and mitigating the impacts of climate change.



Report to Board

April 24, 2017

Subject: Proposed Schedule of Meetings – 2017-2018 Budget

Recommendation

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the following tentative additions to the regular meeting schedule in order to provide supplementary meetings to discuss the 2017-2018 Budget:

<i>Special Committee of the Whole Meeting</i>	<i>Monday, June 5 at 7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Special Delegation Meeting</i>	<i>Wednesday, June 14 at 7:00 p.m.</i>
<i>Special Committee of the Whole Meeting</i>	<i>Wednesday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m.</i>

Status

Special Committee of the Whole meetings will be scheduled to hear presentations from staff and the public in relation to the 2017-2018 Budget and to provide opportunities to discuss budget issues. The proposed dates are set out in the recommendation printed below; however, it must be noted that the Special Committee of the Whole meeting dates in June are tentative pending receipt of funding information from the Ministry of Education.

Appendix A (attached) lists the schedule of regular public Board and Committee of the Whole meetings through to the end of June, and includes the dates set out in the motion below. Delegation procedures will be in accordance with the Board's Bylaws for regular and special meetings. In addition, the public will be invited to make delegation presentations to the Board about the 2017-2018 Budget at the Special Delegation Meeting scheduled for June 14, 2017, or at any regular Committee of the Whole Meeting (June 12 or June 19, 2017).

Background

Each year, the Board designates specific dates to consider information relating to the budget for the upcoming school year.

Financial implications

No financial implications.

Communications

Approved meeting dates and related delegation information will be communicated to members of the public through advertisements in local news media, social media and the WRDSB website.

Prepared by: Matthew Gerrard, Coordinating Superintendent of Business and Financial Services and Treasurer
Jayne Herring, Manager of Corporate Services in consultation with Coordinating Council



Bluewater District School Board

351 1st Avenue North – PO Box 190
 Chesley ON N0G 1L0
 Telephone: (519) 363-2014 Fax: (519) 370-2909
 www.bwdsb.on.ca

February 27, 2017

Sent by email: Minister.EDU@ontario.ca

Honourable Mitzie Hunter
 Minister of Education
 Ministry of Education
 22nd Floor, Mowat Block
 900 Bay Street
 Toronto, Ontario M7A 1L2

Dear Minister Hunter:

On February 21, 2017, Bluewater District School Board passed a motion to write to the Minister of Education requesting that the scope for the Special Education Funding Working Group be expanded to include a more robust and comprehensive review of both the current special education model as well as the funding of special education in Ontario as a whole. The board recommends that further consultation should include the following groups:

- Minister's Advisory Council On Special Education;
- Provincial Parent Advisory Association Committee On Special Education Advisory Committees;
- Special Education Advisory Committees;
- Provincial organizations that represent each of the areas of exceptionality;
- Ontario Teachers Federation;
- School Boards;
- Trustees;
- Parents of students with special education exceptionalities; and
- Students with special education exceptionalities.

The basis for the board's recommendation included the following considerations:

- Bluewater District School Board currently provides special education services and programs to almost one in four of our students;
- Bluewater District School Board is one of the small number of school boards who is experiencing a significant reduction in their Special Education Needs Amount for specialized support for students with intensive and complex special education needs;
- Bluewater District School Board is experiencing a growing number of students with intensive and complex special education needs at the same time as it is experiencing a steady decline in the overall student enrolment;
- Bluewater District School Board has written previously to the Minister of Education expressing concern about the mental health and well-being of students with special education needs and their lack of access to a repository or portal of mental health resources that would benefit them and their families;
- The growth model of support for students with Autism in Ontario should be applied to all areas of exceptionality;

- Bill 82 was established in 1980 and required the publicly funded school system in Ontario to be responsible for the education of all Ontario students including those with special education needs in their language of instruction (page 8 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address¹);
- The \$20 million infusion in 2006 to the partnership of the Ontario Psychological Association (OPA) and school boards (page 21 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address²) has helped with the backlog of psychoeducational assessments, but there are still significant "wait times" for student assessments;
- Funding from the Special Education Per Pupil Amount and the Special Education Needs Amount (formerly High Needs Amount) are not allocated to specific students nor used on a strict student-by-student basis and represent approximately 93% of the Special Education Grant, (page 25 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address³).
- The current funding structure generates the potential for unequitable distribution of programs and resources to students within all areas of exceptionality and across school boards, despite the fact that Special education funding has been increasing, while overall provincial enrolment has been declining. (page 29 of George Zegarac's, Assistant Deputy Minister, 2008 address⁴);
- There are no updated guidelines or updated definitions for Intellectual (Developmental Disability, Mild Intellectual Disability, Giftedness) or Behavioural Guidelines. (page 18 Ministry of Education Special Education Update June 2015⁵) and only draft Guidelines for Programs and Services for Students Who Are Blind or have Low Vision (K-12). (page 4 Ministry of Education Special Education Update June 2015⁶);
- There is an issue of recruitment and retention of members on Special Education Advisory Committees in various boards across Ontario. (page 3 of the Executive Summary of the PAAC ON SEAC Survey 2014⁷);
- The ministry is currently reviewing Provincial and Demonstration Schools within the framework of Special Education (2015-16)⁸ which has raised concerns about access to very specialized programs that schools boards are not currently able to provide;
- Formal identification and placement decisions through the Identification, Placement and Review Process (IPRC) is on a significant decline and students with special education needs receive supports or accommodations more often through recommendations set out in an Individual Education Plan (IEP) (page 9 A People Report on Special Education 2014⁹); and
- The ministry plans to reconvene the Special Education Funding Working Group to continue to support the transformation of special education funding and other key special education initiatives going forward (Ministry of Education Special Education Update February 2016¹⁰).

1 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

2 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

3 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

4 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/research/specEd_AERA_CSSE.pdf

5 <http://education.easterseals.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Ministry-of-Education-Special-Education-Update-June-2015.pdf>

6 <http://education.easterseals.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Ministry-of-Education-Special-Education-Update-June-2015.pdf>

7 <http://www.paac-seac.ca/wp-content/uploads/PAAC-on-SEAC-Survey-Executive-Summary-2014.pdf>

8 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/special_ed_update.html

9 <http://www.peopleforeducation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/special-education-2014-WEB.pdf>

10 http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/speced/special_ed_update.html#_Toc445455883

The Bluewater District School Board also recommends to the Ministry of Education that a comprehensive review should include:

- a gap analysis of our current provincial model for special education and any research on current and future models for special education around the world;
- a forensic analysis for each individual area of exceptionality to determine what portion of each special education dollar reaches students and what portion of each dollar goes to administration, communication, the IPRC process, and other paperwork;
- a narrative that links the "special education model" to the *Education For All* and *Learning For All* ministry documents;
- an analysis of the meta data that has been collected by the ministry since the inception of Bill 82 to discover patterns and insights that would be applicable to the development of a new or modified model for special education and appropriate funding for that model; and
- current directions in neuroscience in the review of the current model and development of any future special education model.

Bluewater District School Board looks forward to your response and would be pleased to speak further with you about these issues.

Sincerely,



Ron Motz, Board Chair



Paul Eichhorn, Chair of SEAC

c.c. OPSBA President
 Ontario School Board Chairs
 Ontario School Boards Directors of Education
 SEAC Chairs
 MACSE Chair
 Association des Enseignants Franco-Ontariens
 Ontario English Catholic Teachers' Association
 Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
 Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation
 Non-Profit Advocacy Organizations (listed on EDU website)
 Association for Bright Children
 Association francophone de parents d'enfants dyslexiques ou ayant tout autre trouble d'apprentissage (AFPED)
 Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario (LDAO)
 Canadian Association of Community Living
 VOICE for Hearing Impaired Children
 Integration Action for Inclusion in Education and Community
 Ontario Association for Families of Children with Communication Disorders (OAFCCD)
 Parents for Children's Mental Health
 The Canadian Hearing Society (CHS)
 Spina Bifida and Hydrocephalus Association of Ontario
 Tourette Syndrome Foundation of Canada
 Silent Voice Canada
 Bob Rumball Foundation for the Deaf
 Ontario Cultural Society of the Deaf
 Ontario Association for the Deaf

Ministry of Education
Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation
Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



April 6, 2017

Mr. Scott McMillan
Chair of the Board
Waterloo Region District School Board
51 Ardelt Avenue
Kitchener ON N2C 2R5

Dear Mr. McMillan,

Thank you for your letter expressing concern about the availability of qualified, fluent French teachers.

I understand the difficulties you express, and recognize the challenges this creates for school boards, including the Waterloo Region District School Board.

We will consider the best ways that we can influence an appropriate number of qualified, fluent French-speaking teachers within the teaching profession of Ontario, and appreciate your suggestion that the best way may be to encourage post-secondary institutions to expand French programs. We will discuss this with our colleagues in the Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development.

Again, thank you for your correspondence.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "MH", written in a cursive style.

Mitzie Hunter, MBA
Minister