

OCTOBER 19, 2009
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening at 7:19 p.m. in the Education Centre Board Room, with the following members in attendance: M. Ramsay (Board Chairperson), P. Adamson, C. Fife, C. Harrington, A. Mitchell, H. Paisley, C. Watson, and K. Woodcock.

Trustees J. Hendry, T. Martin, and K. Smith were unable to attend.

Student Trustees R. Bauman and R. Schuett attended the meeting.

The following Board officials were present:

L. Fabi, Director of Education & Secretary;
J. Bryant, Executive Superintendent of Human Resources & Organizational Development;
M. Mackie, Executive Superintendent of Education; and,
M. Marklevitz, Executive Superintendent of Business & Financial Services.

Other staff in attendance were as follows: G. Bereznick, M. Coleman, R. Dallan, D. DeCoene, I. Gaudet, N. Hercanuck, L. Manske, G. Shantz, C. Smith, and C. Fraser.

CALL TO ORDER

Board Chairperson M. Ramsay called the meeting to order. The meeting opened with the singing of the national anthem.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by H. Paisley, seconded by C. Fife:

That, with the following additions, the agenda for the October 19, 2009, Committee of the Whole meeting be approved:

- **Special Order – Nutrition for Learning**
- **Other Business – Update from Staff re Construction Delays at Sir Adam Beck and Millen Woods Public Schools**

- Carried Unanimously -

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were none.

SPECIAL ORDER

Trustees heard a presentation from Nutrition for Learning which provides almost 1.2 million nutritious meals/snacks for this Board's students every year. A question period followed. An information package provided by Nutrition for Learning is on file at the Education Centre.

On behalf of trustees, Board Chairperson M. Ramsay thanked Nutrition for Learning for the very important work they do for the children in our schools.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Chairperson M. Ramsay asked for trustee volunteers to represent the Board with respect to the laying of wreaths at local cenotaphs on Remembrance Day.

DELEGATIONS

The delegation scheduled to appear at tonight's meeting has withdrawn its request to appear.

LEARNING SERVICES PRESENTATION – STUDENT EXEMPLARS

M. Mackie recalled that, at the September 21, 2009, Committee of the Whole meeting, trustees were shown a video titled "System Success" which outlined the five instructional tools for achieving the goal of improved thinking and communication skills for all students and for specified groups (boys, ELL, students with special needs, etc.). At that meeting, she had advised trustees that each Superintendent of Education would be coming to a future Committee of the Whole meeting to speak in depth on one of the following areas addressed in the video: Student Exemplars, Anchor Charts, Open-minded Critical Questions, Graphic Organizer, and Non-Fiction Writing. With this in mind, she called on Superintendent of Education G. Bereznick to make the first presentation in this series.

G. Bereznick proceeded to make his presentation to trustees on the topic of Student Exemplars. He also provided trustees with copies of Exemplar A and Exemplar B which listed the Level assigned to each, the Rationale, and the Focus for Next Steps. He then called attention to the document included in the package for tonight's meeting, titled "Synopsis for Trustees – Information Template", which provides the key information related to Student Exemplars and serves as a reference for trustees.

A question period followed.

Trustees expressed their appreciation to staff for this presentation and for all they do each day for our students.

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**RECOMMENDATIONS RESULTING FROM THE SOUTHEAST GALT
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS PUPIL ACCOMMODATION REVIEW**

M. Marklevitz began the discussion around this topic and then called on Manager of Planning C. Smith who introduced the Planning staff members in attendance.

Senior Planner N. Hercanuck reviewed the report titled "Recommendations Resulting from the Southeast Galt Elementary Schools' Pupil Accommodation Review", dated October 19, 2009. He noted that the purpose of the report was to seek approval of the recommendations resulting from this accommodation review, including boundary changes, approval for the construction of a new junior kindergarten to grade 8 school, an addition and program change for Avenue Road Public School, and the closure of Alison Park and Lincoln Avenue Public Schools.

C. Smith indicated that staff support, as a comprehensive package, the 15 recommendations outlined in this report.

2. Moved by A. Mitchell, seconded by C. Watson:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board formally close Alison Park Public School (MIDENT #012688) effective August 31, 2012, and advise the Ministry of Education;

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And that the Waterloo Region District School Board declare the Alison Park Public School property surplus;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board close Lincoln Avenue Public School (MIDENT #312851) effective August 31, 2013, and advise the Ministry of Education;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board declare the Lincoln Avenue Public School building and property surplus, effective August 31, 2013;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve an addition of approximately 200 pupil places and renovations, including a child care, at Avenue Road Public School at an estimated amount of \$5.8M, to tentatively be completed for September 2012, subject to Ministry approval;

And that \$3.6M of the estimated total cost for this addition be funded from New Pupil Place grants, \$1.45M be funded from the Proceeds of Disposition reserve and \$750,000 be funded by the child care operator;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the conversion of Avenue Road Public School to a Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 elementary program, offering Junior Kindergarten to Grade 7 classes, to coincide with the planned new construction completion, effective September 2012, and Grade 8 classes effective September 2013;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the construction of a new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school, of approximately 640 pupil places, including a child care, at an estimated amount of \$12.4M, on a site to be acquired on the north side of Myers Road, west of Dundas Street, to tentatively open September 2012, subject to land acquisition and Ministry approval;

And that \$8.85M of the estimated total cost of this new school be funded from New Pupil Place grants, \$2.8M be funded from the Proceeds of Disposition reserve, which represents the insurance claim amount from the Alison Park Public School fire, and \$750,000 be funded by the child care operator;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board seek non-profit child care operators to partner in the new construction at Avenue Road Public School and the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers Road;

And in the event the child care operator(s) are unable to provide a capital contribution, the initial capital funding for the child care facility(ies) estimated at \$750,000 per facility, will come from the Proceeds of Disposition reserve to be repaid by the operator(s) over the term of their agreement;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 boundaries for Avenue Road P.S., Chalmers Street P.S., Stewart Avenue P.S. and the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers

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Road, as illustrated on Appendix 'C' attached to this report, dated October 19, 2009, to coincide with the planned new facility openings, tentatively effective September 2012;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve boundaries for Avenue Road P.S., Stewart Avenue P.S. and the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers Road, as illustrated on Appendix 'D' attached to this report, dated October 19, 2009, to coincide with the planned new facility openings, tentatively effective September 2012 for Grade 7 students and September 2013 for Grade 8 students;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board refer facility upgrades, including accessibility, at all the remaining schools to the Accommodation Steering Committee for consideration and prioritization;

And that Facility Space Templates for the construction of the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers Road and Avenue Road Public School be submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval.
(Folio 2)

3. Moved in amendment by K. Woodcock, seconded by C. Fife:

That clause #2 of motion #2 of the minutes of the Waterloo Region District School Board Committee of the Whole meeting held October 19, 2009, be amended to say that the Alison Park Public School property should be declared surplus immediately, so that the motion now reads as follows:

“That the Waterloo Region District School Board formally close Alison Park Public School (MIDENT #012688) effective August 31, 2012, and advise the Ministry of Education;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board declare the Alison Park Public School property surplus immediately;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board close Lincoln Avenue Public School (MIDENT #312851) effective August 31, 2013, and advise the Ministry of Education;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board declare the Lincoln Avenue Public School building and property surplus, effective August 31, 2013;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve an addition of approximately 200 pupil places and renovations, including a child care, at Avenue Road Public School at an estimated amount of \$5.8M, to tentatively be completed for September 2012, subject to Ministry approval;

And that \$3.6M of the estimated total cost for this addition be funded from New Pupil Place grants, \$1.45M be funded from the Proceeds of Disposition reserve and \$750,000 be funded by the child care operator;

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And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the conversion of Avenue Road Public School to a Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 elementary program, offering Junior Kindergarten to Grade 7 classes, to coincide with the planned new construction completion, effective September 2012, and Grade 8 classes effective September 2013;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the construction of a new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school, of approximately 640 pupil places, including a child care, at an estimated amount of \$12.4M, on a site to be acquired on the north side of Myers Road, west of Dundas Street, to tentatively open September 2012, subject to land acquisition and Ministry approval;

And that \$8.85M of the estimated total cost of this new school be funded from New Pupil Place grants, \$2.8M be funded from the Proceeds of Disposition reserve, which represents the insurance claim amount from the Alison Park Public School fire, and \$750,000 be funded by the child care operator;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board seek non-profit child care operators to partner in the new construction at Avenue Road Public School and the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers Road;

And in the event the child care operator(s) are unable to provide a capital contribution, the initial capital funding for the child care facility(ies) estimated at \$750,000 per facility, will come from the Proceeds of Disposition reserve to be repaid by the operator(s) over the term of their agreement;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6 boundaries for Avenue Road P.S., Chalmers Street P.S., Stewart Avenue P.S. and the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers Road, as illustrated on Appendix 'C' attached to this report, dated October 19, 2009, to coincide with the planned new facility openings, tentatively effective September 2012;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board approve boundaries for Avenue Road P.S., Stewart Avenue P.S. and the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers Road, as illustrated on Appendix 'D' attached to this report, dated October 19, 2009, to coincide with the planned new facility openings, tentatively effective September 2012 for Grade 7 students and September 2013 for Grade 8 students;

And that the Waterloo Region District School Board refer facility upgrades, including accessibility, at all the remaining schools to the Accommodation Steering Committee for consideration and prioritization;

And that Facility Space Templates for the construction of the new Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8 school on the north side of Myers Road and Avenue Road Public School be submitted to the Ministry of Education for approval."

(Folio 2)

- Amendment Carried –
- Main Motion as Amended Carried -

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A lengthy discussion took place during which trustees outlined concerns and asked questions with respect to these recommendations.

At this point, the amendment to the motion was made.

Trustees continued their in-depth review of the recommendations.

Both the amendment and the main motion as amended were then put to a vote and carried.

On behalf of trustees, Board Chairperson M. Ramsay expressed appreciation to staff for all the hard work that went into this process and report.

There was a trustee suggestion that the Board should hold a discussion on the accommodation review process currently in place.

EXTEND ADJOURNMENT TIME

4. Moved by H. Paisley, seconded by C. Fife:

That the 9:00 p.m. adjournment time be extended by thirty minutes.

- Carried Unanimously -

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 1010 (ACCESSIBILITY FOR ONTARIANS WITH DISABILITIES)

G. Shantz, Executive Officer, Office of the Director, reviewed the report titled “Approval of Board Policy 1010 (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities) as required by Accessibility Standards for Customer Service, Ontario Regulation 429/07”, dated October 19, 2009. The purpose of the report is to present a draft policy for Board approval.

5. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by C. Fife:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board adopt Policy 1010 (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities), as outlined in Appendix A in the report titled, “Approval of Board Policy 1010 (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities)”, as required by Accessibility Standards for Customer Service, Ontario Regulation 429/07, dated October 19, 2009.

(Folio 35)

- Carried Unanimously –

A discussion took place during which staff responded to a number of questions from trustees.

At this point, the recommendation was put to a vote and carried.

QUESTION PERIOD

In reply to trustee concerns and questions regarding delays in the construction of Sir Adam Beck and Millen Woods Public Schools, M. Marklevitz indicated that, due to a number of factors which she outlined in detail, staff cannot guarantee completion of these two new schools by the original target date of September 2010.

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Responding to a trustee query, L. Fabi said she was recently told that information around full-day early learning will be provided to boards within two weeks.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

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

Saying she supported the amendment of Board bylaw 5.4.1 re membership of all Board Standing/Advisory Committees, Trustee C. Fife served notice of motion, as follows:

“Whereas Waterloo Region District School Board Policy 2000: Environmental Values states that the educational community has a major leadership role in teaching, promoting, and actively demonstrating the principles, values, and behaviours necessary to live in harmony with our environment

And whereas staffing resources are necessary to carry out the work of the Environmental Advisory Committee

Be it resolved that the staff membership of the Environmental Advisory Committee be increased to include OSSTF, ETFO, WREA, and SSPA, as well as Purchasing, Facility Services, and Custodial Services staff.”

ADJOURN MEETING

4. Moved by C. Fife, seconded by C. Harrington:

That the Committee of the Whole meeting be adjourned.

- Carried –

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.

