

**NOVEMBER 13, 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), C. Harrington, J. Hendry, T. Martin, C. Millar, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, N. Waddell, C. Waterfall, C. Watson and K. Woodcock.

Student Trustees G. Kenyon and K. Shaban were in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: J. Bryant (Director of Education and Secretary), M. Gerard, S. Lomax, and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: V. Ford, J. Herring, W. Jacques, N. Landry, D. Liebermann, N. Manning, S. Reidel and S. Uttley.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson S. McMillan called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Moved by C. Harrington, seconded by C. Waterfall:

**That the agenda of the November 13, 2017, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.**

-Carried-

**DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Director J. Bryant introduced Principal Karen Bileski and Principal Brad Hughes, co-chairs of the 2017 United Way campaign. The local United Way campaign is focusing on poverty in our region for the current year. The board has been contributing for more than 50 years and raised over \$86,000 in 2016.

Chairperson S. McMillan announced an upcoming expulsion hearing on November 21, 2017 required 2 more trustees. Trustee C. Harrington already volunteered.

Chairperson S. McMillan requested that the remaining Trustees respond to the inquiry regarding dates for the Trustee Retreat. Based on current responses February 9-10, 2018 are the favourable dates.

In the interest of time, Chairperson S. McMillan requested that any other announcements be deferred to the November 20, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting.

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Chairperson S. McMillan invited retiring Manager of Corporate Services, J. Herring to join him at the front. He wished her well in her retirement and thanked her for her years of service. A gift of appreciation was presented to J. Herring on behalf of the Trustees.

**DELEGATIONS**

The following delegations were scheduled to speak at this evening's meeting:

- Milos Posavliak re Proposed Name for the new West Kitchener Elementary School
- Alex Hourahine re Active Cambridge

**REFER TO STAFF**

1. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by C. Waterfall:

**That information provided by the delegation in regard to Active Cambridge be referred to staff to review and provide additional information.**

-Carried-

**POLICY AND GOVERNANCE**

The policies for review were deferred in the interest of time.

2. Moved by C. Harrington, seconded by C. Woodcock:

**That the policy review be deferred to the November 20, 2017 Committee of the Whole Meeting.**

-Carried-

Opposed: T. Martin

**REPORTS**

**TRUSTEE EXPENSES TO AUGUST 31, 2017**

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard presented the Trustee Expenses for 2016-2017. The information will be posted on the board website.

This report was provided for information.

**2016-2017 YEAR-END FINANCIAL REPORT**

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard introduced Controller N. Landry to present the Financial Report. N. Landry proceeded to thank the Financial Services team for their hard work. A financial surplus of \$506,000 was reported.

This report was provided for information.

**2016-2017 AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard introduced external auditors Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC) to present an unqualified opinion of the financial statements.

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

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the Audited Financial Statements for the year ended August 31, 2017, as recommended by the Board Audit Committee.**

-Carried-

**EXTERNAL MEMBER APPOINTMENT ON BOARD AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard presented the proposed external members for the Audit Committee. This has been approved by the Audit Committee. The external members have staggered terms to allow for continuity.

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

**That the Board appoint James Chmiel for the term ending September 30, 2019 and Jeff Weir for the term ending September 30, 2020 as external members of the Board Audit Committee**

-Carried-

All Trustees voted in favour of the Chairperson sending a formal letter on behalf of the Board of Trustees thanking Mr. Dunkel for his services on the Audit Committee.

**ANNUAL SCHOOL COUNCILS' REPORT**

Chief Communications Officer N. Manning shared the Annual School Councils' Report which is done in compliance with Ontario Regulation 612/00. The communication department distributed a Google Form to all school councils requesting specific feedback about fundraising, membership, initiatives and challenges. This is the first year for this style of reporting.

A request was made to capture school council contributions in advice, academic achievement and student well-being. Chief Communications Officer N. Manning agreed this would be an easy question to add for Principal reflection going forward.

This report was provided for information.

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**GENERATIVE DISCUSSION: STAFF REPORT REQUEST – CORRELATION BETWEEN LEARNING SKILLS AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AND WELL-BEING**

In August, nine trustees developed and discussed a number of initiatives for staff to measure and report on. Staff has determined that if it is the will of the Board, they will report in June on one of the initiatives- the correlation between learning skills and student achievement and well-being. Of the three primary initiatives, this is the one which does not require further directions and clarification and a timeline could be determined. This was also the initiative with the most interest in August.

The other two initiatives will be discussed further at the December 18, 2017 Board Meeting. Trustees N. Waddell and C. Watson will provide a Notice of Motion for this report at a future meeting.

Trustee Hendry exited the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

**QUESTION PERIOD**

Trustee M. Ramsay requested an update on the naming of the new school. This update will be provided at the November 20, 2017 Committee of the Whole meeting.

Trustee C. Watson voiced a concern around Educational Assistants (EAs) providing coverage on PD Days for the Extended Day programs. Coordinating Superintendent Michael Weinert clarified that supply EAs were used. There was a PD Day in which the EA Association wished to have both permanent and supply EAs attend, but supply staff is not afforded the same PD privileges. Many employee groups are fully drawn for supply staff as many have outside commitments preventing them from always being available.

**ADJOURNMENT**

5. Moved by C. Harrington, seconded by C. Millar:

**That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 13, 2017, be adjourned.**

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.