

JANUARY 15, 2018
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening at 6:30 p.m. in the Education Centre Boardroom, with the following members in attendance: S. McMillan (Chairperson), T. Martin, C. Millar, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, N. Waddell, C. Waterfall and C. Watson.

Trustees C. Harrington, J. Hendry and K. Woodcock were unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustee K. Shaban was in attendance and Student Trustee G. Kenyon was absent.

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

Other staff in attendance: S. Longeway, N. Manning and S. Reidel.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. McMillan called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was requested that the Verbal Report on Workplace Violence be deferred to the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

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

That the agenda of the January 15, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved with the removal of the Verbal Report on Workplace Violence.

-Carried-

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chief Communication Officer N. Manning announced that Friday, January 19, 2017 is Educational Assistant and Child Youth Worker appreciation day.

All Trustees were invited to the official Groh Public School Opening on February 1, 2018.

Chairperson S. McMillan expressed regrets from Trustees K. Woodcock and J. Hendry.

Trustee C. Waterfall attended a variety of school functions and toured four schools.
Trustee M. Ramsay joined the meeting at 6:41 p.m.

JANUARY 15, 2018
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Trustee K. Smith attended a school luncheon. She spoke briefly about the recent passing of Trudy Beaulne, who was heavily involved in the community.

Trustee C. Watson joined the meeting at 6:46 p.m.

Trustee T. Martin spoke about Minister Hunter's visit to Jean Steckle Public School today and her announcement regarding funding for a new elementary school in South-West Kitchener.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICIES

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the following Board Policies as presented at the January 15, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting:

- **1002 – Occupational Health and Safety**
- **1004 – Harassment**
- **1009 – Violence in the Workplace**
- **3004 – Holding of Public Meetings**
- **4002 – Community Use of Schools**
- **6004 – Outdoor Education / Off Campus Excursions**

-Carried-

REPORTS

FISCAL TASK FORCE QUARTERLY UPDATE

This report was provided for information.

As part of the committee's work in preparing the Board's budget for the 2018-19 school year, the Fiscal Task Force has begun working on a survey which will be posted to the board's website for the purpose of soliciting public feedback. The survey will be made available from February 2018 to March 2018 with the final dates to be confirmed at a future date. The survey will be promoted in the community through the board website and social media. Additional consultation will occur with groups such as Parent Involvement Committee, Special Education Advisory Committee, and Student Senate. Seventy-five percent of families will receive a direct email with a link to the survey.

TRUSTEE 2018 COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson S. McMillan will look into whether an alternate should also be assigned to the Parent Involvement Committee.

3. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by C. Waterfall:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approves the 2018 Board Committee Membership Structure as outlined in Appendix A of the report titled “2018 Board Committee Memberships” dated January 15, 2018.

-Carried-

MOTION RE: AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR FULL YEAR SCHOOLING

Trustee K. Smith spoke to her motion for full year schooling. It has been a topic of discussion for a number of years. She spoke to the struggles of some students with retaining information over the long summer. Both Peel DSB and Durham DSB have elementary and secondary schools running a full year (modified) program. Trustee Smith acknowledged that not all teachers would be interested in this change in programming.

It was noted that a committee would typically return to the Board with recommendations rather than the recommendations being stated in the motion itself. Trustee Smith agreed that the motion could be amended but that she does not want to process to take another five years.

There was agreement from other Trustees that a committee should be struck to investigate feasibility, but that locations should be determined by the committee with in depth public consultation and open communication. Factors such as air conditioning, community partners and agricultural students, would also need to be considered.

Trustees have been receiving both positive and negative comments from the public.

Director J. Bryant expressed staff’s support of a committee exploring full-year programming. He also noted that it can be connected to the Board’s Strategic Plan and goals. Collective agreements and employment terms and conditions need to be taken into consideration. He also stated that the initial timeline may be too optimistic to allow for work with students, staff, and the public.

It was decided to leave the committee open to be able to explore both elementary and secondary if the committee so wishes.

JANUARY 15, 2018
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

4. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by M. Ramsay:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board strike an Ad Hoc Committee to study the opening of full-year program in one school in Cambridge and one school in Kitchener; and

That the program be scheduled to begin in September 2018 for the 2018-2019 school year; and

That the programs operate for a minimum of two years with a full evaluation of the program in year two.

Moved in Amendment by T. Martin, seconded by C. Watson:

That Motion # 4 is amended to read:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board strike an Ad Hoc Committee to study the opening of full-year pilot programs;

And that the committee consult with all relevant stakeholders, including staff, parents and students;

And that the committee report back to the Board with recommendations by November 19, 2018.

Main Motion as amended moved by K. Smith, seconded by M. Ramsay:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board strike an Ad Hoc Committee to study the opening of full-year pilot programs;

And that the committee consult with all relevant stakeholders, including staff, parents and students;

And that the committee report back to the Board with recommendations by November 19, 2018.

-Amendment Carried-
-Amended Main Motion Carried-

MOTION RE: SECONDARY PROGRAMS / PARTNERSHIPS

Trustee C. Smith expressed a need to attract students and use different programming models. She cited some schools who have previously undertaken these types of changes. She stated that she is aware of a number of organizations whom would accept opportunities to work with WRDSB schools. Trustee C. Smith stated that input from student, parents and the public are a very important part of the partnership process. She would also like to see current programs evaluated. Student engagement on programming will need to be considered.

Trustee C. Watson made mention of the partnerships already in place and that the Strategic Plan priorities includes a culture of innovation.

5. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by C. Waterfall:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board undertake a review to develop new models for secondary schools to attract and retain students; and

That partnering with outside organizations, municipal partners and post-secondary institutions be considered; and

That an Ad-Hoc Committee conduct this review and be comprised of parents, students, staff and community partners; and

That an update and timeline for implementation be provided to the Board of Trustees by May 2019.

-Carried-

QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee C. Watson asked if staff are planning a review of bell times for secondary students. Trustees were told there is no impending review scheduled.

Trustee C. Watson asked if staff has measured the amount of screen time an average student received in the classroom in a day. Director Bryant stated he is unaware of any studies but would check with appropriate staff to confirm.

ADJOURNMENT

6. Moved by T. Martin, seconded by C. Waterfall:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of January 15, 2018, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.