

JUNE 13, 2018

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BUDGET 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 Boardroom, with the following members in attendance: S. McMillan (Chairperson), C. Harrington, J. Hendry, T. Martin, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, N. Waddell, C. Waterfall and K. Woodcock.

Trustee C. Millar attended via teleconference.

Trustee C. Watson was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustee M. Stojakovic was in attendance. Student trustee K. Shaban was not in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: J. Bryant (Director of Education and Secretary), I. Gaudet, M. Gerard, E. Giannopoulos, B. Lemon, N. Landry, S. Lomax, P. Rubenschuh, E. Ranney, L. Read, G. Shantz and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: W. Jocques, S. Longeway, S. Reidel, S. Uttley and W. Zhou.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. McMillan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

That the agenda of the June 13, 2018, Special Committee of the Whole Budget Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee K. Smith shared her excitement over the many diverse applicants for the Parent Involvement Committee for the upcoming year.

Chairperson S. McMillan shared regrets from Trustee C. Watson.

Chairperson S. McMillan asked that all trustees and staff speak into their microphones as Trustee C. Millar was attending by teleconference.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

REPORTS

2018-2019 BUDGET

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard and Controller N. Landry provided trustees with an overview of the balanced budget for 2018-2019.

The Ministry of Education (Ministry) identified the additional funding in the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) such as additional funding for special education, transition for grade seven and eight students, english as a second language, labour agreements, capital investments for child care spaces and capital investments for school renewal. Staff then shared some of the Ministry initiatives funded through EPO grants.

The Waterloo Region District School Board budget was developed using the Strategic Priorities and Operational Goals as guiding principles. The budget review process started in January, 2018 and included public engagement through the budget survey developed by the Fiscal Task Force. Total estimated revenues for 2018-2019 are \$774.6 million.

Staff agreed to bring a breakdown of the Special Education surplus amount in deferred revenue, showing the amount restricted to Special Equipment Amount (SEA) claims.

Risks to the budget include changing ministry directives, the provincial environment and economy and enrolment volatility.

Seven New Initiatives were recommended for 2018-2019 for a total cost of \$7.5 million from Accumulated Surplus - Unappropriated. A description of each initiative was provided:

1. Capital Improvements for Staff and Student Well-Being
2. Collaborative Furniture for Secondary Schools
3. Human Resource Information Systems (HRIS)
4. Early Intervention to Increase Graduation Rates
5. Program Enhancement Partnership - Aviation
6. Math Resources to Support Elementary Math Instruction
7. Laserfiche Enhancements

Trustees inquired into various initiatives and staff were asked to come back with the following information:

1. Given the change in provincial leadership, further information on the curriculum for the Math Resources to Support Elementary Math Instruction.
2. A one-page description of the Aviation partnership program.
3. A summary of investments made relating to the HRIS to date, what those investments have accomplished and what we hope to accomplish with the additional investment.
4. Supports for struggling students, specifically with mathematics.

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A summary infographic of the budget was distributed to trustees.

RISE AND RECONVENE

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

That trustees rise and reconvene in the Special Board Meeting.

-Carried-

Trustees rose to reconvene in the Special Board Meeting at 8:45 p.m.