The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Board 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, C. Millar, N. Waddell, C. Waterfall, C. Watson and K. Woodcock.

Trustees M. Ramsay and K. Smith were unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustees O. Judelson-Kelly and B. Wahl were in attendance.

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

Other staff in attendance: D. Liebermann, K. Penticost, S. Reidel and J. Scott

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by C. Waterfall, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the agenda of the September 24, 2018, Board Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

CONSENT AGENDA

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

That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of September 24, 2018, and the actions contained therein, be approved with the exception of Folio 19.

-Carried-

MOTION RE: SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION SITES ON FOLIO 19

Trustee C. Watson ask that trustees defer the motion on foloi 19 in the event training is needed at a later date if a Safe Consumption Site is placed close to a school.

3. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by C. Millar:

That the following motion be postponed until such time as the safe consumption sites are finalized:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board develop safety training and protocols for students and staff as well as information sessions for parents around safety protocols and processes for students around SIS and SCS sites.

-Carried-

Trustee C. Watson also asked that her question be included in the minutes in Question Period, not just the resulting action.

MOTIONS FROM IN CAMERA MEETING

Note: The following motions were approved in the In Camera session held earlier this evening.

A. Moved by C. Waterfall, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the agenda of the September 24, 2018, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.

-Carried-

B. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by C. Millar:

That the consent agenda of the September 24, 2018, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

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

That, effective October 9, 2018, the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the Secondary School Principal appointment of Josh Windsor, from Vice-Principal at Eastwood Collegiate Institute to (Acting) Principal at Grand River Collegiate Institute.

-Carried-

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

That we rise and report in public session.

-Carried-

Note: This concludes the reporting of In Camera motions.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES

Chairperson S. McMillan shared regrets from Trustees M. Ramsay and K. Smith.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS UPDATE

Chief Communications Officer A. Russell provided trustees with the first Communications Department Good News Update for the school year. She shared the summer and September communications activity which included the Health and Physical Education letter sent to parents, the System Leaders Meeting and the opening of Janet Metcalf Public School. The presentation included the media mentions for September and ended with a back-to-school video.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

REPORTS

EQAO RESULTS

This report was provided for information.

Director J. Bryant introduced the 2017-2018 school year results from the Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO), which publicly released the provincial, board and school-level results on September 19, 2018.

Senior Manager of Research, D. Liebermann, shared EQAO results for the Primary and Junior Assessments of Reading, Writing, and Mathematics, Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics and the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), completed during the 2017-2018 school year. The board utilizes EQAO results as one tool to monitor the work related to the strategic plan. Operational goals, which include EQAO as a measure, have been established to ensure the work of staff is focused and achieves the desired outcomes noted as part of the strategic plan.

Trustees asked a variety of questions which were answered by staff.

Schools has an opportunity to review their individual scores during the September 21, 2018. Professional Development Day. This includes the achievement, attitudinal and demographic data.

While many decisions are made at the school level, WRDSB has a standardized Comprehensive Math Approach and is working to complete a Comprehensive Literacy Approach.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

This report was provided for information.

As WRDSB moves into the third year of the implementation and monitoring of the strategic plan, senior staff continue to reflect on the impact of the collective work and the ability to meet the needs of each and every student. While our EQAO results suggest there has been improvement, staff are not yet satisfied and remain committed to implementing our operational goals, which include a focus on mathematics, graduation rates and student and staff well-being. In addition to the ongoing monitoring of implementation and outcomes, the senior team continues to solicit feedback and input on the operational goals and related strategies from a variety of stakeholders, with a particular emphasis on ensuring we hear from our diverse community. Staff has also used a variety of survey tools to seek input and feedback on the strategic plan and our implementation efforts.

Parent involvement and student voice will continue to be priorities in the strategic plan process.

Trustees can expect to see progress on the website strategy, shown under staff well-being, in the near future.

Chairperson S. McMillan thanked staff and trustees for their continuous work and commitment to the strategic plan and its goals.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Trustee K. Woodcock will be attending the Ontario Public School Boards' Association Board of Directors' Meeting this weekend. An invitation was extended to the Minister of Education.

The first Student Senate meeting for the year will be held at the Google office on October 3, 2018.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

The Board received the following communication:

• Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario – Health and Physical Education Curriculum

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The following notice of motion was served by Trustee C. Millar on behalf of Student Trustees O. Judelson-Kelly and B. Wahl with support from Trustees N. Waddell, C. Waterfall and K. Woodcock:

Because we believe that it is important for our students to have a voice in their own education;

Because the Ministry of Education has indicated that they will be holding broad consultations with stakeholders but does not mention students;

Following the lead of the Bluewater District School Board, let it be moved:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board request that the Ministry of Education ensure the inclusion of students and the student voice in any consultation process related to education issues and/or curriculum change.

ADJOURNMENT

4. Moved by C. Harrington, seconded by T. Martin:

That the Board Meeting of September 24, 2018, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.