

NOVEMBER 12, 2018
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 Boardroom, with the following members in attendance: S. McMillan (Chairperson), C. Harrington, T. Martin, C. Millar, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, N. Waddell, C. Waterfall, C. Watson and K. Woodcock.

Trustee J. Hendry was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustee O. Judelson-Kelly was in attendance and Student Trustee B. Wahl was not in attendance.

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

Other staff in attendance: E. Bumbaco, S. Galliher, N. Hercanuck, K. Penticost, S. Reidel and L. Slupeiks.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. McMillan called the meeting to order at 6:58 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

That the agenda of the November 12, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Trustee C Watson provided a declaration of pecuniary interest during the in camera meeting.

Trustee T. Martin declared a conflict of interest during the Trustee Parking Motion discussions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee C. Millar attended a Remembrance Day ceremony at Margaret Avenue Public School.

Trustee K. Woodcock brought greetings from the Board to the Waterloo Collegiate Institute graduation ceremony.

Trustee K. Smith attended the People for Education's Annual Conference in Toronto with parents from the Parent Involvement Committee and the Waterloo Region Assembly of Public School Councils. Trustee K. Smith also attended a Remembrance Day ceremony at Centre in the Square.

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Trustee T. Martin brought greetings from the Board to the Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate and Vocational School graduation ceremony.

Student Trustees O. Judelson-Kelly and B. Wahl attended the System Leaders Meeting, providing the Land Acknowledgement.

Chairperson S. McMillan shared regrets from Trustee J. Hendry.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 3003 - TRUSTEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

After reviewing related policies from five comparable public school board, staff's recommendation was not to make any changes to the policy.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3003 - Trustee Professional Development as presented at the November 12, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 3005 - EXPRESSIONS OF SYMPATHY

3. Moved by C. Millar, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3005 - Expressions of Sympathy as presented at the November 12, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4006 - PARKING ON SCHOOL BOARD PROPERTY

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4006 - Parking on School Board Property as presented at the November 12, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4016 - BUSINESS COMPLAINT

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4016 - Business Complaint as presented at the November 12, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4011 - SCHOOL PARKING LOT SAFETY

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4011 - School Parking Lot Safety as presented at the November 12, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4021 - USE OF VOLUNTEERS

This policy was developed to allow volunteers to assist where staff were unable to provide supervision, in such times as to allow extra curriculars to continue during negotiations and strike actions.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4021 - Use of Volunteers as presented at the November 12, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

Trustees would like to see the “under certain circumstances” further detailed and would like lists of what type of supervision is allowed by volunteers included in the policy. The procedure will also need to be updated to reflect and support the policy. It was mentioned that other school boards include levels of risk and types of supervision permitted. There are minimal situations outside of negotiations and strike action which would warrant volunteer supervision without a staff presence.

8. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by K. Smith:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board refer Board Policy 4021 - Use of Volunteers back to staff to incorporate recommended changes and report back in February, 2018.

-Carried-

REPORTS

WEST WATERLOO ELEMENTARY BOUNDARY STUDY

This report was presented by E. Bumbaco, Senior Planner. The West Waterloo Elementary Schools Boundary Study, completed in 2015, recommended a second phase be implemented between December 2018 and 2020 through the completion of a new boundary study. This phase would consider redirecting Abraham Erb Public School area Grade 7 and 8 students to Laurelwood Public School, and reduce enrolment pressures at Vista Hills Public School. It was recommended that a boundary study take place after there was greater certainty around funding to construct permanent accommodation at Laurelwood Public School and/or Vista Hills Public School could no longer accommodate the enrolment from the Abraham Erb Public School area.

Vista Hills Public School will remain over capacity despite the redirection of Abraham Erb Public School Grade 7 and 8 students. Other measures to relieve enrolment pressure at Vista Hills Public School may need to be considered as part of the boundary study. This may include establishing new Development Areas. Other scenarios, as developed by the working group, would also be considered.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the commencement of the West Waterloo Elementary Boundary Study Phase 2, involving Vista Hills Public School, Laurelwood Public School, and Abraham Erb Public School.

-Carried-

TEMPERATURE AND HUMIDITY LEVELS IN CLASSROOMS

This report was provided for information.

Controller of Facility Services, I. Gaudet, confirmed there are 1020 classrooms which are not air conditioned. These classrooms are not equipped to track and monitor temperature or humidity. Based on an estimated cost of \$40,000 to \$50,000 per classroom to air-condition, the magnitude of completing air-conditioning in the balance of un-air-conditioned classrooms is more than \$40M and must be balanced against competing renewal needs and an uncertain fiscal environment in the province. Schools currently use a variety of measures to reduce classroom temperatures where there is no air-conditioning. New school builds in our region have been air-conditioned since the 1970s. All 120 schools in the WRDSB have air-conditioning in at least one location to offer students refuge on extremely hot days. When compared against the province, a poll completed in November 2017 indicated that of 34 responding boards in the province, 65 percent air-condition new elementary school builds and 74 percent air-condition new secondary builds.

MOTION: AIR CONDITIONING IN SCHOOLS

Trustee C. Watson presented her Notice of Motion as served at the May 28, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting and was supported by Trustees C. Harrington and N. Waddell. She stated that hot classrooms are a huge issue and the number one complaint she receives from parents. She states that the current process is not fair for schools not anticipating construction in the near future. Trustee C. Watson referred to research regarding the effect of heat on learning and student performance. She shared photos of air conditioning units she has seen in nursing homes and offices.

10. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by C. Harrington:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board record, track and collate temperatures and humidity levels in classrooms without air conditioning during the months of May 2019 to October 2019; and

That a report be presented to the Board of Trustees by the end of January 2020, with temperature and humidity data, as well as a prioritized plan that would air condition all Waterloo Region District School Board classrooms that are without air conditioning; and

That short term measures be taken such as effective fans, U.V. filtering blinds, painting asphalt courtyards white, retractable shades, etc.

Trustees discussed the motion and measures staff currently have in place. There is no air conditioning installation budget but, when possible, air conditioning is done with other school projects. There is currently no target date to have all schools air conditioned nor is it a legislated requirement. Accumulated surplus has been used to target specific schools for air conditioning installation projects.

The motion was split to address sections separately. Trustees felt they received sufficient data regarding the air conditioning in schools in the Temperature and Humidity Levels in Schools report presented earlier. They would like to see staff investigate a prioritized air conditioning plan as well as other short term measures.

10 a. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by C. Harrington:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board record, track and collate temperatures and humidity levels in classrooms without air conditioning during the months of May 2019 to October 2019.

-Defeated-

Opposed:
C. Harrington
T. Martin

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C. Millar
M. Ramsay
K. Smith
N. Waddell
C. Waterfall
K. Woodcock
O. Judelson-Kelly*

Abstained:
C. Watson

* Student Trustees votes are recorded for the purpose of public record and for accountability to the student body; however, it is recognized that “a student trustee is not a member of the Board” (Education Act, Section 55 (2))

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board refer the following to staff to provide further information in March 2019:

That a report be presented to the Board of Trustees by the end of January 2020, with temperature and humidity data, as well as a prioritized plan that would air condition all Waterloo Region District School Board classrooms that are without air conditioning; and

That short term measures be taken such as effective fans, U.V. filtering blinds, painting asphalt courtyards white, retractable shades, etc.

-Carried-

MOTION: TRUSTEE PARKING

This Notice of Motion was served by Trustee C. Waterfall at the October 15, 2018, Committee of the Whole Meeting and was supported by Trustees T. Martin and C. Millar. Trustee C. Waterfall would like to see more use made of trustee spaces as many are rarely around during the daytime hours.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board reassign the Trustee parking spaces for general staff and visitor use; and

That parking spaces further from the front entrance of the Education Centre be designated for Trustee use.

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Trustee M. Ramsay brought forward an amendment. Trustees debated the amendment.

Trustee T. Martin declared a conflict on interest and would not vote on the amendment.

13. Moved to amend by M. Ramsay, seconded by C. Watson:

That the motion be amended to read:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board reassign the Trustee parking spaces for general staff and visitor use; and

That parking spaces further from the front entrance of the Education Centre be designated for Trustee use; and

That all employees and trustees pay \$50 a month for parking permit and the proceeds be donated.

-Amendment Defeated-

Opposed:

C. Harrington

C. Millar

K. Smith

N. Waddell

C. Waterfall

C. Watson

K. Woodcock

O. Judelson-Kelly

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Trustees further debated the motion and the need for trustee designated parking spots. While parking is often available there may be a need for defined spots for quorum purposes or in the event a trustee does not have time to walk across the parking lot. Some trustees felt that they did not need to create distinction from staff and visitors.

Trustee M. Ramsay moved an amendment to the motion. Trustees debated the amendment.

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14. Moved by M. Ramsay , seconded by C. Watson :

That the motion be amended to add the word “eight” so that it reads:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board reassign eight of the Trustee parking spaces for general staff and visitor use; and

That parking spaces further from the front entrance of the Education Centre be designated for Trustee use.

-Amendment Defeated-

Opposed:
C. Harrington
T. Martin
C. Millar
K. Smith
N. Waddell
C. Waterfall
K. Woodcock

At the November 26, 2018, Board Meeting the below motion 15 was pulled from the consent agenda. The following attempt to amend the motion was made.

Moved by C. Watson

That motion 15 be amended to add “and staff” so that the motion reads:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board reassign the Trustee and staff parking spaces for general staff and visitor use; and

That parking spaces further from the front entrance of the Education Centre be designated for Trustee use.

-Motion was not seconded, therefore not considered-

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board reassign the Trustee parking spaces for general staff and visitor use; and

That parking spaces further from the front entrance of the Education Centre be designated for Trustee use.

-Main Motion Carried-

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Opposed:
C. Harrington
M. Ramsay
K. Smith

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

Trustee C. Waterfall distributed packages to trustees from the Ad Hoc Bylaw Review Committee. Next week the committee will be requesting an extension but would like trustees to see the work done thus far. The package includes a copy of the current bylaws as well as a working draft of new bylaws. The Ad Hoc Bylaw Review Committee will be facilitating a discussion at the November 19, 2018, Committee of the Whole meeting. Trustee K. Woodcock assured trustees that this would not be the last time they will see a working draft prior to recommendations coming to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

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

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 12, 2018, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.