

**FEBRUARY 11, 2019**  
**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: J. Herring (Chairperson), K. Meissner, C. Millar, S. Piatkowski, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, C. Watson, J. Weston, C. Whetham and K. Woodcock.

Trustee N. Waddell was 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), M. Gerard, S. Lomax, E. Ranney, L. Read, A. Russell and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: R. Howey, K. Penticost and S. Reidel.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson J. Herring called the meeting to order at 6:59 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by S. Piatkowski:

**That the agenda of the February 11, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.**

-Carried-

**DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairperson J. Herring shared regrets from Trustee N. Waddell.

**DELEGATIONS**

There were no delegations.

**POLICY AND GOVERNANCE**

**REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4021 - USE OF VOLUNTEERS**

Trustees asked a number of questions of clarification regarding the policy. Some trustees felt the comments expressed in the fall were still not yet identified in the policy. Volunteers are required to be supervised by a staff member. Trustees asked that the policy mention reference checks be done annually in addition to it being stated in the procedure. Trustees also asked that the preamble include a comment appreciating and valuing the work of parents and volunteers in our schools.

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

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board refer Board Policy 4021 - Use of Volunteers back to staff for edits.**

-Carried-

**REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 3006 - STUDENT TRUSTEES**

Trustee C. Millar explained that while there are some changes now, they will be evaluating some additional changes prior to the elections of the 2020 student trustees. Student Trustees O. Judelson-Kelly and B. Wahl responded to trustee questions of clarification.

3. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by K. Meissner:

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3006 - Student Trustees as presented at the February 11, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting.**

-Carried-

**REPORTS**

**SMART WATERLOO REGION**

This presentation was provided for information.

Director J. Bryant introduced guest presenters Karen Redman, Regional Chair and Matthew Chandy, Manager, Economic Development from the Region of Waterloo. He shared how this partnership opportunity is in line with the WRDSB Strategic Plan and he acknowledged Coordinating Superintendent, L. Read as the staff lead. Coordinating Superintendent, L. Read shared that the Smart Waterloo Region proposal expresses the lived experiences of our diverse community.

**FEBRUARY 11, 2019**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

Karen Redman shared that the \$50M prize will help address gaps found through the Well-being Waterloo Region initiative. Matthew Chandy went on to share more about the Smart Cities Challenge from Infrastructure Canada. The Smart Cities Challenge empowers communities to address local issues by leveraging technology and data. Smart Waterloo Region focuses on an overarching sense of belonging with concentration on Child and Youth well-being. This includes literacy, mental and emotional health and early childhood development. WRDSB is one of many public and private sector partners. Winning communities will be announced in early June 2019.

Trustees asked a number of questions of the guest speakers regarding the presentation. The proposal is youth driven through a Youth Advisory Committee and the proposed project funding allocations will be finalized later in the week.

**TRANSPORTATION CONSORTIUM UPDATE**

This report was provided for information.

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard provided trustees with a background of Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR), Inc. The General Manager of STSWR, Benoit Bourgault, presented the 2017-18 Annual Report. This report included performance measurements, a summary of appeals, a financial overview and the outlook for the 2018-2019 school year.

Collisions typically occurred at low speeds and/or in parking lots. Drivers must report any time the bus makes contact with anything as a collision. Trustees inquired into the future implications of stop arm cameras and seatbelts. Concerns around buses late over fifty minutes were addressed through new GPS technologies. Integrating transportation for students with special needs for field trips is a topic at the forefront of discussions and additional conversations can be had about including this in next year's report.

**HUMAN RESOURCE INFORMATION SYSTEM (HRIS) UPGRADE**

On June 25, 2018, the Board of Trustees approved a balanced budget, which included \$150,000 to hire a consultant to support the Board during the early stages of the upgrade, including establishing the needs of the board and developing a project scope. The Board has successfully completed both steps and has issued a Request for Proposal. The Request for Proposal was posted publicly with a closing date of January 28, 2019. The gains in efficiency through process improvement, accuracy and automation will support the entire organization. The current system requires manual processes to meet ministry and regulatory requirements.

Trustee K. Smith left the room at 8:27 p.m.

Staff are looking for a long-term solution with the ability to expand as needed.

**FEBRUARY 11, 2019  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

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

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve an additional commitment of \$2.3 million from Accumulated Surplus to support an upgrade to WRDSB's Human Resource Information System as outlined in the report to the Committee of the Whole on February 11, 2019.**

-Carried-

Trustee K. Smith returned to the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

**2018 SUMMER LEARNING PROGRAM**

This presentation was provided for information.

Superintendent E. Ranney provided the Board of Trustees with an overview of the 2018 Summer Learning Program as required by the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE). The program focuses on literacy and numeracy through activity based learning. The presentation included an example of a typical day at Summer Learning, feedback from parents, staff and students. Data from student attendance and reading levels were reviewed. Reading level data was shared with home school to assist with early intervention where needed. The program will continue for 2019 but funding will determine future growth. Schools are selected based on a variety of factors including air conditioning, summer renovations and proximity to feeder schools.

**OPSBA INTERIM TRUSTEE CONFIRMATIONS OR APPOINTMENTS FOR VACANT POSITIONS**

Vice-Chairperson J. Weston chaired this portion of the meeting.

The trustee term commencing December 1, 2018 has two vacant Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) positions:

1. Voting Delegate
2. Alternate Director

These positions need to be filled for the remainder of the term ending May 31, 2019.

**Appoint Scrutineers**

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

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board appoint Coordinating Superintendents M. Gerard and M. Weinert to act as scrutineers for any elections that may be required for the office of Voting Delegate and Alternate Director during the February 11, 2019, Committee of the Whole Meeting.**

-Carried-

**Voting Delegate**

Trustee C. Millar nominated Trustee J. Herring for the position of Voting Delegate. Chairperson J. Herring accepted the nomination.

There were no other candidates for the position and Chairperson J. Herring was acclaimed as the Voting Delegate.

**Alternate Director**

Trustee C. Millar nominated Chairperson J. Herring for the position of Alternate Director to the OPSBA Board of Directors. Chairperson J. Herring accepted the nomination.

There were no other candidates for the position and Chairperson J. Herring was acclaimed as the Alternate Director to the OPSBA Board of Directors.

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

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board appoint Chairperson J. Herring as its Voting Delegate; and**

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board appoint Chairperson J. Herring as its Alternate Director to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association Board of Directors for the period ending May 31, 2019.**

-Carried-

Chairperson J. Herring resumed chairing the meeting.

**QUESTION PERIOD**

Trustee K. Meissner asked how students and parents are being educated on the risks of vaping and how the board is handling the updates to the Smoke Free Ontario Act. Coordinating Superintendent S. Lomax shared that superintendents, administrators and school staff all work

**FEBRUARY 11, 2019**  
**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING**

closely with Public Health on this issue. Staff believe vaping is an issue requiring continued attention. Public Health is responsible for signage and enforcement. Vaping and smoking are not permitted on school property. Staff continue to educate students through health classes.

Trustee K. Woodcock asked if staff have made any plans to address the changes to the Ontario Autism Program. Coordinating Superintendent L. Read shared that staff are reviewing the implications of the recent announcement including impacts to community partners. The issue will also be a topic at the upcoming Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) meeting.

Trustee C. Watson had a follow up question regarding vaping. She asked if smoking areas were supervised. Coordinating Superintendent S. Lomax confirmed that the smoking areas are off school property as smoking, vaping, drinking and consuming drugs are not permitted on school property. Students are guided to areas within sightlines but are not directly supervised.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Trustee C. Watson served the following notice of motion with support from Trustees M. Ramsay and C. Whetham:

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board write a letter of concern to the Region of Waterloo concerning Consumption and Treatment Sites and their close proximity to schools.**

This will be scheduled by the Agenda Development Committee.

**ADJOURNMENT**

5. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by K. Meissner:

**That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of February 11, 2019, be adjourned.**

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.