

**MAY 27, 2019
BOARD MEETING**

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: J. Herring (Chairperson), K. Meissner, C. Millar, S. Piatkowski, M. Ramsay, N. Waddell, C. Watson, J. Weston, C. Whetham and K. Woodcock.

Trustee K. Smith 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), R. DeBoer, I. Gaudet, M. Gerard, E. Giannopoulos, N. Landry, B. Lemon, S. Lomax, S. Miller, E. Ranney, L. Read, P. Rubenschuh, A. Russell, G. Shantz and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: R. Howey and S. Reidel.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson J. Herring called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the agenda of the May 27, 2019, Board Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of May 27, 2019, and the actions contained therein, be approved with the exception of Motion 12(2) on Folio 27.

-Carried-

Trustee Watson declared a conflict of interest.

Trustee N. Waddell stated that an opportunity to speak to the second part of the motion was not provided at the May 13, 2019, Committee of the Whole meeting and wanted to take the time to do so. She voted in favour of the motion in error. She stated her concerns, which included the working "directing staff".

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

That motion 12(2) from the consent agenda be amended to include “direct the Director of Education to” so that it reads:

Recognizing that funding from the Ministry of Education may not be fully returned to the per pupil funding of 2018-19, direct the Director of Education to direct staff to consider that the following guiding principles be approved for the 2019-20 budget process:

- **Maintain a focus on our strategic and operational priorities; and**
- **Maintain our commitment to ensuring our schools and communities are safe, caring and inclusive spaces where each student, staff member, family and community member feel valued; and**
- **Focus on supporting the education of our most vulnerable students.**

-Amendment Carried-

Trustees proceeded to a recorded vote on the amended motion.

4. Moved by J. Weston, seconded by K. Smith:

Recognizing that funding from the Ministry of Education may not be fully returned to the per pupil funding of 2018-19, direct the Director of Education to direct staff to consider that the following guiding principles be approved for the 2019-20 budget process:

- **Maintain a focus on our strategic and operational priorities; and**
- **Maintain our commitment to ensuring our schools and communities are safe, caring and inclusive spaces where each student, staff member, family and community member feel valued; and**
- **Focus on supporting the education of our most vulnerable students.**

-Carried-

In Favour

K. Meissner
C. Millar
S. Piatkowski
J. Weston
C. Whetham
K. Woodcock
J. Herring
O. Judelson-Kelly*
B. Wahl*

Opposed

N. Waddell

Absent

M. Ramsay
K. Smith

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))

5. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by J. Weston:

That Folio 27, from the consent agenda of the May 27, 2019, Board Meeting, and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

MOTIONS FROM IN CAMERA MEETING

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

A. Moved by J. Weston, seconded by S. Piatkowski:

That the agenda of the May 27, 2019, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.

-Carried-

B. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by J. Weston:

That the consent agenda of the May 27, 2019, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

C. Moved by C. Watson, seconded by M. Ramay:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board postpone further discussion on the Senior Team Organization to the June 10, 2019, Committee of the Whole meeting.

-Carried-

D. Moved by C. Millar, seconded by J. Weston:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board continue the OPSBA Discussion - Central Negotiations at the June 10, 2019, Committee of the Whole meeting.

-Carried-

E. Moved by C. Whetham, 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

Trustee C. Watson made a declaration in the in camera meeting and for folio 27 of the consent agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES

LINDA FABI BURSARY

The Linda Fabi Bursary provides funding for students who are pursuing a trade, through college or apprenticeship. The following students were successful in meeting the necessary criteria and were selected to receive the 2018-19 Linda Fabi Bursary:

- Genevieve Barit - Preston High School
- Nevin Bryant - Forest Heights Collegiate Institute
- Safaye Borutskie - Elmira District Secondary School
- Breanna Charlebois-Ezekiel - Glenview Park Secondary School
- Cody Haight - Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School
- Tyler McClelland - Glenview Park Secondary School
- Altin Neziri - Eastwood Collegiate Institute
- Logan Occhionero - Elmira District Secondary School
- Izaak Sliz - Sir John A MacDonald
- Jesse Wolfe - Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate and Vocational School

Linda Fabi, former Director of Education for the Waterloo Region District School Board, provided a brief speech and presented each student with their award.

The Board of Trustees congratulated the students and thanked their families.

APPOINTMENT OF STUDENT TRUSTEES

Student Trustees B. Wahl and O. Judelson-Kelly introduced the Board of Trustees to the Student Trustees for the 2019-2020 school year. The 2019-2020 Student Trustees are Narein Chenthivelnathan from Waterloo-Oxford District Secondary School and Myah Robinson from Eastwood Collegiate Institute.

Chairperson J. Herring welcomed the new Student Trustees.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson J. Herring shared regrets from Trustee K. Smith.

Trustee S. Piatkowski attended a performance at Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate & Vocational School and continued his school visits with Superintendent E. Ranney.

Trustees S. Piatkowski, K. Woodcock and N. Waddell attended the Education Town Hall.

Trustee K. Meissner attended the Special City of Cambridge Council meeting where both Director J. Bryant and L. Notten, the Director of Education for the Waterloo Catholic District School Board, presented to council. Trustees C. Watson, K. Smith, S. Piatkowski and J. Herring were also present.

Trustee N. Waddell attended a Track and Field event at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School and expressed gratitude to the staff and volunteers at the event.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS UPDATE

Chief Communications Officer A. Russell provided the monthly good news update. The theme for May was talent. The report highlighted french language skills at Elizabeth Ziegler Public School, the Voices Conference Phase 2 on how to increase engagement in schools, Charlie Awards Film festival, the City of Cambridge Council shared meeting with the WRDSB and the Waterloo Catholic District School Board and internationally renowned speaker, Keith Hawkins' presentation at Glenview Park Secondary School. She also reviewed the media mentions, media tone, web traffic, and popular instagram, twitter and facebook posts for the month. She shared the upcoming highlights for the month of June, including the Pride Flag raising ceremony on June 3, Janet Metcalfe Public School official opening on June 11, the System Leaders' Meeting on June 13 and the release of a pathways to graduation video in mid June.

REPORTS

SUSPENSION/EXPULSION REPORT AS OF APRIL 30, 2019

This report was provided for information.

The report included information regarding monthly and year-to-date suspension/expulsion data. Staff continue to monitor and focus on specific areas such as continued work around racial and social justice and work with younger learners and self awareness. Staff will also continue to work on healthy relationships to ensure students have a caring adult to reach out to. The WRDSB has started a pilot with the Ministry of Education called Keeping Kids in Schools.

STUDENT AGGRESSION REPORT

This report was provided for information.

The report included information regarding reported incidences of student aggression for February 1, 2019 - April 15, 2019. Based on past feedback, Coordinating Superintendent M. Weinert shared two appendices providing visual representation of the reported incidents.

Trustees asked a number of clarifying questions and suggested an edit to the definition of a Hazard to include “to avoid further occurrences.”

DISCUSSION: STUDENT RECOGNITION

Chairperson J. Herring provided a brief background for the discussion and asked trustees for their thoughts and suggestions around how best to recognize students and which students should be recognized. The primary points of the discussion, which will be reviewed by Agenda Development Committee, are as follows:

- certificate or letter would be appropriate
- let schools be responsible for reporting achievements
- schools will need to be provided with criteria/eligibility
- mirror upcoming program for staff recognition
- start with a list of possible awards to establish the criteria
- needs to include sports, arts and technologies, not just academic

Trustee M. Ramsay joined the meeting at 8:08 pm

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

AD HOC BYLAW REVIEW COMMITTEE VERBAL UPDATE

Trustee K. Woodcock advised trustees that the Ad Hoc Committee continues to work on the working draft and supporting documentation. The Committee will be meeting tomorrow and discussing providing an updated version to trustees prior to public consultation commencing.

4. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve a reporting deadline extension to November 18, 2019, for the Ad Hoc Bylaw Review Committee.

-Carried-

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

The Board did not receive any communications this past month.

OTHER BUSINESS

Student Trustee Wahl provided a Student Senate meeting update and invited trustees to attend the year end potluck on June 11, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. in the St. Clements Room.

QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee S. Piatkowski asked if the WRDSB could do anything further to ensure students have access to feminine hygiene products. Director Bryant shared data gathered from a menstrual equity survey completed by schools and announced that free products would be available in all schools and in the accessible all-gender bathrooms starting in the fall. WRDSB will be the first school board in Ontario to offer free menstrual products in all schools and board sites. Trustees applauded staff for this accomplishment.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (to be referred to Agenda Development Committee)

The following notice of motion was served by Trustee C. Watson and Trustees S. Piatkowski with support from Trustee M. Ramsay:

Whereas suspensions are increasing at the Waterloo Region District School Board;

Whereas suspensions alone are not always effective, create gaps in education, and may even be seen as attractive by students at risk;

Whereas suspensions alone may be incapable of helping students understand their behaviours or provide healthy coping strategies;

Whereas students conduct leading to suspensions can present legitimate safety concerns for both staff and students that cannot be ignored;

Whereas suspensions may address immediate safety concerns for staff and students, but do little to mitigate against the escalating pattern of problematic student conduct in schools;

Therefore it be resolved that the Waterloo Region District School Board strike an ad hoc committee for September, 2019 of appropriate board staff, school staff, parents, students and trustees etc, that would research programs that might either accompany/augment suspensions or serve as alternatives to suspensions, where appropriate according to legislation, that would help students understand root causes of inappropriate behaviour as well as coping strategies that educate and empower students; and

That the recommendations from this committee be presented to the board no later than December, 2019.

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

Whereas community members are not permitted to fundraise for the restoration of the amphitheatre at Galt Collegiate Institute;

Whereas an outdoor amphitheatre is not a facility renewal, an infrastructure improvement and does not increase student capacity of a school building;

Whereas Administrative Procedure 4989, Fundraising Guidelines of Waterloo Region District School Board states under “Acceptable uses of Fundraising Proceeds” e.g. School Yard Improvement projects (for example, playground equipment, shade structures, gardens, outdoor skating rink), as well as upgrades to sporting facilities such as running tracks, installation of artificial turf and scoreboards etc.;

Therefore it be resolved that the Waterloo Region District School Board request that the Director/Designate investigate (as appropriate) allowing the Friends of Galt Collegiate Institute and Community Amphitheatre, as well as other community members the opportunity to fundraise for the restoration of the Amphitheatre.

The notices of motion will be scheduled by the Agenda Development Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

6. Moved by J. Weston, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the Board Meeting of May 27, 2019, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.