

**NOVEMBER 25, 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, K. Smith, N. Waddell, C. Watson, J. Weston and C. Whetham.

Trustee K. Woodcock was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustees N. Chenthivelnathan and M. Robinson were in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: J. Bryant (Director of Education and Secretary), R. DeBoer, M. Gerard, B. Lemon, A. Mercier, S. Miller, L. Read, P. Rubenschuh, G. Shantz, A. Sloan and M. Weinert.

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

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson J. Herring called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**That the agenda of the November 25, 2019, Board Meeting be approved.**

-Carried-

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of November 25, 2019, and the actions contained therein, be approved with the exception of Motion 8 on Folio 21.**

-Carried-

Trustee N. Waddell asked that the abstention listed note that is was due to the conflict of interest.

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

**That revised Folio 21, from the consent agenda of the November 25, 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 K. Meissner, seconded by J. Weston:

**That the agenda of the November 25, 2019, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.**

-Carried-

B. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by K. Meissner:

**That the consent agenda of the November 25, 2019, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.**

-Carried-

C. Moved by S. Piatkowski, seconded by N. Waddell:

**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 declared a conflict of interest in the In Camera meeting.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES**

Chairperson J. Herring shared regrets from Trustee K. Woodcock. She also asked that trustees remain in the Boardroom for a few minutes after the Inaugural meeting for a group photo.

Trustee S. Piatkowski attended Keatsway Public School Wellness Day and toured Centennial Public School.

Trustees K. Meissner and S. Piatkowski virtually attended an Ontario Active School Travel webinar on November 21, 2019.

Trustee C. Whetham dropped the puck for the Wilfrid Laurier Golden Hawks Women's Hockey School Day game.

Trustee J. Weston toured Westmount Public School and the Blair Outdoor Education Centre with Chairperson J. Herring.

**COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS UPDATE**

Interim Chief Communications Officer A. Sloan provided trustees with the monthly Good News Update. It included Treaties Recognition Week and the Remembrance Day ceremony. He reviewed the social media metrics for Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. He also reviewed the monthly media themes and coverages.

**REPORTS**

**SUSPENSION/EXPULSION REPORT AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2019**

This report was provided for information.

This report contained monthly student suspension and expulsion data comparing year to date for October 2018 and October 2019.

**2018-2019 SUSPENSION/EXPULSION REPORT**

This report was provided for information.

This report contained annual student suspension and expulsion data for the 2018-2019 school year including percentage of students suspended and analysis of those suspensions by student grade, length of suspension, suspension category and location of incident. The report included follow up information regarding the Ministry of Education initiative.

Trustees asked questions of clarification regarding the report. It was the Will of the Board to receive a verbal update reporting if there is any evidence of gang activity in our schools. Trustees asked if there was a way to report suspensions but exclude any related to immunizations. Superintendent B. Lemon would look into whether immunization suspensions are already excluded from this report as they are excluded by the Ministry of Education reporting.

**DISCUSSION: COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES AND INFORMATION SHARING**

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

**That the Waterloo Region District School Board suspend the rules to allow trustees to speak more than twice on a subject.**

-Carried-

This report was provided for information.

The purpose of the discussion was to determine how trustees can share information from Committees where minutes are not already shared at Board Meetings. Chairperson J. Herring felt that it might be helpful for trustee committee representatives to bring information to the rest of the trustees. She suggested that trustees wishing to bring forward updates would inform the Manager of Corporate Services at noon on the Thursday prior to a Committee of the Whole or Board meeting in order for the update to be included on the meeting agenda.

Trustees discussed the matter. With the exception of confidential matters regarding individual students, trustees agreed it would be beneficial. Committees with multiple trustees representatives would be responsible for deciding amongst themselves who would bring an update, and what that update would include. It was the Will of the Board to move forward with committee updates at future meetings.

### **DISCUSSION: TRUSTEE BURSARIES**

This report was provided for information.

The Board of Trustees currently administer two (2) bursaries from the Trustee Expense budget, the Linda Fabi Bursary and the Tim Walker Memorial Award for Environmental Stewardship. The purpose of this discussion was to review the two bursaries and determine if trustees are still interested in providing them in the 2020-2021 school year and beyond.

Trustees discussed the two bursaries, the benefits of both and the possibility of making changes to the Linda Fabi bursary in the future.

Trustees agreed to continue with both bursaries for the current year through the Will of the Board but that trustees would like to review again in January or February of 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year budget.

### **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board received the following communications:

- Simcoe County DSB SEAC to Minister of Education - Local Priorities Funding
- Halton District School Board - Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grant

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairperson J. Herring asked trustees to let her know if they will be able to attend a seasonal potluck on December 16, 2019 after the Board meeting.

**QUESTION PERIOD**

Trustee M. Ramsay asked if there could be a generic email address for the Chairperson due to the volume of emails. Staff agreed to review this idea.

Trustee S. Piatkowski asked if staff have reached out to the injured crossing guard from the Cedarbrae Public School area. Superintendent M. Gerard stated that it has not been our practice to connect with non-board employees. Is it possible that individuals have reached out.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**That the Board Meeting of November 25, 2019, be adjourned.**

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.