

**DECEMBER 16, 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, C. Whetham and K. Woodcock.

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), M. Gerard, E. Giannopoulos, B. Lemon, A. Mercier, S. Miller, E. Ranney, 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 7:04 p.m.

Huron Heights Secondary School Senior Choir performed a selection of songs and O Canada.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

That the agenda of the December 16, 2019, Board Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of December 16, 2019, 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 N. Waddell, seconded by J. Weston:

That the agenda of the December 16, 2019, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.

-Carried-

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

That the consent agenda of the December 16, 2019, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the Director's Performance Appraisal 2019-2020 Plan.

-Carried-

D. Moved by S. Piatkowski, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the amended Director of Education Performance Appraisal Guidebook

-Carried-

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the closing of both elementary and secondary schools on Wednesday, December 18, 2019, as permitted under the Education Act regarding the safety of students, in the event that the job action takes place where OSSTF/FEESO members in all bargaining units will be engaging in a one-day full withdrawal of services on that date.

For clarity, this includes ALL before and after school programs, extended day programs, Early ON centres and third-party operated childcare centres.

-Carried-

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve a decision of the Chairperson or designate and the Director or designate, in the event of a declaration of a one day withdrawal of service (strike action) to close schools due to the current labour sanctions that would result in unsafe conditions for students as permitted under the Education Act. This would also include decisions regarding all before and after school programs, extended day programs, Early ON centres and third-party operated childcare centres.

The period for this approval would cover up to and including achievement of agreements both centrally and locally.

-Carried-

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

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

DR. BETTE M. STEPHENSON RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT

Superintendent P. Rubenschuh presented B. Marsh, Principal of Elmira District Secondary School, with the EQAO Dr. Bette M. Stephenson Recognition of Achievement Award.

B. Marsh shared some of the successes at Elmira District Secondary School leading to the achievement of the award.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS/CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES

Trustee C. Millar acknowledged the attendance of two past student trustees, Ben Wahl and Husayn Jamal, at this evening's meeting.

Trustee C. Millar volunteered at the Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate & Vocational School Community Dinner.

Trustee S. Piatkowski visited N.A. MacEachern and Northlake Woods Public Schools. He also attended a Holiday Open House at the Constituency Office of Kitchener Centre MPP Laura Mae Lindo.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS UPDATE

Communications Officer R. Howey presented the monthly Communications Good News Update. The update included a focus on the Time of Giving Campaign highlighting giving initiatives in the Waterloo Region District School Board. These highlights included the United Way campaign, Rockway Public School Turkey Lunch, Waterloo Education Foundation Inc. (WEFI) greeting cards. He also highlighted the French Program information session livestream and reviewed the monthly web traffic, media coverage, and the media themes and top posts.

REPORTS

SUSPENSION/EXPULSION REPORT AS OF NOVEMBER 30, 2019

This report was provided for information.

Superintendent B. Lemon presented the monthly student suspension and expulsion data comparing year-to-date for November 2018 and November 2019. He also followed up on a number of questions from the Suspension/Expulsion Annual Report.

QUARTERLY STUDENT AGGRESSION REPORT

This report was provided for information.

Coordinating Superintendent M. Weinert provided Trustees with information regarding reported incidences of student aggression for the period of September 1, 2019 to November 15, 2019. An increase in reporting was found, which can possibly be attributed to the ease of the new online reporting tool. A number of boards have also reported an increase with the implementation of online reporting.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

OPSBA UPDATE

Trustee K. Woodcock reminded trustees to review the OPSBA Board of Director's Report and the Nanos Research polling regarding several public education issues.

STUDENT SENATE UPDATE

Student Trustee Robsinson provided a Student Senate update regarding the December meeting and a presentation from the Research and Evidence-Based Practice Department.

ADJOURNMENT

4. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the Board Meeting of December 16, 2019, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.