

**APRIL 27, 2020
BOARD MEETING**

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Board Meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. via video conference, 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), R. DeBoer, 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: B. Jaklic and S. Reidel.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson J. Herring called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and requested an extended moment of silence in reflection of the recent tragedy in Nova Scotia and lives lost due to COVID-19.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

That the agenda of the April 27, 2020, Board Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

CONSENT AGENDA

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

That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of April 27, 2020, 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 April 27, 2020, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.

-Carried-

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

That the consent agenda of the April 27, 2020, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board (“WRDSB”) adopt a resolution under clause 194 (3) (a) of the Education Act that the following real property is not required for the purposes of the board and authorize the sale of part of the land, and the conveyance of easements on land owned by the WRDSB, under Part 1, Section 1 (1) of Ontario Regulation 444/98, described as:

Westmount Public School - Part Lots 7 and 8 Plan 402, as in B36682, A70569, except 140172, 272032, 304464 and Parts 1 and 2 on 58R-18659, subject to 475906, in the City of Kitchener, Regional Municipality of Waterloo, PIN 22437-0381 (LT) municipally known as 329 Glasgow Street; and,

A.R. Kaufman Public School - Part Lots 1 and 4-5, Plan 793 as in 367460, 544692, in the City of Kitchener, Regional Municipality of Waterloo, PIN 22446-0074 (LT) municipally known as 11 Chopin Drive, Kitchener.

-Carried-

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

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 previous In Camera meeting and the Special In Camera meeting of April 6, 2020.

REPORTS

2019-20 INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT AND FORECAST AS AT FEBRUARY 29, 2020

This report was provided for information.

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard reviewed the quarterly report providing updates to the Board regarding key assumptions, the identification of key risks and planned mitigation strategies. The information contained in the report was based on financial results up to February 29, 2020 (Q2), and indicates that WRDSB is expected to finish the year in a balanced position. That being said, the emergence of COVID-19, and subsequent system closure on March 13, 2020, will likely have a material impact on our finances for the remainder of the year. These impacts are not reflected in the financial data provided within this report, as they are being incurred during the 3rd Quarter (Q3) and, potentially, the 4th Quarter (Q4). In addition, the impact of labour sanctions (strike days), which occurred during Q2, have not yet been quantified but are expected to have a material impact on a number of expenditure areas, such as staff salaries and professional development. The Board will report these impacts to the Ministry of Education as part of our 2019-20 year-end financial statements.

Trustees asked a number of questions regarding the impacts of COVID-19 on the budget. Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard shared that staff have not received any direction or information regarding revenues being clawed back by the Ministry of Education.

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECTS QUARTERLY UPDATE

This report was provided for information.

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard provided the current capital projects with budgets greater than \$2.5M, presented with dashboard symbols to indicate the status of the project relative to the schedule, budget and scope. Significant milestones, along with basic project statistics, are also presented. All projects are proceeding as planned through the design and construction stages with the exception of the two childcare additions at Saginaw Public School and Lackner Woods Public School.

COVID-19 UPDATE

Staff provided the Board of Trustees with the WRDSB Response to COVID-19. Director J. Bryant provided an overview, including the work of the WRDSB Pandemic Response Team. He also shared the work WRDSB has done to support the community. Coordinating Superintendent M. Weinert shared a Human Resource Services Update including Employee

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Wellness, Health, Safety and Security, employee records, hiring process and payroll. Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard provided the Business Services Update as it pertains to facility services, financial services and planning. Associate Director L. Read shared the Conditions for Learning framework from the Strategic Plan, and showed how it is still important in our current conditions. She reviewed Larry Ferlazzo's 7 Tips for Remote Teaching and the WRDSB approach to distance learning. She reviewed updates since the Board last met including work done on equity and access, relationships and meeting the needs of staff. Interim Chief Communications Officer A. Sloan provided a communications update.

Trustees asked a number of questions of clarification. Staff are listening to the Ministry of Education and Public Health for direction as staff plan for the reopening schools. More information about school reopenings and Summer School plans will be provided at the May 25, 2020, Board Meeting.

QUESTION PERIOD

Student Trustees N. Chenthivelnathan and M. Robinson thanked staff for their hard work and connecting with students.

ADJOURNMENT

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

That the Board Meeting of April 27, 2020, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.