

**JUNE 22, 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, E. Ranney, L. Read, P. Rubenschuh, A. Russell, G. Shantz and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: B. Jaklic and S. Reidel.

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1. Moved by S. Piatkowski, seconded by C. Whetham:

**That the agenda of the June 22, 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 June 22, 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 K. Smith:

**That the agenda of the June 22, 2020, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.**

-Carried-

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

**That the consent agenda of the June 22, 2020, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.**

-Carried-

C. Moved by C. Millar, 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 previous in camera meeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES**

#### **OUTGOING TRUSTEE RECOGNITION AND CELEBRATION**

Chairperson J. Herring thanked Trustee N. Waddell for her service to the WRDSB community. Trustee N. Waddell shared a farewell video message. Trustees took the opportunity to say a few words to Trustee N. Waddell.

#### **PRESENTATION TO OUTGOING STUDENT TRUSTEES**

Trustee K. Meissner spoke about outgoing Student Trustees N. Chenthivelnathan and M. Robinson. She thanked them for their resilience in these challenging times and for always representing the student voice. She spoke about their successful Student Senate meetings and shared what was next for each student. Chairperson J. Herring shared congratulations on behalf of trustees.

### **REPORTS**

#### **COVID-19 UPDATE**

Director J. Bryant commenced the presentation by reviewing the Return to School and Workplace framework. He also shared the mandate and guiding principles of the COVID-19 Return to School and Workplaces Committee. He reviewed the three scenarios the Ministry of Education has directed school boards to prepare for.

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D. Liebermann, Senior Manager of Research and Evidence-Based Practice, shared information on the three surveys being launched next week. Surveys will be directed at staff, students and families. The surveys are seeking feedback on Distance Learning experience, well-being, communication and re-opening.

Chief Communications Officer A. Russell provided a communications update as well as an extensive list of how graduates are being celebrated.

Coordinating Superintendent M. Weinert provided an update on the key activities of Human Resource Services during the pandemic.

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard provided a Business Services update including year-end activities, childcare, summer camps and the 2020-2021 budget.

Superintendent G. Shantz provided an Information Technology Services update pertaining to work done during the pandemic.

Associate Director L. Read shared the graphic representation, created by Karen Scian, of some of the most important messages related to WRDSB's distance learning strategy and provided the distance learning update.

Superintendent E. Ranney provided information on the 2020 Summer Learning Program. Superintendent R. DeBoer reviewed the Summer School programming. Superintendent P. Rubenschuh provided an update on summer and transitioning back to school support for students with special education and mental health needs.

Trustees asked a variety of questions related to the reopening of schools in September and what that might look like, specifically what the adaptive scenario may include. Staff continue to work on the complex plans for September.

Trustee N. Waddell left the meeting.

## **STRATEGIC PLAN OPERATIONAL GOAL IMPLEMENTATION**

Director J. Bryant began the presentation which marks the end of the fourth year of implementation of the strategic plan. It was a challenging year with job action and school closures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. It has been a year of hard work, of focused effort, of learning and of holding accountable those who serve in public education. This year, as a result of COVID-19, staff did not have an opportunity to provide a Strategic Plan update in March.

Associate Director L. Read shared that staff continue to assess and reflect on plans by monitoring implementation and outcomes. Monitoring and support systems are in place for each Implementation Driver such as training, coaching and leadership that supports implementation. She shared the new Status Ratings which include On Pause, Pivoting and Continued Progress.

Some strategies have been paused due to COVID-19, while others have had to pivot in approach. The Conditions for Learning Framework continues to guide and direct work. She recognized that WRDSB needs to prioritize the complex body of work ahead in getting our schools and system reopened while also delivering on our commitments to do more and do better to support all those marginalized in our communities. The Equity and Indigenous Action Plan will take on added prominence as staff plan for the 2020-2021 school year.

### **MY CANADA PROJECT PRESENTATION**

Associate Director L. Read provided a brief background and introduced Lorna Hundt, CEO of Great Canadian Holidays & Coaches. Lorna shared the reason for and the purpose of the contest and announced the winners. A video was played of the first place submission.

The winners were:

- First place – Jocelyn Dunnette, Laurelwood Public School
- Second place – Klara Stjane, Centennial Public School (Waterloo)
- Third place – Matthew Hergott, Margaret Avenue Public School
- Honourable Mention: Zina Kim-Easton, Centennial Public School (Waterloo)

Chairperson J. Herring provided some brief comments to close out the presentation.

### **REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

#### **OPSBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Trustee K. Woodcock referred trustees to the OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting Summary in the agenda package. She reminded trustees that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled for September 26, 2020, via video conference. She highlighted the submission deadlines for the AGM and advised that that next Board of Directors' meeting is also in September.

### **BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

The Board received the following communications:

- OPSBA Board of Directors - May 23, 2020 Meeting Summary
- WRAPSC Steering Committee to Ministry of Education

### **QUESTION PERIOD**

Trustee C. Millar asked about the recent article regarding seat belts on buses. Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard shared that this is a pilot project and that Student Transportation Services of Waterloo Region (STSWR) is reviewing how to best utilize seatbelts in a cost effective manner. He suggested that STSWR provide further detail in the fall.

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Trustee J. Weston asked for information on the role of the Human Rights and Equity Advisor. Director J. Bryant offered to bring back a fulsome report in the fall. It was the Will of the Board to accept Director J. Bryant's offer for a report.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Trustee C. Watson served a Notice of Motion. The Notice of Motion did not have the required number of signatures, and therefore, will not be scheduled for consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson J. Herring asked trustees to inform the Manager of Corporate Services if they are taking vacation and will be unavailable at any point during the summer.

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

**That the Board Meeting of June 22, 2020, be adjourned.**

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.