

**APRIL 26, 2021
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. Weston (Chairperson), J. Herring, K. Meissner, C. Millar, S. Piatkowski, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, L. Tremble, C. Watson, C. Whetham and K. Woodcock.

Student Trustees T. John-Jandles and R. McDonald were in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: J. Bryant (Director of Education and Secretary), D. Ahluwalia, R. DeBoer, M. Gerard, E. Giannopoulos, B. Lemon, D. Liebermann, S. Miller, C. Newton, L. Read, P. Rubenschuh, G. Shantz, and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: M. Delisle and S. Reidel.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by C. Millar:

That the agenda of the April 26, 2021, Board Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Moved by J. Herring, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of April 26, 2021, 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 C. Millar, seconded by K. Meissner:

That the agenda of the April 26, 2021, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera with the addition of Personnel Item under Employee Relations / Staffing.

-Carried-

B. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by S. Piatkowski:

That the consent agenda of the April 26, 2021, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved with the exception of Folio 6.

-Carried-

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

That Folio 6, from the consent agenda of the April 26, 2021, In Camera Board Meeting, and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

D. Moved by J. Herring, seconded by L. Tremble:

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 at the previous in camera meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES

APPOINTMENT OF STUDENT TRUSTEES

Student Trustees T. John-Jandles and R. McDonald provided an update on the student trustee elections. They announced that the new Student Trustees are Kenzy Soror and Nicole Vishkin for the 2021-2022 school year. Both students are from Cameron Heights Collegiate Institute. Each Student Trustee elect was provided an opportunity to speak. Chairperson J. Weston congratulated the Student Trustee elects.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trustee L. Tremble provided information on the The Public Property Assessment Network Scholarship, in the amount of \$1,000, which will be awarded to one recipient in each of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association's (OPSBA) five regions.

REPORTS

STRATEGIC PLAN - OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR 2020-2021

This report was provided for information.

Director J. Bryant commenced the presentation by reviewing the Strategic Priorities and how human rights and equity are always at the forefront of WRDSB work. Associate Director L. Read reviewed the commitment to the Operational Goals and reiterated that work is guided by the Four Disciplines of Execution. She shared the operations priorities for 2020-2021: Ensuring the safety and well-being of staff and students, continuing commitment to an organizational culture rooted in human rights and equity, ensuring the continuity of quality learning for all students, supporting the most vulnerable students and closing their gaps in learning and ensuring continuity of effective operations of the WRDSB. Associate Director L. Read referred trustees to the agenda package and reviewed how to interpret the implementation dashboard.

Dr. D. Liebermann, Senior Manager of Research and Evidence-Based Practice, reviewed the graduation rates data for students who started secondary school in the 2014-2015 school year.

Trustees asked questions regarding measurements in place to monitor student mental health, trends in secondary absences and credit accumulation, re-engagement and reasons for 'early leavers' and the website update. It was noted that the pandemic may have an affect on operational goals.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC VERBAL UPDATE

This update was provided for information.

Director J. Bryant commenced the presentation by acknowledging the uncertainty and difficult decisions of the year ahead and reviewed the documented benefits of in person learning. Associate Director L. Read shared the planning for 2021-2022 and the information being provided to families to assist in decision making. She reviewed the requirement for families who want to enrol their child in the Remote Learning Program to complete the Remote Learning Program Request form by May 3rd at 4:00 p.m. She reviewed the importance of understanding the number of students registering for Remote Learning and In-Person Learning so both can be appropriately staffed.

Trustees asked questions of clarification regarding the Remote Learning Program Request form deadline, other school board processes, school assistance in decision making, the inability to switch modes of learning throughout the school year, special education transition planning and French Immersion.

TIM WALKER MEMORIAL AWARD FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

This report was provided for information.

Student Trustees T. John-Jandles and R. McDonald provided the background on the award and the adjudication process. The adjudication committee selected the following recipients to receive the 2020-21 Tim Walker Memorial Award:

- Doon Public School
- Queensmount Public School
- Sandowne Public School
- Stewart Avenue Public School

A summary of the winning projects was also provided.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

The Board received the following communications:

- York Region District School Board to Minister of Education
- Ontario Public School Boards' Association to Minister of Education
- Upper Grand District School Board to Minister of Education
- Waterloo Region District School Board to Region of Waterloo Public Health
- Halton DSB to Minister of Education - Education Workers for Priority Inoculations
- Rainbow District School Board to Minister of Education
- Bluewater District School Board to Minister of Education
- Upper Canada District School Board to Minister of Education
- Halton DSB to Minister of Education - Expanding Student Access to Online Learning
- Waterloo Region District School Board to Regional Chair and local Mayors

ADJOURNMENT

3. Moved by C. Whetham, seconded by K. Smith:

That the Board Meeting of April 26, 2021, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.