WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

NOTICE AND AGENDA

A Committee of the Whole meeting of the Waterloo Region District School Board will be held via video conference, on Monday, September 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Call to Order

O Canada

Approval of Agenda

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Celebrating Board Activities/Announcements

Delegations
  Paul Reinheimer - COVID-19 Vaccinations
  Yvonne Haley - COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate

Written Submission:
  01 Allison Reinheimer Moore - COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate

Staff Follow Up

Policy and Governance

Reports
  02 Bank Borrowing Resolution
  School Reopening Update

M. Gerard
  j. chanicka / L. Read

Board Reports

Question Period (10 minutes)

Future Agenda Items (Notices of Motion to be referred to Agenda Development Committee)

Adjournment

Questions relating to this agenda should be directed to
Stephanie Reidel, Manager of Corporate Services
519-570-0003, ext. 4336, or Stephanie_Reidel@wrdsb.ca
Dear Board Members,

I am a parent of a brand new junior kindergartener who is attending Mary Johnston Public School. He’s four years old, smart, silly, and kind… and he can’t (yet) receive a vaccination to protect him from COVID-19. My husband and I are fully vaccinated, as is his babysitter. Prior to last week, he hadn’t been inside a building that wasn’t our house (or the doctor’s office) since March 2020. We have done everything we can to protect him from catching COVID-19. He’s a champion mask-wearer and has gotten great at washing his hands with only minor flooding of our powder room.

My son has received all of his regularly scheduled vaccinations – vaccines against potentially debilitating or fatal diseases like polio, measles, rubella, pertussis, even chicken pox, which we viewed to be an itchy week of school when I was a kid, but that we now know is more dangerous. He’s also received his annual Flu shot every year since his birth, because even though the flu is generally a minor inconvenience, it kills thousands of people every year, and getting your flu shot protects yourself as well as your community. We try to instill the importance of taking care of and being respectful for others, and getting vaccinated is one of the ways we can do that.

The COVID-19 vaccines are the result of decades of work by scientists and researchers, people who have devoted their lives to developing medicines that protect individuals and communities from potentially debilitating and fatal diseases. We require that teachers, students, volunteer parents, etc. provide proof of their Immunology record before they can attend school, and have already added the COVID-19 vaccine requirements to that list. The COVID-19 vaccine should be added to the list of required vaccinations for everyone who enters a WRDSB learning institution, including all eligible students.

None of the arguments against mandatory vaccination are based on any scientific evidence, they’re based on fear of things that we don’t understand and conspiracy theories. The COVID-19 vaccines weren’t developed too quickly, mRNA vaccines have been in the works for years, with an article titled “mRNA vaccines – a new era in vaccinology” published in Nature Reviews Drug Discovery in early 2018. There is no reason, other than fear or obstinance, for folks to not be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, assuming that they don’t have a complicating medical reason.

I respectfully implore you to add the COVID-19 vaccine to the list of required vaccinations, and/or petition the Ministry of Education to do so.

Kind regards,

Allison Reinheimer Moore
Subject: Bank Borrowing Resolution

Recommendation

That the Waterloo Region District School Board adopt the Resolution, as outlined in Appendix A of the Bank Borrowing Resolution report to Trustees, authorizing the borrowing of money to meet current expenditures of the Waterloo Region District School Board for fiscal year 2022.

Status

In the normal course of business, the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) borrows money to meet its operating expenditures. This is necessary because of timing differences between our collection of revenues from municipalities and the province, and our payment schedules for the expenditures of the WRDSB.

The Education Act allows borrowing up to the uncollected amount of revenues of the Board. The borrowing limit for 2021 was set at $50M.

Background

With the growth in the WRDSB’s overall budget over the last number of years, due to increases in enrolment and the extensive capital and maintenance program being undertaken by the WRDSB, the borrowing limit was increased to $50M effective September 2012. Since then, the $50M borrowing limit has been sufficient to meet the Board’s cash flow needs. There is no evidence to support a further increase to the borrowing limit.

Financial implications

The annual budget includes an amount to provide for the anticipated interest costs; for the 2021-22 school year, that amount has been budgeted at $36,269.

Communications

A certified copy of the Board Resolution will be forwarded to CIBC.

Prepared by: Matthew Gerard, Coordinating Superintendent, Business Services & Treasurer of the Board
Nick Landry, Controller, Financial Services
Sharon Uttley, Manager of Accounting Services
in consultation with Coordinating Council
Resolution

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BORROWING OF MONEY TO MEET CURRENT EXPENDITURES OF THE WATERLOO REGION DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD (the “Board”)

A. In accordance with subsection 243(1) of the Education Quality Improvement Act (the “Act”), the Board considers it necessary to borrow the amount of up to $50,000,000.00 to meet, until current revenue has been received, the current expenditures of the Board for their fiscal year 2021.

B. Pursuant to subsection 243(3) of the Act, the total amount borrowed pursuant to this resolution together with the total of any similar borrowings and any accrued interest on those borrowings is not to exceed the unreceived balance of the estimated revenues of the Board for the fiscal year.

C. The total amount previously borrowed by the Board pursuant to Section 243 that has not been repaid is $0.

D. The amount borrowed for current expenditures is within the Board’s Debt to Financial Obligation Limit as established by the Ministry of Education.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson and the Treasurer are authorized on behalf of the Board to borrow from time to time from Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (“CIBC”) a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate of $50,000,000.00 to meet, until current revenue is collected, the current expenditures of the Board for the year (including the amounts required for the purposes mentioned in subsection 243 (1) and 243 (2) of the Act) plus interest at a rate to be agreed upon from time to time with CIBC.
2. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to apply in payment of all sums borrowed plus interest, all of the monies collected or received in respect of the current revenues of the Board.

3. The Treasurer is authorized and directed to deliver to CIBC from time to time upon request a statement showing (a) the total amount of unpaid previous borrowings of the Board for current expenditures together with debt charges, if any, and (b) the uncollected balance of the estimated revenues for the current year or, where the estimates have not been adopted, the estimated revenues of the previous year, less any current revenue already collected.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution of the Board in the Province of Ontario, duly passed at a meeting of the Board and that this Resolution is in full force and effect.

Dated this 13th day of September, 2021.

Waterloo Region District School Board

Per: ________________________________
Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson

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Treasurer