

MAY 9, 2022
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. via video conference, with the following members in attendance: S. Piatkowski (Chairperson), J. Herring, C. Millar, M. Ramsay, K. Smith, L. Tremble, C. Watson, C. Whetham and K. Woodcock.

Trustees K. Meissner and J. Weston were unable to attend.

Student Trustees K. Soror and N. Vishkin were in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: j. chanicka (Director of Education and Secretary), D. Ahluwalia, J. Albrecht, R. DeBoer, E. Dougan-McKenzie, M. Gerard, E. Giannopoulos, S. Miller, L. Read and G. Shantz.

Other staff in attendance: L. Agar, R. Lam and S. Reidel.

Guests : Jack Ammendolia, Managing Partner at Watson and Associates and Jim Easto, Partner at Keel Cottrelle LLP.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. Piatkowski called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by L. Tremble, seconded by K. Woodcock:

That the agenda of the May 9, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

Trustee C. Watson had a declaration of pecuniary interest in the previous in camera meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson S. Piatkowski noted that Trustees K. Meissner and J. Weston are both on leave.

Trustee C. Millar shared that the Annual KW Woman of the Year Awards will be presented later this month and that Student Trustee Soror ws nominated in the Young Adult category.

Trustees C. Millar and K. Woodcock attended Music Monday at Millen Woods Public School with Superintendent P. Kaur.

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Trustees J. Herring, L. Tremble and K. Woodcock, with Chairperson S. Piatkowski attended the OPSBA Labour Relations Symposium on April 28, 2022. Coordinating Superintendents M. Gerard and G. Shantz presented at the symposium. Trustee L. Tremble encouraged trustees who missed the event to watch the recordings available on the OPSBA website.

Trustee K Smith attended an event at Queensmount Senior Public School celebrating Dave Kurek, a volunteer of 27 years. D. Kurek leads the Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) team at Queensmount.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations scheduled for this meeting.

STAFF FOLLOW UP

CONSUMPTION AND TREATMENT SITES (CTS) IN KITCHENER AND GUELPH - PROXIMITY TO SCHOOLS

As previously requested, Superintendent E. Giannopoulos provided trustees with a list of schools within a 2km proximity to the CTS locations in both Kitchener and Guelph. It was noted that staff would not be able to provide similar information at a country wide level.

Superintendent E. Giannopoulos agreed to provide trustees with the distance between Central Public School and the proposed Cambridge CTS location.

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

Student Trustee N. Vishkin joined the meeting at 7:17 p.m.

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 5001 - APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPALS AND VICE-PRINCIPALS -ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY

An additional Related Reference of Board Policy 1017 - Human Rights was added to the policy. Trustees asked questions regarding the change in language which provides a more specific definition of the skills and attitudes and the related impact on current practices.

2. Moved by C. Millar, seconded by J. Herring:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 5001 - Appointment of Principals and Vice-Principals-Elementary and Secondary as presented at the May 9, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting with the additional Related Reference of Board Policy 1017 - Human Rights.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 2010 - ASSESSMENT, EVALUATION AND REPORTING

Trustees asked questions regarding the related operational process and discussed the language used in the policy. A housekeeping correction will be made to refer to the Strategic Plan and remove reference to the Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 2010 - Assessment, Evaluation and Reporting as presented at the May 9, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting with the replacement of the reference to the “Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement (BIPSA)” with “Strategic Plan”.

-Carried-

REVIEW OF BOARD POLICY 4021 - VOLUNTEERISM

Trustees discussed a recent email received from a parent expressing concern over the barriers police record checks create for volunteers.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board defer Board Policy 4021 - Volunteerism for further discussion.

-Defeated-

Opposed:
J. Herring
C. Millar
L. Tremble
C. Watson
C. Whetham
K. Woodcock
N. Viskin*

Abstained:
K. Smith

* Student Trustees votes are recorded for the purpose of public record and for accountability to the student body; however, it is recognized that “a student trustee is not a member of the Board” (Education Act, Section 55 (2))

Trustees continued their discussion regarding the parent email and noted that the province will be removing the police record checks for volunteers in the near future.

Trustee K. Smith moved a motion to write a letter to the Waterloo Region Police Services to indicate the barriers to parents. Chairperson S. Piatkowski noted that this was out of order at this time but that she would be welcome to provide a Notice of Motion at the end of the meeting for scheduling.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4021 - Volunteerism as presented at the May 9, 2022, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

Abstained: K. Smith

REPORTS

DEVELOPMENT AREA UPDATE - CAMBRIDGE WEST TO SOUTHWOOD SS

Development Area (DA) reassignments are subject to approval by the Board of Trustees. This report recommends reassigning the Holding School for Grade 9 to 12 students within the Cambridge West DA. This recommendation is being brought forward before students move into the DA. In analyzing the projected enrolment at Galt Collegiate Institute and Southwood Secondary School, it was determined that Southwood Secondary School could derive benefit from acting as a Holding School to the Cambridge West DA.

Trustees asked questions regarding future changes to the Development Area.

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

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approves the Holding School reassignment of the Cambridge West Development Area from Galt Collegiate Institute to Southwood Secondary School, as presented to the Board of Trustees at the May 9, 2022, Committee of the Whole meeting, effective immediately.

-Carried-

EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT CHARGES BY-LAW AMENDMENT

The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) and Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WCDSB) (or the Boards) have jointly entered into a process for the review of their respective Education Development Charges (EDC) By-laws. The WRDSB and the WCDSB have been reviewing their existing EDC by-laws and rates due to the increasing price of land in the Region of Waterloo. In May 2021, the Boards committed to annually reviewing EDC inputs such as land value assumption. The appraiser was instructed to review the current land values compared to what was appraised as part of the 2021 EDC Background Study. The appraisers and

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the EDC consultant (Watson & Associates Economists Ltd.) determined an amendment to the 2021 EDC by-law is appropriate. Based on the \$300 residential and \$0.10 nonresidential per year increase cap, the implementation of the charge would be phased in as:

- Year 2 (June 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023) - residential rate of \$2,548 per unit; non-residential rate of \$1.61 per square foot (2021 By-law rates are \$2,548/unit and \$1.61/square foot; therefore no change);
- Year 3 (June 1, 2023 to May 31, 2024) - residential rate of \$2,848 per unit; non-residential rate of \$1.71 per square foot (2021 By-law rates are \$2,708/unit and \$1.66/square foot);
- Year 4 (June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2025) - residential rate of \$3,148 per unit; non-residential rate of \$1.81 per square foot (2021 By-law rates are \$2,708/unit and \$1.66/square foot); and
- Year 5 (June 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026) - residential rate of \$3,448 per unit; non-residential rate of \$1.91 per square foot (2021 By-law rates are \$2,708/unit and \$1.66/square foot).

Jack Ammendolia, Managing Partner at Watson and Associates, provided a presentation reviewing what an Education Development Charge is, phased in EDC rates, the existing and proposed rates, the public process and next steps.

Trustees asked questions regarding the stakeholder information session and it was confirmed that the WCDSB received the same presentation and approved the EDC rates this evening.

7. Moved by L. Tremble, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board enact and pass an Education Development Charges Amending By-law in the form attached as Schedule A to this report, presented to the Board of Trustees at the May 9, 2022 Committee of the Whole meeting.

-Carried-

MOTION: MEETING RECORDINGS

This Notice of Motion was served at the March 21, 2022, Committee of the Whole meeting by Trustee J. Herring with support from Trustee C. Millar.

Trustee Herring spoke to her motion noting that Trustees appear to be in agreement on this direction and trustees would have an opportunity to provide input on the policy after it is developed by the Policy Working Group.

Trustees discussed the motion including making previous recordings available to the public, the importance of transparency and accountability and the language of the motion.

8. Moved by J. Herring, seconded by C. Millar:

That staff prepare a report investigating the possibility for all Committee of the Whole and Board Meeting recordings to be made available for viewing on the WRDSB website; and

That a retention schedule be developed to guide this practice; and

That until a discussion and determination can be made by trustees, that all future recordings be retained; and

That if approved by the Board of Trustees, that a Policy be developed to guide this practice.

-Carried-

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS' ASSOCIATION (OPSBA) BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

This report was provided for information.

Trustee L. Tremble provided an update on the April 29 and 30, 2022, OPSBA Board of Directors meeting. She noted that the OPSBA Annual General Meeting will be held in Ottawa from June 9-11, 2022. She also shared that OPSBA has prepared many resources for the general public and for trustees for the provincial and municipal elections. For the provincial election, OPSBA is running an Education Day initiative on May 18, 2022. She also provided information on upcoming campaigns and staff opportunities.

QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee J. Herring asked about a recent article in the Cambridge Times where A. Tinker of Cambridge Shelter Corporation stated that she thought the current COVID-19 isolation facility for homeless individuals would be perfect for some of the shelter's older adult residents with compromised health, those with mobility issues, and others with health issues. Trustee J. Herring noted that the community is expressing concerns with these comments. Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard advised that staff are continuing to keep an eye on the situation and that he will be contacting A. Tinker tomorrow.

Trustee C. Watson asked about the timeline for meeting recordings in place right now. Chairperson S. Piatkowski clarified that recordings are posted the day after the meetings are live-streamed and that those recordings remain available until the minutes are ratified and posted to the WRDSB website. The minutes are the official record of the meeting. He shared that given

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today's direction, the Policy working group will develop a policy for trustee discussion and approval to change this process.

ADJOURNMENT

9. Moved by K .Smith, seconded by J. Herring:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 9, 2022, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.