

JUNE 15, 2022

SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE BUDGET MEETING

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

Trustee M. Ramsay and C. Whetham 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, E. Dougan-McKenzie, M. Gerard, N. Landry, S. Miller and G. Shantz.

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

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. Piatkowski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

That the agenda of the June 15, 2022, Special Committee of the Whole Budget Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

SPECIAL BUDGET DELEGATIONS

There were no Special Budget Delegations registered for the meeting.

REPORTS

RESPONSE TO TRUSTEE BUDGET QUESTIONS

In response to questions received at the June 8, 2022, Special Committee of the Whole Budget meeting, staff provided additional details regarding staff wellness and experiential learning funding.

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Trustees asked clarifying questions regarding staff well-being, learning recovery and experiential learning including outdoor education. Many of the questions would be answered in the next agenda item.

2022-2023 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard thanked the budget team and provided an introduction to the presentation including three key elements of the budget: Ministry funding and directives, strategic priorities and operational goals. He reviewed the focus on the budget including legislative requirements. Nick Landry, Controller, Financial Services, review the budget risks and board inputs. Key risks include enrolment, inflation and labour force.

Trustees asked questions regarding the estimated enrollment and a possible need to advocate for funding to cover the inflation risks in the future.

Nick Landry, Controller, Financial Services, reviewed the 2022-23 revenue changes and the GSN Grant Allocations which include Funding for a Locally Managed System, Funding for Strategic Education Priorities Funding for Classrooms and Funding for Schools. He also reviewed the key changes to the GSN. Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard continued the presentation speaking in detail to temporary grants for the Learning Recovery and Renewal and Supports for Student Funding.

Trustees asked questions regarding the temporary nature of both the Learning Recovery and Renewal and Supports for Student Funding.

Nick Landry, Controller, Financial Services, reviewed the Priorities and Partnerships Funding (PPF) program for the upcoming year including further details on the Tutoring funding which require 50% of the expenditures made by August 31, 2022.

Trustees asked further clarifying questions regarding the Tutoring PPF.

Nick Landry, Controller, Financial Services, reviewed the 2022-23 key expenditure areas including Instructional Expenditures, School Operations, Transportation, Central Administration and Governance. He reviewed the notable changes in expenditures such as the increase to Central Administration and Governance and the decrease in Transportation funding due to a decrease in pandemic related expenses. Coordinating Superintendent M. Gerard shared the staffing additions for the 2022-23 school year.

Trustees asked questions regarding the temporary staffing additions and the estimated deficit. Staff provided further information regarding the previous questions on staff wellness and student outreach. Questions were also asked about the current year's expenditures.

Staff were thanked for their efforts regarding the budget.

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

That That the Waterloo Region District School Board (Board) approve the budget as presented in this report—with revenues of \$840,865,029 and expenses of \$832,304,221 with the difference of \$8,560,808 attributed as follows:

Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	\$8,560,808	
LESS:		
As required by Ministry of Education (Ministry) budget compliance regulations, this budget includes the following appropriations of accumulated surplus:		
Increase/ (Decrease) in Unavailable for Compliance - Accumulated Surplus		
• PSAB Adjustment for Interest Accrual	\$116,802	
• Sinking Fund Interest Earned	(\$24,045)	
• Unsupported Capital Projects Adjustment	(\$712,718)	
• Revenues Recognized for Land	\$16,400,000	
In-Year Adjustment to Revenues		<u>(\$15,780,039)</u>
SUB-TOTAL – (Deficit) for Compliance before additional appropriations		(\$7,219,231)
PLUS:		
Transfer from Unappropriated to Internally Appropriated Accumulated Surplus		
• In-Year Committed Capital Projects	(\$210,000)	
TOTAL – Deficit for Compliance		(\$7,429,231)
• In-Year draw from Unappropriated Accumulated Surplus		<u>\$7,429,231</u>
Difference		<u>\$0</u>

-Carried-

RISE AND REPORT

3. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by J. Weston:

That the Special Committee of the Whole Budget Meeting of June 15, 2022, Rise and reconven to a Special Board Meeting, waiving the requirement to give notice.

-Carried-

Trustees rose at 8:24 p.m. to move to the Special Board Meeting.