

MARCH 6, 2023
SPECIAL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Special Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Education Centre Boardroom, with the following members in attendance: J. Weston (Chairperson), B. Cody, C. Johnson, F. Meissner, S. Piatkowski, M. Radlein, M. Ramsay, M. Waseem, C. Watson and K. Woodcock.
Virtual Attendee: M. Snyder

Student Trustee K. Soror was in attendance virtually. Student Trustee V. Raina was not in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: S. Miller (Interim Director of Education and Secretary), L. Agar, D. Ahluwalia, J. Albrecht, J. Brown, V. Collis, R. Dallan, C. Dey, E. Dougan-McKenzie, J. Fedosoff, E. Giannopoulos, C. Hill, N. Landry, B. Lemon, I. McIsaac, M. Newlands and G. Shantz.

Other staff in attendance: M. Mayer, S. Reidel and J. Shortreed.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson J. Weston called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations.

REPORTS

2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS

In preparation of the 2023-2024 School Year Calendars, a consultation process was established with representatives from stakeholder groups within the Waterloo Region District School Board, which included employee federations, associations and administrators.

In addition, discussions related to the alignment of School Year Calendars have occurred with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board (WCDSB). As in past years, it is our committee's goal to ensure that the calendar is aligned as closely as possible with the calendar proposed by the WCDSB. The 2023-24 school year will begin on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 and end on Friday, June 28, 2024. The proposal for the 2023-24 school year results in four (4) unaligned days and this represents an additional cost to the Board in terms of providing student transportation. The additional costs incurred for unaligned days during the 2023/24 school year are estimated to be \$367,714; the Waterloo Region District School Board's share of this cost is estimated to be \$260,188, with the remainder being charged to the WCDSB.

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Trustees asked questions of clarification regarding the days not aligned with the WCDSB and the timing and content of professional development days.

1. Moved by F. Meissner, seconded by C. Johnson:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the 2023-2024 School Year Calendars containing 194 school days, as outlined in Appendices A and B of the Report titled “School Year Calendars – 2023-2024”.

-Carried-

RISE AND REPORT

2. Moved by M. Radlein, seconded by M. Waseem:

That the Special Committee of the Whole Meeting of March 6, 2023, be adjourned and we report to the Board Meeting.

-Carried-

The trustees rose to report to the Board Meeting at 7:25 p.m.