

**APRIL 23, 2025
BOARD MEETING**

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

Trustee S. Piatkowski was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustee D. Lakhanpal was in attendance and Student Trustee F. Luo was not present.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: S. Miller (Director of Education and Secretary), D. Ahluwalia, J. Albrecht, J. Brown, B. Chatha, V. Collis, C. Dey, E. Dougan-McKenzie, A. Gaymes-San Vicente, H. Hughes, R. Hume, P. Kaur, D. Lane, B. Lemon, N. Muhammad and C. Sagar.

Other staff in attendance: E. Bell, I. Bilj, M. Gravel, M. Mayer, S. Reidel, S. Ringwood and K. Templeton.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson M. Radlein called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by J. Meissner, seconded by M. Waseem:

That the agenda of the April 23, 2025, Board Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

ANNOUNCEMENTS/CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES

TIM WALKER MEMORIAL AWARDS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

At a meeting on March 21, 2025, the selection committee reviewed the applications submitted by twelve schools for the 2024-25 Tim Walker Memorial Award for Environmental Stewardship. The Selection Committee was composed of Stephanie and Jim Walker (parents of the late Tim Walker), Trustee Joe Meissner and Student Trustee Feiyang Luo.

Trustee J. Meissner provided background information on the award and Student Trustee D. Lakhanpal introduced the recipients. The following recipients were selected:

- Howard Robertson Public School - Hydroponic Growing Garden
- Margaret Avenue Public School - Self-Watering Garden Beds (Wicking Beds)
- Grand River Collegiate Institute - GRCI Garden Walls of Growth
- Kitchener-Waterloo Collegiate - Honouring Memories, Planting Dreams

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson M. Radlein shared regrets from Trustee S. Piatkowski.

Trustee M. Waseem joined student affinity group leaders at Cameron Heights Collegiate Institute for a Change Cafe.

Trustee M. Radlein visited Glenview Park Secondary School.

COMMUNICATIONS DEPARTMENT GOOD NEWS UPDATE

Senior Manager H. Hughes introduced the Communications Good News Update video sharing highlights from the month and items of traditional media and social media interest.

DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations scheduled.

CONSENT AGENDA

2. Moved by K. Woodcock, seconded by M. Waseem:

That the consent agenda of the Board Meeting of April 23, 2025, and the actions contained therein, be approved with the exception of folios 13-14.

-Carried-

FOLIOS 13-14: SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2025

Trustee C. Johnson inquired about the included Google Meet links for workshops, noting that the dates for these have since passed and suggested removing them. Manager S. Reidel indicated she would bring that suggestion forward and have them removed.

3. Moved by C. Johnson, seconded by M. Waseem:

That folios 13-14 from the consent agenda of the April 23, 2025, Board Meeting, 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.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. Moved by J. Weston, seconded by S. Estoesta:

That the agenda of the April 23, 2025, In Camera Board Meeting be deemed to meet the legislative requirements for discussion in camera.

-Carried-

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

B. Moved by M. Waseem, seconded by C. Johnson:

That the consent agenda of the April 23, 2025, In Camera Board Meeting and the actions contained therein, be approved.

-Carried-

RISE AND REPORT

C. Moved by S. Estoesta, seconded by C. Johnson:

That we rise and report in public session.

-Carried-

Note: This concludes the reporting of In Camera motions.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

REPORTS

BOARD IMPROVEMENT AND EQUITY PLAN UPDATE - LITERACY

The Learning Support Services (LSS) team provided an update on the WRDSB structured literacy multi-year plan starting with a road map to reading reform in Ontario that formed the basis of the plan. The road map has ensured alignment in instructional approaches, assessment and monitoring of student learning.

WRDSB Structured Literacy Multi-Year Plan is grounded in Culturally Responsive and Relevant Pedagogy (CRRP). CRRP centers the diverse cultural backgrounds and experiences of students to foster more inclusive and effective learning environments and is grounded in high expectations, cultural competence and building conscious awareness that students can use to identify current or historical inequities.

The Multi-tiered Systems of Support is an educational framework designed to differentiate instruction by providing multiple levels or tiers of learning, and each tier is designed to challenge students at their appropriate level of understanding, ability, or readiness. Across the WRDSB, the tiered approach is a framework used by all educators to support the specific needs of students.

The LSS Literacy team shared how universal screeners and reading assessments drive educators' literacy instruction within the tiered instruction model and how these data sources have shifted our practices and action in the K-2 learning environment, grades 3 to 9, as well as the French language program.

Trustees asked questions regarding communications with parents and families, clarification regarding the universal screeners, professional development, supports for students who join later in their school career, use of library resources, funding for additional supports and French structured literacy.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

There were no reports from Board members.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

The Board received the following communications:

- Bluewater District School Board to Ministry of Education
- Waterloo Region District School Board to the Ministry of Education

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

QUESTION PERIOD

There were no questions.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

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

That the Board Meeting of April 23, 2025, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.