



September 17, 2025

# **Policy & Governance Standing Committee**

## **Minutes**

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Policy & Governance Standing Committee Meeting this evening at 6:00 p.m. in the Education Centre Boardroom, with the following members in attendance:

S. Estoesta, J. Meissner, M. Radlein (Chair of the Board), J. Weston and K. Woodcock.

Student Trustee K. Kaur was in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: S. Miller (Director of Education and Secretary).

Other staff in attendance: S. Reidel.

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## **Call to Order**

Board Chair M. Radlein called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

## **Elections**

### **Appoint Scrutineers**

Board Chair M. Radlein named Director S. Miller and Manager S. Reidel to fulfill the role of scrutineer for the election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair.

### **Nominations For Committee Chair**

Board Chair M. Radlein provided trustees with a reminder of the procedure for nominations.

Trustee J. Meissner nominated Trustee S. Estoesta for the role of Committee Chair. Trustee S. Estoesta accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations and nominations were closed.

Board Chair M. Radlein announced that Trustee S. Estoesta was acclaimed as Policy & Governance Standing Committee Chair.

## **Nominations For Vice-Chair**

Committee Chair S. Estoesta assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Trustee J. Weston nominated Trustee J. Meissner for the role of Committee Vice-Chair. Trustee J. Meissner accepted the nomination.

There were no further nominations.

## **Close Nominations**

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

**That the nominations for the position of Business Services Standing Committee Chair now be closed.**

-Carried-

Committee Chair S. Estoesta announced that Trustee J. Meissner was acclaimed as Policy & Governance Standing Committee Vice-Chair.

## **Approval of Agenda**

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

**That the agenda of the September 17, 2025, Policy & Governance Standing Committee Meeting be approved.**

-Carried-

## **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

## **Declarations of Pecuniary Interest**

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

## **Delegations**

There were no delegations scheduled.

## **Staff Follow Up**

There were no Staff Follow Up Items

## Reports

### 2025-2026 Policy Review

This report was provided for information.

Manager S. Reidel provided the Policy & Governance Standing Committee with the status report of policies under review including twelve (12) policies in progress from previous years and a proposed sixteen (16) policies commencing the policy review process in October.

The continued use of the policy review process developed by the Policy Working Group was agreed upon, but that it be amended to include the standing committee.

### Board Policy G100 Governance Policy - Foundations

The Policy Working Group tasked staff to review Section 3 of the policy in comparison to recent updates to the WRDSB Board Bylaws. With the exception of 3.3.8, all other areas have similar wording to Section 2: Board of Trustees Responsibilities or 5: Trustee Responsibility of the Bylaws. Given the overlap, staff suggested that Board Policy G100 Governance Policy - Foundations be rescinded.

Trustees discussed rescinding the policy and in light of the current climate, decided to maintain the policy. The committee reviewed the proposed changes and made some additional changes to language. It was noted that, moving forward, the standing committee would use “caregivers/families/parents” when referring to a child’s family.

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

**That the Policy & Governance Standing Committee recommend approval of Board Policy G100 Governance Policy - Foundations as reviewed and amended at the September 17, 2025, Policy & Governance Standing Committee meeting.**

-Carried-

### Board Policy G400 Board of Trustees Planning Cycle and Evaluations

Recommended changes to G400 Board of Trustees Planning Cycle and Evaluations include updated language, addition of new legislation and suggested changes to the timelines for the Strategic Plan and policy reviews.

The committee reviewed the proposed changes and made some additional changes to language.

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

**That the Policy & Governance Standing Committee recommend approval of Board Policy G400 - Board of Trustees Planning Cycle and Evaluations as reviewed and amended at the September 17, 2025, Policy & Governance Standing Committee meeting.**

-Carried-

## **Board Reports**

### **Annual Trustee Self-Evaluation Results**

This report was provided for information.

Between June 12 and June 30, 2025, Trustees were invited to complete a self-evaluation survey as an opportunity to share their experiences and communicate their needs to each other. 9 out of 11 WRDSB Trustees participated in the survey.

Chair S. Estoesta previously sat on the Trustee Self-Evaluation Committee and spoke to the survey results noting that most trustees expressed positive responses to most questions, selecting either Strongly Agreed or Agreed.

Trustees discussed the additional comments/themes from the survey which was a combination of statements made by the Self-Evaluation Committee and themes developed as a result of the responses. It was noted that at no time did the committee see the raw data.

### **Question Period for Members**

There were no questions.

## **Adjournment**

4. Moved by M. Radlein, seconded by J. Meissner:

**That the Policy & Governance Standing Committee Meeting of September 17, 2025, be adjourned.**

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.