



Board of Trustees' Board Meeting

A public meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Monday, November 27, 2023, at 1st floor Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber Street, Kitchener.

Trustees Present:

Linda Cuff (Vice Chair), Kathy Doherty-Masters, Winston Francis, David Guerin, Renee Kraft*, Marisa Phillips, Robert Sikora (Chair), Conrad Stanley, Tracey Weiler

*- Left meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Student Trustees Present:

Bryanna Donoghue, Xavier Petrie

Administrative Officials Present:

Tyrone Dowling, Gerald Foran, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Mendonca, Judy Merkel, Kerry Pomfret, Jennifer Ritsma, Annalisa Varano

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets:

Recorder:

Stephanie Medeiros, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 4.7 all Board decisions made by consensus are deemed the equivalent of a unanimous vote. A consensus decision is therefore deemed to be a vote of 9-0. Under Board by-law 4.11 every Trustee "shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote" and abstentions are not permitted.

1. Call to Order:

The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order at 6:21 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials

The opening prayer was recited at the Inaugural/Annual General Meeting.

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgment

Territorial Acknowledgement declared by Chair Sikora.

1.3 Approval of Agenda

Chair Sikora motioned for approval of the agenda with the following amendments:

- Amendment to strike items 3.4 and 3.5 Governance minutes. To be brought forward on December 11th, 2023, Board of Trustees meeting.
- Add Conrad Stanley to attendees on November 13, 2023, item 3.1.2 Special Board minutes.
- Move 8.2 November Chair's report into consent agenda.
- Add item 7.2 Student Trustee Statement

2023-102-- It was moved by Trustee Phillips and seconded by Trustee Stanley:

THAT the agenda for Monday, November 27, 2023, be now approved, as amended.

--- Carried by *consensus*.

1.4 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

1.4.1 From the current meeting – NIL

1.4.2 From a previous public or in-camera meeting – NIL

1.5 Items for Action: NIL

2. Consent Agenda: Director of Education (e.g. day-to-day operational matters from the Ministry of Education that the board is required to do)

3. Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees (Minutes of meetings)

3.1 Approval of Minutes of Regular and Special Meetings

3.1.1 Board of Trustees' Meeting Minutes – Oct. 23, 2023

3.1.2 Special Board of Trustees Minutes – Nov 13, 2023

3.2 SEAC Minutes – Oct 4, 2023

3.3 Audit Minutes – Oct 4, 2023

~~3.4 Governance Minutes – Oct 16, 2023 (Approval of Minutes) Deferred to Dec 11, 2023~~

~~3.5 Governance Minutes – Oct 16, 2023 (Approval of recommendations) Deferred to Dec 11, 2023~~

3.6 Director's Report

3.7 French Immersion Update

Chair Sikora requested a mover and seconder for approval of the consent agenda.

2023-103-- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Cuff:

THAT the Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved.

--- Carried by consensus.

4. Delegations

4.1 Delegation Presentation

Mr. Kevin White presented on 2SLGBTQIA+ library resources at the WCDSB.

Trustees asked clarifying questions.

4.2 Delegation Presentation

Ms. Hannah White presented on 2SLGBTQIA+ library resources at the WCDSB.

Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5. Advice from the CEO

5.1 Special Education Update

Superintendent Foran presented the Special Education Update. A new process to require academic superintendent approval before creating a new IEP recommending curriculum modifications has been put in place.

Superintendent Foran introduced Tee Battistella, Senior Manager of Special Education and Erin Lemak, Principal of Student Services & Education and Community Partnership Programs. Their presentation included details regarding the alignment with the MYSP, proactive strategies to support skill building and monitoring of IEP's and modification. They reviewed recent professional development for teachers, Educational Assistants, Child and Youth Care Workers and other support staff. Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5.2 Community Planning and Partnerships (CPPG)

Superintendent Maharaj introduced Jennifer Passey, Manager of Planning, to present the Community Planning and Partnerships presentation. The presentation reviewed the Partnership space evaluation and co-build opportunities in the region. Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5.3 Adult Education Report

Superintendent Varano introduced presenters Lisa MacKay, Principal, Jamie Rodrigue and Heather Papp, Vice-Principals at St. Louis Adult Learning and Continuing Education Centres to present the Adult Education Report. The presentation reviewed the St. Louis learner numbers across the various programs offered, 2022-2023 school wide school improvement equity plan, and secondary school credit classes and courses. They provided highlights on the PSW, Barbering and Hairstyling, Culinary programs and the participation rates in additional literacy and numeracy programs such as homework clubs. Reported on the success of language programs, such as ESL, LINC and international languages. The presenters concluded by discussing the focus on the 2023-24 school year. Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5.4 Indigenous Education Update

Superintendent Ritsma introduced Jennifer Staats, K-12 Indigenous and Equity Consultant to present the Indigenous Education Update. The presentation reviewed our commitment to Indigenous education, a timeline of events and highlighted the Medicine Wheel by reviewing the different areas of support. Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5.5 ESL

Superintendent Mendonca introduced the Multilingual Language Learners report and presenter Barbara McCourt, Student Achievement Consultant ML K-10. The presentation reviewed the Newcomer Reception Center and the assessments completed in the 2022-2023 school year, new revised ML special education protocol, ML collaborations with various portfolios such as math coaches, literacy support teachers and school administration. Trustees asked clarifying questions and provided feedback.

5.6 Financial Statements/Year End Report

Superintendent Maharaj introduced Laura Isaac, Senior Manager of Financial Services to present the Financial Statements/Year End Report. Chair Sikora asked for a mover and seconder for the recommendation.

2023-104 -- It was moved by Trustee Phillips and seconded by Trustee Weiler

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the 2022-23 audited Consolidated Financial Statements as recommended by the Audit Committee.

-- Carried by Consensus

6. Board Education (at the request of the Board)

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

7.1 Student Trustee Update

Student Trustees Donoghue and Petrie presented the Student Trustee report and provided an update on events and activities happening in the secondary school community along with Student Trustee Role update for the month of November.

7.2 Student Trustees: Senate Statement

Student Trustees Donoghue and Petrie provided a statement in support of 2SLGBTQIA+ library resources at the WCDSB. Chair Sikora opened the floor for questions and comments. Trustees discussed briefly and asked clarifying questions.

Director Dowling noted that the current AP is under review.

8. Board Education (at the request of the Board)

8.1 Chair Sikora noted OCSTA Communications

Chair Sikora noted review of OCSTA communications.

8.2 Chair's Report

November Chair's report moved to consent agenda.

9 Policy Discussion

10 Assurance of Successful Board Performance

10.1 Board Policy Review

10.1.1 Board Policy II 004 Advocacy and Advertising. Is there a need to review the Policy?

Chair Sikora confirmed review of Board Policy II 004 Advocacy and Advertising and confirmed compliance.

2023-105-- It was moved by Trustee Cuff and seconded by Trustee Stanley:

THAT the Board of Trustees reviewed Board Policy II 004 Advocacy and Advertising and find that the Board is in compliance.

--- Carried by consensus

11 Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12 Potential Agenda Items

13 Announcements

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events

Trustees discussed upcoming events.

13.2 Pending Items: N/A

13.3 Pending Items for OCSTA Consideration: N/A

14 Items for the Next Meeting Agenda

Trustees discussed upcoming agenda items.

15 Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight.

15.1 Confirm Decisions made tonight.

16 Closing Prayer

17 Motion to Adjourn

2023-106-- It was moved by Trustee Phillips and seconded by Trustee Cuff:

THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 9:10 p.m.



Chair of the Board



Secretary