Waterloo Catholic District School Board
Quality, Inclusive, Faith Based Education

Minutes

Governance Committee

Date:	March 2, 2026, 5-7 pm
Time:	5:00 PM
Location:	CEC, St. Teresa of Avila
Next Meeting Date(s):	May 19, 2026, 5-7 pm

Governance Committee:
Tracey Weiler (Chair of Governance), David Guerin, Kathy Doherty-Masters, Renée Kraft

Regrets: Trustee Guerin

Guests: Trustee Francis & Trustee Sikora

Administrative Officials: Annalisa Varano

Recording Secretary: Alice Figueiredo

1. Call to Order
Trustee Weiler called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

1.1 Territorial Acknowledgement (Trustee Weiler)
Territorial Acknowledgement declared by Trustee Weiler.

1.2 Prayer
Prayer led by Trustee Doherty-Masters.

2. Approval of Agenda
Trustee Weiler requested approval of the agenda.

It was moved by Trustee Kraft and seconded by Trustee Doherty-Masters that the agenda of March 2, 2026, be approved.
Carried by consensus.

3. Declared Pecuniary Interest
NIL

4. Approval of the Minutes
N/A

5. Discussion Items (Trustee Weiler)

5.1 Board Policy II 006 Celebration of Excellence
The Governance Committee reviewed recommendations from Trustee Phillips regarding whether the "Pope Francis Award" required updating in light of the appointment of Pope Leo. It was confirmed that the award was intentionally created in the spirit of Pope Francis, who has been a leading global advocate for environmental stewardship.

The Committee suggested adding clarifying wording to Board Policy II 006 - *Celebration of Excellence*, Item No. 3, to indicate both the origin of the award's name and the rationale behind it. Proposed wording discussed by the Committee included:

"The Pope Francis Award was specifically named in honour of Pope Francis, who has been a leading global advocate for environmental action, viewing climate change as a moral crisis that disproportionately impacts the poor. Through his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'*, he champions the concept of 'integral ecology,' asserting that caring for nature is inseparable from social justice and defending the marginalized."

Trustee Weiler requested a mover and a seconder to incorporate this wording into Item 3 of Board Policy II 006 *Celebration of Excellence*.

It was moved by Trustee Doherty-Masters and seconded by Trustee Kraft to add the following text to Bord Policy II – 006 Celebration of Excellence, Item 3: "The Pope Francis Award was specifically named in honour of Pope Francis, who has been a leading global advocate for environmental action, viewing climate change as a moral crisis that disproportionately impacts the poor. Through his 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si'*, he champions the concept of 'integral ecology,' asserting that caring for nature is inseparable from social justice and defending the marginalized."
Carried by Consensus.

<u>5.2 Agenda Items Template</u>
After the last Governance meeting Trustee Sikora mentioned that modifying the agenda template may require a change to the Bylaws and noticed that "1.5 Items for Action" was not listed as a "required" agenda item.

Governance committee agreed that it was a good practice to amend the By-law to add "1.5 Items for Action" to 3.12 of the By-law for continuity. Trustee Weiler requested a mover and a seconder to amend the By-law.

It was moved by Trustee Doherty-Masters and seconded by Trustee Kraft that "1.5 Items for Action" be added to 3.12 of the By-law.
Carried by Consensus.

<u>5.3 Review of By-law section 5, Delegation</u>
Trustee Weiler reviewed the proposed amendments to Section 5 of the By-law regarding Delegations. Trustee Weiler drafted the revisions and finalized the wording for the Board lawyer to review. The goal is to have the amended section ready for consideration and approval at an upcoming Board meeting. Trustee Weiler requested a mover and seconder.

It was moved by Trustee Doherty-Masters and seconded by Trustee Kraft that the suggested amendments to section 3 and 5 of the By-law revisions be sent to the Board Lawyer for review and feedback and then to present for approval at an upcoming Board meeting.
Carried by Consensus.

6. Pending Items
None

7. Recommendations to Board

Trustee Weiler requested a mover and seconder to bring all recommendation to an upcoming Board meeting.

It was moved by Trustee Kraft and seconded by Trustee Doherty-Masters that all recommendation be brought to an upcoming Board meeting.
Carried by Consensus.

8. Adjournment (Trustee Weiler)
Trustee Weiler requested a motion to adjourn.

It was moved by Trustee Kraft and seconded by Trustee Doherty-Masters that the meeting adjourned.
Carried by Consensus.
Time: 7:06 pm