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

Minutes

Committee of the Whole Meeting

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, April 13, 2026, 1st floor Board Room, Catholic Education Centre, 35 Weber Street West, Kitchener.

Trustees Present:
Linda Cuff, Kathy Doherty-Masters, Winston Francis, David Guerin, Renée Kraft (Chair), Marisa Phillips*, Robert Sikora, Conrad Stanley

*- attended virtually via Teams

Student Trustees Present:
Rebecca Girolametto, Jace Krysko

Administrative Officials Present:
Patrick Eby, Gerald Foran, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Mendonça, Judy Merkel, Kerry Pomfret, Annalisa Varano

Special Resources For The Meeting:

Regrets: Jennifer Ritsma, Tracey Weiler (Vice-Chair)
Absent:

Recorder:
Stephanie Medeiros, Executive Administrative Assistant

NOTE ON VOTING: Under Board by-law 4.7, when a decision is reached by consensus, the minutes of the Meeting shall indicate a decision by consensus with the notation in the minutes that consensus means the decision was supported by all Trustees present and eligible to vote on a matter. Under Board by-law 4.11 Whenever a vote is required, every Trustee present when a vote is taken, including the Chair but excluding any Trustee who has declared a direct or indirect pecuniary interest as required by the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act, shall vote on all questions on which the Trustee is entitled to vote and abstentions are not permitted.

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1. Call to Order:
The Chair called the meeting to order at 6:51 p.m.

1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials
Previously offered at Special Board of Trustees meeting on April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement
Previously offered at Special Board of Trustees meeting on April 13, 2026, at 6:00 p.m.

1.3 Approval of Agenda
Chair Kraft motioned for approval of the agenda.

2026-12 -- It was moved by Trustee Sikora and seconded by Trustee Cuff:
THAT the agenda for Monday, April 13, 2026, be now approved.
--- 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 Committee of the Whole Minutes – Mar 9, 2026

Chair Kraft motioned for approval of the consent agenda.

2026-13 -- It was moved by Trustee Sikora and seconded by Trustee Francis:
THAT the Consent Agenda: Board of Trustees and the recommendations contained therein be now approved.
--- Carried by consensus

4. Delegations

5. Advice From the CEO

5.1 Early Years Report

Superintendent Mendonça introduced Kimberly Namespetra-Sullivan, Student Achievement Kindergarten Consultant/Early Years Lead, to present the Early Years Report. The presentation reviewed various professional development opportunities for kindergarten teachers and Early Childhood Educators as well as preparations for 'Welcome to Kindergarten' orientations are underway. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

5.2 Interim Financial Report #2

Superintendent Maharaj introduced Laura Isaac, Senior Manager of Finance, to present the Interim Financial Report #2 to Trustees. The presentation reviewed enrolment, revenues and expenditures. Trustees asked clarifying questions.

6. Ownership Linkage (Communication with the External Environment)

6.1 Linkages Activity

Trustee Sikora provided an update on the Linkages Activity, noting that letters of congratulations will be sent out and noted events that have recently taken place, as well as those that are upcoming.

6.2 Pastoral Care Activity

Trustee Guerin provided an update on Pastoral Care initiatives, highlighting a discussion among Trustees regarding their perspectives on the Ministry's recent announcement related to Bill 101.

7. Reports From Board Committees/Task Forces

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

8.1 OCSTA/CCSTA Communications

Chair Kraft briefly discussed OCSTA/CCSTA Communications.

8.2 Trustee and Student Trustee Evaluations

Chair Kraft noted that Trustee and Student Trustee Evaluations surveys will be released shortly for completion by all Trustees.

8.3 Trustee Work Plan - April review

Chair Kraft reviewed the Trustee Work Plan for the month of April.

9. Policy Discussion

10. Assurance of Successful Board Performance

11. Assurance of Successful Director of Education Performance

12. Potential Agenda Items

13. Announcements (all scheduled for the Catholic Education Centre unless otherwise indicated)

13.1 Upcoming Meetings/Events

The Chair noted upcoming events.

14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items

14.1 The Chair noted upcoming items on the next agenda.

15. Adjournment – Confirm decisions made tonight.

15.1 Confirm Decisions

The Recording Secretary confirmed the meeting decisions.

16. Closing Prayer

16.1 Closing prayer led by all.

17. Motion to Adjourn

2026-14 -- It was moved by Trustee Stanley and seconded by Trustee Sikora:
THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:46 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary