



## **Committee of the Whole Meeting**

A public meeting of the Committee of the Whole was held Monday, September 8, 2025, 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, Tracey Weiler (Vice-Chair)

**Student Trustees Present:**

Rebecca Girolametto, Jace Krysko

**Administrative Officials Present:**

Patrick Eby, Gerald Foran, Shesh Maharaj, Paul Mendonça, Judy Merkel, Kerry Pomfret, Jennifer Ritsma, Annalisa Varano

**Special Resources For The Meeting:**

**Regrets:**

**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 6:07 p.m.

#### **1.1 Opening Prayer & Memorials**

Opening prayer mentioned during Special Board of Trustees.

#### **1.2 Territorial Acknowledgement**

Territorial Acknowledgment declared during Special Board of Trustees.

#### **1.3 Approval of Agenda**

Chair Kraft motioned for approval of the agenda.

**2025-23 -- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Sikora:  
THAT the agenda for Monday, September 8, 2025, 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 – May 12, 2025

Chair Kraft motioned for approval of the consent agenda.

**2025-24 -- 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 MYSP Update

Director Varano introduced Josh Fullan, Director at Maximum City and consultant for the Multi-Year Strategic Plan (MYSP), who presented an update on the development of the new MYSP. The presentation covered the current progress, highlighted five key themes based on feedback from the WCDSB's MYSP consultation, which included insights from over 5,300 community engagements. The draft recommendations for the new strategic priorities and nested objectives, which are 'Learning, Faith and Belonging' were introduced. Mr. Fullan highlighted next steps for the finalization of the Strategic Plan. Trustees and Superintendents were grouped for facilitated discussions. 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, highlighting the need to revise the criteria for letters of congratulations. Reminder to trustees to complete the linkages activities spreadsheet and mentioned attendance at community events, including the openings of new schools. Additionally, it was noted the importance of gathering the Terms of Reference for the committees and standardizing their processes.

### 6.2 Pastoral Care Activity

Trustee Guerin shared an update on the initiatives related to Pastoral Care, emphasizing the introduction of a new pastoral plan, expressing intention to invite our spiritual animator to discuss background information with the Trustees and to extend invitations to all clergy throughout Waterloo Region. Additionally, it was mentioned the upcoming dinner featuring the keynote speaker for Spiritual Development Day and suggested the possibility of incorporating a Spiritual Retreat on the same day.

## 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 Work Plan – September

Chair Kraft briefly reviewed the Trustee Work Plan for the month of September.

**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**

Chair noted upcoming events.

**14. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda/Pending Items**

14.1 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**

**2025-25 -- It was moved by Trustee Weiler and seconded by Trustee Stanley:**

**THAT the meeting be now adjourned. The meeting was adjourned by consensus at 7:53 p.m.**



Chair of the Board



Secretary