

REPORT OF THE CHAIR'S COMMITTEE

2020 February 18
12:20 p.m. – 2:08 p.m.

MEMBERS

A. Morell (Chair) J. Bennett
M. Ruddock B. Yeoman
Regrets: C. Rahman

ADMINISTRATION AND OTHERS

M. Fisher B. Williams
B. Smith (-12:51)

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda, as amended, was approved by motion.

2. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST – none declared.**3. REVIEW UPCOMING BOARD MEETING AGENDAS**

The in-camera and public Board meetings agendas for 2020 February 25 were reviewed. The upcoming Advisory meetings scheduled for March 3 and 10 also were reviewed.

There was a request for future Advisory agenda items to include: the expulsion process and role of Trustee; inclusion of information on SAL as part of the presentation on Alternative Education; and an update on the previously provide report on Technology to Support Rethink Secondary (previously presented 2018 November 6).

4. TEACHER ABSENTEEISM

Trustee B. Smith joined the meeting to request a report from Administration on teacher absenteeism by grade for each elementary school noting his concerns regarding the current rate of absenteeism and the impact on student achievement. Through discussion it was agreed the timing for this kind of report was not appropriate considering the collective bargaining underway at the central table.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

A copy of a letter from the Board of Trustees of the Waterloo Region District School Board addressed to the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care was received. The letter outlined concerns with the increase in vaping by youth and called for regulatory changes. The letter will be shared with all Trustees.

6. TRUSTEE CONFERENCE ROOM EXPENSE APPROVAL

The estimated cost to replace the computer and printer in the Trustee Conference Room was reviewed and discussed. It was agreed to share the options presented and the costing with Trustees to determine the best direction before a recommendation comes forward to the Board from the Chair's Committee.

7. TRUSTEE QUESTIONS AT BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Discussion considered the content of power point presentations and the kinds of questions asked of Administration at Board and Advisory Committee meetings.

Discussion considered Board and Advisory agenda items and the role of the Chair during Advisory meetings. Advisory agendas will be amended to reflect the discussion. It was agreed questions of Administration will be asked through the Chair.

It was agreed to debrief meetings at Chair's Committee with a view of improving the meetings.

8. ASSESSING THE EFFICACY OF PRESENTATIONS

Discussed under item #7.

9. TRUSTEE TRUSTEES' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT REQUESTS - none

10. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Chair's Mandate

Chair Morell reviewed the mandate of the Chair's Committee and the duties of the Chair per the Board Bylaws.

b. Correspondence during Strike Action

Discussion considered correspondence being received by Trustees during Labour Action. It was agreed to defer discussion to the Committee of the Whole meeting.

c. Meeting Attendance

As a follow up to the previous meeting, B. Williams described the process for ensuring quorum at meetings. Committee Chairs are advised in advance of the meeting when quorum is not expected.

d. Thames Valley Education Foundation (TVEF) Board Meeting

Trustee Yeoman agreed to attend the TVEF Board meeting as the designate for Chair Morell.

11. UPCOMING EVENTS AND INITIATIVES

- Variety Is, 2020 April 30
- Award of Distinction, 2020 May 6

12. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The previously schedule meeting on February 25 was cancelled.

Future Meeting Schedule:

March 10, 3 p.m.

March 24, 2 p.m.

April 14, 2 p.m.

April 21, 12 p.m.

May 12, 3 p.m.

May 19, 12 p.m.

June 16, 12 p.m.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 2:08 p.m. by motion.

RECOMMENDATIONS: None

ARLENE MORELL
CHAIR