

**CENTRAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1-2026**

To the Chair and Members  
Winnipeg Public School Board

January 22, 2026

The Central District Advisory Committee reports as follows:

1. Land Acknowledgement

The Committee stated that the students, staff, and communities of Winnipeg School Division are committed to truth and reconciliation through building relationships with Mother Earth, the original peoples of this land and the stories that bring us together. We acknowledge the place in which we gather is on Treaty 1 territory, the homeland of the Red River Métis and the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininiwak and Dakota Oyate peoples.

2. Draft Budget 2026/2027

The Superintendent provided an overview of the 2026/2027 Draft Budget. The Committee was informed that the Board of Trustees is in the process of drafting the budget based on a stand pat budget.

Last year, WSD committed to smaller classroom sizes, increasing positions for teachers, educational assistants and clinical support staff. WSD has been working to reduce financial barriers for families by providing no-fee lunch programs and field trips, expanding childcare facilities and after-school programming in schools, and installing new school play structures that are funded by WSD. The implementation of a Universal Nutrition Program and installation of kitchens in some schools has also assisted in reducing financial barriers for families. WSD has also been working toward the renewal of school libraries, enriched programming in Math, Literacy, STEM, and the Arts and Music, updating IT network and classroom technology and developing a teacher professional development fund.

For the 2026/2027 school year, WSD is proposing to implement full-day Kindergarten in six schools, expanding childcare spaces in schools, investing more in school repairs and infrastructure, planning a new high school in northwest Winnipeg, building additional tracks and playing fields at schools, using consistent early reading checks to support young learners, strengthening math learning through JUMP Math teacher training, expanding hands-on land-based and project-based learning, adding more 'Global Issues' programming to Senior years schools, upgrading more IT network and school technology and keeping school taxes responsible while meeting employee wage increases.

The Committee was informed that since 2023, WSD has added 134.1 teacher positions, 275.2 educational assistant positions and 5 clinician positions. WSD is proposing to maintain staffing levels for the 2026/2027 school year.

The Committee was informed that due to recently negotiated contracts and increased wages for teachers, expenditures for the 2026/2027 school year are anticipated to be approximately 4.9% more than the previous year. WSD anticipates a 2% increase in provincial funding over last year and is proposing to increase the Mill Rate by 1.067. This increase based on a home valued at \$269,900 in WSD would be paying an additional \$8 per month (or \$95 annually) in property tax.

The Committee was informed that a mill rate increase will allow WSD maintain stable public education by addressing rising costs from collective agreements, such as wage harmonization, teacher preparation time, and provincial requirements for smaller class sizes. If Provincial funding amounts to a 2% increase, minor adjustments may need to be made to offset current expenditures.

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In response to an enquiry, the Committee was informed that Federal Funding supports provincial municipalities in Canada through structured, long-term programs. These funds are generally transferred from the federal government to provinces, which then allocated them to local governments.

The Committee was informed that exemptions allowing businesses to avoid paying taxes within the Winnipeg School Division contribute to funding disparities. The Committee identified the need for discussions with the Minister and the Mayor to advocate for solutions that would help bridge funding gaps between school divisions.

In response to an enquiry, the Committee was informed that last year's budget allocations were directed at supporting attendance in schools by reducing barriers for families. The Committee was informed that all school divisions across Canada are struggling with student attendance.

The Committee was informed that WSD will be distributing a survey to all families to provide feedback to assist the Board of Trustees in finalizing the budget. A QR code and a link to the survey will be emailed to parents and will also be available on the WSD website. The Committee was also informed that WSD will be hosting a budget meeting Tuesday, February 24, in the Board Room at 1577 Wall Street at 5:00 p.m. Those wishing to appear as a delegation regarding the budget can register by contacting the Board and Community Liaison Office by emailing [board@wsd1.org](mailto:board@wsd1.org) no later than Thursday, February 19.

### 3. School Reports

The Committee was encouraged to share information about activities, programs or events happening in their school. The Committee received a school report from Glenelm School to be submitted to the Board of Trustees. The Committee was informed that school reports can also be submitted to the Board and Community Liaison Officer.

### 4. Childcare, Nursery and Kindergarten

The Committee received an update on Childcare, Nursery and Kindergarten for information.

At the previous District Advisory Committee meetings, families were invited to complete a survey to identify barriers and opportunities related to childcare, nursery, and kindergarten. This information will assist WSD in understanding the community needs, strengthen partnerships, and guide planning for early learning spaces.

Feedback was received from 18 schools. Families indicated that key barriers include lack of available spaces, insufficient available hours of operation, affordability, long waitlists and unclear communication, infrastructure and regulatory barriers, program design and developmental gaps, operational instability and quality concerns, transportation challenges, equity and systemic impact.

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Families suggested re-establishing and expanding school-based childcare, expanding full day kindergarten and nursery options, increasing wrap around and after school programming, strengthening partnerships and system coordination, increasing capacity through strategic funding, improving quality and developmental supports, providing clear communication and family engagement opportunities, supporting families with multiple children, providing more affordability and access and providing opportunities for community to contribute.

Families also suggested learning from existing models and pilot programs, improving transportation and accessibility, strengthening community partnerships and utilizing community spaces. The Board of Trustees will review the feedback as part of the 2026/2027 budget discussions.

5. 2026 New Ward Boundaries

The Committee received the new Ward Boundaries effective the 2026 Municipal and School Board Election for information.

At a meeting held September 15, 2025, the Board of Trustees approved a by-law to amend the existing ward boundaries. After a thorough review of possible revisions to the ward boundaries that would provide the best outcome to serve our families, the Board of Trustees approved new ward boundaries that provided an equitable distribution of trustee representation per school.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Chambers  
Trustee Representative

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Attendance:

**Voting Representatives:**

Glenelm School  
Isaac Brock School  
Keewatin Prairie Community School

**Regrets:**

Elmwood High School  
Clifton School  
Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute  
École George V School  
Greenway School  
Kent Road School  
École Laura Secord School  
Lord Selkirk School  
Principal Sparling School  
River Elm School  
École Sacre-Coeur  
Sargent Park School  
Tec. Voc. High School  
Weston School  
Wolseley School  
W.A.E.C.

**Administration:**

Garth McAlpine, Acting Assistant Superintendent  
Jolene Boulton, Principal, Greenway School  
Chris Goring, Principal, Isaac Brock School  
Sari Rosenberg, Principal, Keewatin Prairie Community School  
Ara Morris, Principal, Sargent Park School  
David Vo, Administrative Clerk, Board Office

**Trustees:**

Rebecca Chambers