

CENTRAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 3-2025

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board

October 30, 2025

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. Guidelines for Board Advisory Committees

During the 2024/2025 school year, the Board of Trustees reviewed the Guidelines for Board Advisory Committees to consider options to improve and encourage parental engagement and involvement. The Board held many consultations to receive feedback from families on the structure of the meetings and to identify areas of improvement to ensure meetings are accessible, include thought-provoking topics and how members participate and their role as a parent representative of their school community.

A draft of the Guidelines for the District Advisory Committee was distributed to families with proposed revisions to increase parental engagement and provide opportunities for families to share information and network with other schools.

Based on the feedback, an additional survey for families was created to identify some key priorities regarding the role and structure of District Advisory Committees to make meetings more inclusive for families and to foster meaningful engagement with the community. A total of 228 families provided feedback to the Board. The feedback indicated that families prefer Trustees to Chair the meetings and that the meetings be held from 6:30pm to 7:30pm at rotating school locations.

The Committee was informed that trustees are familiar with processes of voting by consensus which ensures every representative will have the opportunity to voice their opinions or provide feedback on issues.

The Committee was informed that any parent may attend and contribute at meetings, but matters that require a motion or consensus decision are limited to one parent representative per school to prevent disproportionate influence from larger schools or groups.

The Committee was informed that school representatives are responsible for sharing information with their respective Parent Councils for review and discussion. Parent Councils may provide suggestions or feedback to present back to the District Advisory Committee. If a motion is agreed to by the Committee, the report will be presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration. The Committee was informed that the Notice of Motion process ensures that motions represent a collective voice rather than individual voices.

The Committee was informed that WSD is exploring the option of hybrid meetings during the winter season to remove travelling barriers for families.

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3. Budget Timelines

At a meeting held October 6, 2025, the Finance/Personnel Committee made recommendations to the Board of Trustees related to guidelines for preparation of the First Draft Budget. It has been the practice of the Finance/Personnel Committee to request that the First Draft Budget be prepared based on continuing all programs and services that are currently in place.

During the 2024/2025 school year, the Board of Trustees heard from many families across WSD regarding the challenges of finding childcare that is convenient and affordable. Although Manitoba has made commitments to build and improve accessible childcare for families, there may be an opportunity for WSD to contribute to reducing waiting lists by strengthening access for families as well increasing the quality of early childhood space and creating barrier-free, inclusive, community-rooted programs for childcare, nursery and kindergarten programs and services.

The Committee was informed that the budget process has started and that Parent Advisory Councils are invited to provide feedback regarding barriers, opportunities and community needs. The Committee was informed that a survey will be emailed to school representatives to share with their Parent Council to gather feedback on budget priorities. The Committee was informed that the feedback will help identify needs related to childcare, nursery, and kindergarten programming.

The Committee was informed that it is anticipated that the budget for the 2026/27 school year will remain status quo. The Committee was informed that a budget consultation meeting will be held at Tec Voc High School at a future date to accommodate more participants.

4. Enquiries, Announcements and School Reports

The Committee was encouraged to share information about activities, programs or events happening in their school.

The Committee received updates from Kent Road School and Keewatin Prairie Community School regarding the success of the lunch program.

Keewatin Prairie Community School also shared that they went through many changes such as the School Name change and Administration changes and are starting to see stability. The Parent Council indicated that they are cultivating connection, belonging, and demonstrating excellence through the school's name with guidance from the Administrations lead.

River Elm also shared that their first fundraiser was successful.

The Committee was informed that if Parent Councils are interested, they may invite Trustees to come to speak to their Parent Councils by sending an invitation to the Board and Community Liaison Officer at brlapointe@wsd1.org.

The Committee was informed that school reports can also be submitted to the Board and Community Liaison Officer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tamara Kuly
Trustee Representative

Attendance:

Voting Representatives:

Elmwood High School
Glenelm School
Keewatin Prairie Community School
Kent Road School
Principal Sparling School
River Elm School
Tec. Voc. High School

Regrets:

Clifton School
Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute
École George V School
Greenway School
Isaac Brock School
École Laura Secord School
Lord Selkirk School
École Sacre-Coeur
Sargent Park School
Weston School
Wolseley School
W.A.E.C.

Administration:

Garth McAlpine, Acting Assistant Superintendent
Shelley Warkentin, Assistant Superintendent
Melody Woloschuk, Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute
Amie Johnston, Principal, Elmwood High School
Chris Torrance, Vice-Principal, Elmwood High School
Chris Goring, Principal, Isaac Brock School
Sari Rosenberg, Principal, Keewatin Prairie Community School
Lloyd Rana, Principal, Principal Sparling
David Vo, Administrative Clerk, Board Office

Trustees:

Tamara Kuly
Kathy Heppner