

**STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2-2026**

To the Chair and Members  
Winnipeg Public School Board

May 7, 2026

The Student 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. Overview of Math and English Language Arts Literacy

The Assistant Superintendent Shelley Warkentin was in attendance to provide an overview of Math and English Language Arts (ELA) Literacy.

The Committee members were invited to share information regarding their experiences in Math and English Language Arts Literacy. The Committee held a round table discussion to provide feedback on two questions based on positive experiences and challenges, and improvements.

The Committee shared their positive experiences that supported student engagement and success in school, including tutoring, math help, review time, reading groups, student checkups, mock exams, and opportunities to ask teachers for help or collaborate with peers. The Committee emphasized the importance of strong relationships with teachers, constructive feedback, and supportive classroom environments where students feel comfortable and connected. The Committee also highlighted the value of student-led learning, creative freedom, integrating personal interests into assignments, and having options in how students learn. One member shared a positive experience with a Dungeons & Dragons-based writing project that helped improve descriptive writing skills through creative storytelling. Optional enrichment opportunities, such as the Pascal Math Contest and DELF Language Exam, were also identified as meaningful learning experiences.

The Committee discussed several challenges affecting student learning, including tests being scheduled too soon after new material is introduced, teaching methods that rely heavily on lectures or note-taking, inconsistent expectations between teachers, and rigid project criteria that limit creativity. The Committee noted difficulties with classroom noise, disruptive behaviour, language barriers, concepts only being explained once, and lessons not being adapted to different learning styles, which can make it difficult for students to stay engaged, understand material, or feel comfortable asking for assistance. The Committee raised concerns about gaps in foundational knowledge, unclear access to teacher support, and the impacts of school division budget and staff reductions, which may leave teachers overwhelmed with multiple classes, reduced preparation time, and less ability to provide individual assistance. The Committee suggested more interactive teaching strategies, review opportunities for foundational concepts, and clearer communication around teacher availability and support.

3. Students Aging Out of Foster Care

At a previous Student Advisory Committee meeting held on February 5, 2026, the Committee requested that students aging out of foster care be added to the Agenda for discussion.

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The Committee was informed that all Children who are five years of age or older on December 31 in a given year have the right to attend school from the beginning of the fall term of that calendar year until they receive a graduation diploma, or until the last school day of June in the calendar year in which they become 21 years of age.

The Committee was informed that under The Child and Family Services Act, the agency may continue to provide care and maintenance for a former permanent ward for the purpose of assisting the ward to complete the transition to independence, but not beyond the date when the former permanent ward attains the age of 21 years.

The Committee was also informed that WSD Policy, when a student is designated by CFS as the student's legal guardian(s). The student is considered a resident based on the adult(s) address. A student with a CFS agreement is a resident pupil in the catchment school of the adult designated by CFS as their caregiver.

The Committee was informed that WSD also provides options for Adult Students at Winnipeg Adult Education Centre (W.A.E.C). The W.A.E.C. offers courses at the Grade 12 level to enable the students to obtain a high school standing under the Mature Students Program. The W.A.E.C. also offers preparatory courses for students who lack the educational background to enter the Grade 12 level courses directly. The Committee was also informed that adult resident students may be admitted to a regular high school other than the W.A.E.C provided there is space available in a section of each course requested.

The Committee was informed that students who are registered in a school are not required to relocate to a different school once they reach 18 years of age, if they are able to obtain their diploma before turning 21 years of age.

The Committee was informed students who require a Mature Student Program as they will not have sufficient credits to receive their diploma before turning 21 years of age will attend the Winnipeg Adult Education Centre.

The Committee was informed that the Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet (HCCC) is a partnership that supports government departments to develop and evaluate policies, programs and services that promote the best possible outcomes for all of Manitoba's children.

The Committee was informed that a new provincial interdepartmental protocol, which serves as an update to Guidelines for School Registration of Students in Care of Child Welfare Agencies, has been developed for implementation: Education and Child and Family Services Protocol for Children and Youth in Care.

The Committee was provided to the link to the Education and Child and Family Services Protocol for Children and Youth in Care: [protocol\\_youthcare.pdf](#).

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Evangelista  
Trustee Representative

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In Attendance:

**Voting Representatives**

Children of the Earth High School  
Gordon Bell High School  
Grant Park High School  
École Secondaire Kelvin High School  
R.B. Russell Vocational High School  
École Secondaire Sisler High School  
St. John's High School

**Administration**

Shelley Warkentin, Assistant Superintendent  
David Vo, Administrative Assistant

**Trustees**

Ann Evangelista

**Regrets**

Argyle High School  
Collège Churchill High School  
Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute High School  
Elmwood High School  
Technical Vocational High School  
Winnipeg Adult Education Centre