



September 15, 2025

# **Business Services Standing Committee**

## **Minutes**

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Business Services Standing Committee Meeting this evening at 6:00 p.m. the Education Centre Boardroom, with the following members in attendance:

B. Cody, S. Piatkowski, M. Radlein (Chair of the Board), M. Ramsay and J. Weston.

Additional Trustees in attendance: C. Watson

Student Trustee K. Kaur was in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: S. Miller (Director of Education and Secretary), L. Agar, M. Armellini, B. Chatha, A. Gaymes-San Vicente, N. Landry and B. Lemon.

Other staff in attendance: S. Reidel and S. West.

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### **Call to Order**

Chair M. Radlein called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### **Elections**

#### **Appoint Scrutineers**

Board Chair M. Radlein named Associate Director B. Lemon and Superintendent N. Landry to fulfill the role of scrutineer for the election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair.

#### **Nominations For Committee Chair**

Board Chair M. Radlein provided trustees with a reminder of the procedure for nominations.

Trustee J. Weston nominated Trustee S. Piatkowski for the role of Committee Chair. Trustee S. Piatkowski accepted the nomination.

There were no other nominations and nominations were closed.

Board Chair M. Radlein announced that Trustee S. Piatkowski was acclaimed as Business Services Standing Committee Chair.

## Nominations For Vice-Chair

Committee Chair S. Piatkowski assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

Trustee B. Cody nominated Trustee J. Weston for the role of Committee Vice-Chair. Trustee J. Weston accepted the nomination.-There were no other nominations and nominations were closed.

Committee Chair S. Piatkowski announced that Trustee J. Weston was acclaimed as Business Services Standing Committee Vice-Chair.

## Approval of Agenda

1. Moved by M. Radlein, seconded by J. Weston:

**That the agenda of the September 15, 2025, Business Services Standing Committee Meeting be approved with the addition of a delegation from Paul Stephens on the French Immersion Procedural Change.**

-Carried-

## Announcements

There were no announcements.

## Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

## Delegations

The following delegations spoke this evening:

- Emily Pike - French Immersion Procedure
- Paul Stephens - French Immersion Procedural Change

Trustees were provided an opportunity to ask questions of clarification.

2. Moved by M. Ramsay, seconded by B. Cody:

**That the Business Services Standing Committee Meeting recommend referring the delegation from Emily Pike on the French Immersion Procedure to staff for further review.**

-Carried-

## Staff Follow Up

### French Immersion Procedural Change

This update was provided for information.

Superintendent N. Landry shared that for the 2026-27 school year, priority will no longer be given to siblings of current French Immersion students registering for Grade 2 French Immersion. Under the new system, every eligible applicant from the home school will have an equal opportunity to access French Immersion through a transparent lottery process.

Trustees asked questions regarding feedback received and families with children at different schools. Staff noted that once registration is complete for the 2026-27 school year, they could provide a follow up to trustees.

## Reports

### Bank Borrowing Resolution

The growth in the overall budget over the last number of years, combined with the extensive capital and maintenance program being undertaken by the WRDSB, has increased the short-term cash flow needs of the board. As such, staff are recommending that the borrowing limit be maintained at \$65M to ensure we have sufficient liquidity to meet our short-term needs; this request was supported by a cash flow summary provided in the report.

3. Moved by J. Weston, seconded by M. Radlein:

**That the Business Services Standing Committee recommend adopting the Resolution, as outlined in Appendix A, authorizing the borrowing of money to meet current expenditures of the Waterloo Region District School Board for fiscal year 2025.**

-Carried-

### Annual Community Planning and Facility Partnership Opportunities

This report was provided for information.

This report shares information about opportunities for community organizations to partner with the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) by using space in schools or collaborating on new school projects. Each year, the WRDSB identifies:

- School buildings and sites available for community use; and
- Future school construction or additions where joint building projects may be possible

Trustees asked questions regarding the partnership opportunities and funding for capital priorities.

### **New Southeast Cambridge Joint Use Elementary School Boundary Review**

Construction of a new 519-pupil place JK-8 joint use elementary school in southeast Cambridge is currently underway, with a projected opening date for the school of September 2026. An attendance area must be established prior to the opening of the new school, and staff are seeking approval to start a boundary review in accordance with Administrative Procedure 4991- Boundary Reviews. Staff recommend that the review include the following school communities:

- Chalmers Street Public School (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 6)
- Moffat Creek Public School (Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8)

Appendix A of the report contained the Initial Report, which provides details on the review area schools, enrolment projections, a communications plan and a review timeline.

Trustees asked questions regarding the change in committee structure, the public meetings, the impact on Chalmers Street Public School enrolment, and consideration for students entering Grade 8.

4. Moved by M. Radlein, seconded by M. Ramsay:

**That the Business Services Standing Committee recommend approval of the initiation of a boundary review process involving Chalmers Street Public School and Moffat Creek Public School to establish an attendance area for the new JK-8 joint use elementary school, currently under construction in partnership with the Waterloo Catholic District School Board at 605 Wesley Boulevard in Cambridge.**

-Carried-

## Board Reports

There were no Board Reports.

## Question Period for Members

There were no questions.

## Rise & Reconvene

5. Moved by J. Weston, seconded by M. Radlein:

**That the Business Services Standing Committee Meeting of September 15, 2025, rise and reconvene In Camera.**

-Carried-

The meeting rose to reconvene In Camera at 7:18 p.m.