



December 8, 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. in the Education Centre Boardroom, with the following members in attendance:

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

Trustee M. Ramsay was unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustees K. Kaur and K. Trivedi were in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: S. Miller (Director of Education and Secretary), L. Agar and B. Lemon.

Other staff in attendance: E. Bumbaco, S. Reidel and S. West.

Call to Order

Chair S. Piatkowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

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

That the agenda of the December 8, 2025, Business Services Standing Committee Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

Announcements

Chair S. Piatkowski shared regrets from Trustee M. Ramsay.

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest.

Delegations

There were no delegations scheduled.

Staff Follow Up

There was no staff follow up.

Reports

New Southeast Cambridge Joint Use Elementary School Boundary Review

At the September 29, 2025 Board Meeting, trustees approved initiating 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 in Cambridge (WCDSB).

The Boundary Review Steering Committee for the New Southeast Cambridge Elementary School Boundary Review has completed its review and submits Scenario 2 as the recommended option for trustee approval. Scenario 2 includes boundary adjustments for Chalmers Street and Moffat Creek Public Schools, dissolves existing Development Areas, and establishes the attendance boundary for the new Southeast Cambridge Elementary School at 605 Wesley Boulevard, Cambridge.

Staff shared that the Branchton community asked to be included in the review; as this area was outside of the scope of this review, this community's request will be addressed by launching an abridged boundary review. Work on this abridged review is underway with a target of early 2026 to bring a recommendation to trustees for consideration.

Student Trustee K. Kaur joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Trustees asked questions regarding a discrepancy between the proposed boundaries and boundaries for the WCDSB. It was noted that due to the high concentration of students in this area, it could not be accommodated at the new school. Trustees also asked about future growth at Chalmers Street Public School, the transportation policy exemption and the likelihood of students switching between school boards more frequently with the schools located on the same site. Trustees received further information on the child care spaces and the targeted communications that were provided to families to share the change in recommendation after the first public session.

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

That the the Business Services Standing Committee recommend approval of the elementary school boundaries and related recommendations developed by the Boundary Review Steering Committee, consistent with Scenario 2 described within Appendix A (Final Report - New Southeast Cambridge Elementary School Boundary Review);

And that an exception to Board Policy 4009 - Student Transportation be made for the new Southeast Cambridge Elementary School, amending transportation eligibility for students in Grades 1-3 to 0.8km.

-Carried-

West Cambridge Abridged Boundary Review

Blair Road Public School has been increasingly overutilized due to ongoing residential growth in West Cambridge. There are currently nine portable classrooms on site at a school that offers only 271 pupil places in on-the-ground capacity. The WRDSB owns an elementary school site on Bismark Drive at Newman Drive, but the timing of the capital funding is unknown. Given the uncertainty of the timing for the new school to open and offer relief to Blair Road Public School, an interim proposal was identified to;

- Reduce enrolment pressure at Blair Road Public School
- Create a contiguous boundary for Highland Public School
- Improve walkability and reduce transportation costs

The proposed boundary change will move the “Blair Pocket” neighbourhood in West Cambridge from Blair Road Public School to Highland Public School for Junior Kindergarten (JK) to Grade 6, starting with the 2026-2027 JK intake.

Trustees asked questions regarding the transportation exception allowing current Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 students living in the affected area (the “Blair Pocket”) and attending Blair Road Public School as of June 30, 2026, to remain at Blair Road Public School with transportation until June 30, 2033. It was noted that younger siblings not yet in school will not be offered transportation to Blair Road Public School.

3. Moved by M. Radlein, seconded by B. Cody:

That the Business Services Standing Committee recommend approval of the elementary school boundaries consistent with the boundary map shown in Appendix B (Proposed Blair Road and Highland Public School Boundaries).

That the Business Services Standing Committee recommend approval of an exception allowing current Junior Kindergarten to Grade 5 students living in the affected area (the “Blair Pocket”) and attending Blair Road Public School as of June 30, 2026, to remain at Blair Road Public School with transportation until June 30, 2033.

-Carried-

Board Reports

There were no Board reports.

Question Period for Members

There were no questions from members.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.