



January 26, 2026

Waterloo Region District School Board

Notice of Board Meeting

The regular monthly Board Meeting of the Waterloo Region District School Board will be held in the Boardroom, Building 2, 1st Floor, 51 Ardelt Avenue, Kitchener, Ontario, on Monday, January 26, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Territorial Acknowledgement and O Canada

Approval of Agenda

Announcements/Celebrating Board Activities

Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

Communications Good News Update

H. Hughes

Delegations

Consent Agenda

Receipt/Approval of Minutes:

Approve Minutes - Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting of December 10, 2025

Receive Minutes - Board Meeting of December 15, 2025

Approve Minutes - Business Services Standing Committee of January 12, 2026

Approve Minutes - Policy and Governance Standing Committee of January 14, 2026

Approve Minutes - Student Achievement and Well-Being Standing Committee of
January 19, 2026

Receipt/Approval of Monthly Reports:

24 Staffing Information – Retirements and Resignations

B. Lemon

27 Staffing Information – Appointments

B. Lemon

Recommendations from Standing Committees

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40 Student Achievement and Well-Being Standing Committee

Staff Follow Up

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43 Naming of 605 Wesley Boulevard in Cambridge
Director's Quarterly Update

N. Muhammad / S. Watters
J. Fedosoff
S. Miller

Board Reports

Ontario Public School Boards' Association Update

Trustee S. Piatkowski

Board Communications

48 Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board to Board Chairs

Other Business

Question Period (10 minutes)

**Future Agenda Items (Notices of motion to be referred to Agenda Development
Committee)**

Adjournment



Report to Board

January 26, 2026

Subject: Staffing Information – Retirements & Resignations

Recommendation

This report is provided for information.

Status

The employees listed in Appendix A of this report have received acknowledgement of their retirement or resignation.

Background

The board's practice is to receive information regarding staff retirements and resignations at regular monthly board meetings.

Financial implications

Expenditures are accounted for within existing budgets.

Communications

Employees listed in this report have communicated through Human Resource Services.

Prepared by: Bill Lemon, Associate Director, in consultation with Leadership Council.

Appendix A

Staffing Statistics – Retirements Current at January 26, 2026

Retirements: Elementary Teaching Staff				
First	Last	Position/Location	Retirement Date	Years of Service
Vicki	Allen	Teacher, Mary Johnston PS	February 28, 2026	31
Greg	Burns	Itinerant Teacher, Special Education	February 27, 2026	24
Cheryl	Hintermayer	Teacher, Prueter PS	March 13, 2026	31
Dale	Johnston	Teacher, Sandhills PS	January 30, 2026	27
Debbie	Lautenschlager	Teacher, Howard Robertson PS	December 31, 2025	29
Laura	Lim	Teacher, Linwood PS	December 31, 2025	20
Denise	O'Toole	Teacher, Brigadoon PS	January 23, 2026	20
Mary-Louise	Skornyak	Teacher, Prueter PS	January 16, 2026	23

Retirements: Secondary Teaching Staff				
First	Last	Position/Location	Retirement Date	Years of Service
Terri	Angel	Teacher, Laurel Heights SS	January 30, 2026	35
Christian	Lemke	Tech Studies Department Head, Eastwood CI	June 30, 2026	32
Kenneth	Quarrie	Geography Department Head, Glenview Park SS	January 29, 2026	30
Gursev	Singh	Teacher, Eastwood CI	January 29, 2026	18

Retirements: Administrative & Support Staff				
First	Last	Position/Location	Retirement Date	Years of Service
Ana	Bermudez	Head Custodian, Centennial (C) PS	April 30, 2026	26
Michele	Davis	Custodian, Queensmount PS	July 31, 2026	25
Lawrence	Doherty	Custodian, Southwood SS	January 22, 2026	18
Shari	McJannet	Educational Assistant, Pioneer Park PS	June 25, 2026	18
Carl	Rooymans	Custodian, Sheppard PS	January 30, 2026	17
Rosa	Zelaya	Custodian, Eastwood CI	April 30, 2026	8

Staffing Statistics – Resignations Current at January 26, 2026

Permanent Staff Resignations			
First	Last	Position/Location	Resignation Date
Chloe	Flint	Educational Assistant, Crestview PS	January 30, 2026
Tima	Policciardi	Educational Assistant, Chicopee Hills PS	January 6, 2026
Tara	Puskas	Elementary Teacher, Edna Staebler PS	December 31, 2025
Corina	Van Dongen	Elementary Teacher, Laurentian PS	February 1, 2026



Report to Board

January 26, 2026

Subject: Staffing Information – Appointments

Recommendation

This report is provided for information.

Status

The staff appointments as noted on Appendix A of this report are effective the dates indicated.

Background

The board's practice has been to have appointments presented for information at regular monthly board meetings.

Financial implications

Expenditures are accounted for within existing budgets.

Communications

Employees listed in this report have been advised of the appointments.

Prepared by: Bill Lemon, Associate Director, in consultation with Leadership Council.

Appendix A

Staffing Information – New Appointments Current at January 26, 2026

New Appointments: Elementary Teaching Staff			
First	Last	Location	Effective Date
Jessica	Carriere	Grand View (C) PS	January 5, 2026
Lindsay	Gingrich-Martin	Chalmers Street PS	January 5, 2026
Cassie	Karvonen	Cedarbrae PS	January 5, 2026
Abigail	Kunsch	Queen Elizabeth PS	January 5, 2026
Eleise	Macdonald	Southridge PS	January 5, 2026
Megan	Parsons	Avenue Road PS	January 5, 2026
Ammara	Saji	Chalmers Street PS	January 5, 2026
Alessia	Sammarco	Laurentian PS	January 5, 2026
Taite	Wirschke	Preston PS	February 2, 2026

New Appointments: Secondary Teaching Staff			
First	Last	Location	Effective Date
Ciaran	Fast-Sittler	Jacob Hespeler SS	January 29, 2026
Ella	Heiss	Southwood SS	January 29, 2026
Hope	Mederna	Jacob Hespeler SS	January 29, 2026
Nicole	Sharpe	Southwood SS	January 29, 2026

New Appointments: Administrative and Support Staff			
First	Last	Position / Location	Effective Date
Caylie	Bogdan	ABA Transition Leader, Special Education	January 19, 2026
Samantha	Ferras	ABA Transition Leader, Special Education	January 5, 2026
Tera	Matthews	Secretary, Alternative Education	December 15, 2025
Kirsten	Newman	Custodian, Forest Glen PS	January 5, 2026
Stephanie	Rainham	Speech Language Pathologist, Special Education	January 5, 2026
Rose	Ramcharan	Health & Safety Officer, Human Resource Services	January 5, 2026
Kenny	Robert	Custodian, Northlake Woods PS	January 5, 2026
Aaron	Schlosser	Custodian, New Dundee PS & Waterloo Oxford DSS	January 5, 2026
Ryan	Smith	Custodian, Sandowne PS	January 5, 2026
Kristin	Zinger	Library Clerk, Stewart Avenue PS	January 5, 2026

New Hires - due to retirements, resignations or leaves and are to replace full or part time vacancies.

Human Resources & Equity Services



Report to Board

January 26, 2026

Subject: Recommendations from the Business Services Standing Committee

Recommendation

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the recommendations from the Business Services Standing Committee meeting of January 12, 2026.

Status

Recommendations from the Business Services Standing Committee are outlined in Appendix A for Board consideration.

Standing Committee Meeting Agenda Package, Recording and Minutes

For context and background on the recommendations, please refer to the following standing committee materials:

- [Agenda Package](#)
- [Recording](#)
- Meeting Minutes (included in Board meeting package)

Background

In accordance with [WRDSB Bylaws](#), Standing Committees assist the Board in fulfilling its duties related to governance with a system wide focus by providing advice on system issues.

The Business Services Standing Committee will ensure matters related to business and finance; capital planning and facilities; student transportation; and human resources are in alignment with the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and operational goals.

Financial implications

Known financial implications for each recommendation are indicated within the applicable reports from the committee meeting.

Communications

Communications for each recommendation are indicated within the applicable reports from the committee meeting.

Prepared by: Manager S. Reidel for the Business Services Standing Committee in consultation with Leadership Council.

Appendix A

Business Services Standing Committee Recommendations

January 12, 2026

A. Branchton Abridged Boundary Study ([BSSC Folio 01](#))

That the Business Services Standing Committee recommend approval of the proposed boundary change for Area A to Moffat Creek Public School (Appendix B), effective September 2026, with the provision that students residing in Area A and attending Central Public School or Stewart Avenue Public School in the 2025- 2026 school year, may continue to attend their existing school, without transportation.



Report to Board

January 26, 2026

Subject: Recommendations from the Policy & Governance Standing Committee

Recommendation

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the recommendations from the Policy & Governance Standing Committee meeting of January 14, 2026.

Status

Recommendations from the Policy & Governance Standing Committee are outlined in Appendix A for Board consideration.

Policy Recommendations

For ease of reference, copies of the policies for approval have been included in the appendices. The following policies are recommended for approval:

- Board Policy 2005 - Third Party Support For Caregivers, Families And Parents (Appendix B)
- Board Policy 2011 - Sun Safety and Shading (Appendix C)
- Board Policy 5008 - Staff Dress (Appendix D)

Standing Committee Meeting Agenda Package, Recording and Minutes

For context and background on the recommendations, please refer to the following standing committee materials:

- [Agenda Package](#)
- [Meeting Recording](#)
- Meeting Minutes (included in Board meeting package)

Background

In accordance with [WRDSB Bylaws](#), Standing Committees assist the Board in fulfilling its duties related to governance with a system wide focus by providing advice on system issues.

The Policy & Governance Standing Committee will ensure Board policies, bylaws and trustee self-evaluation are in alignment with the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and operational goals.

Financial implications

Known financial implications for each recommendation are indicated within the applicable reports from the committee meeting.

Communications

Communications for each recommendation are indicated within the applicable reports from the committee meeting.

Prepared by: Manager S. Reidel for the Policy & Governance Standing Committee in consultation with Leadership Council.

Appendix A

Policy & Governance Standing Committee Recommendations January 14, 2026

A. Board Policy 2005 - Third Party Support For Caregivers, Families And Parents (Appendix B)

That the Policy & Governance Standing Committee recommend approval of Board Policy 2005 - Third Party Support For Caregivers, Families And Parents as presented at the January 14, 2026 Policy & Governance Standing Committee meeting.

B. Board Policy 2011 - Sun Safety and Shading (Appendix C)

That the Policy & Governance Standing Committee recommend approval of Board Policy 2011 - Sun Safety and Shading as presented at the January 14, 2026 Policy & Governance Standing Committee meeting.

C. Board Policy 5008 - Staff Dress (Appendix D)

That the Policy & Governance Standing Committee recommend approval of Board Policy 5008 - Staff Dress as presented at the January 14, 2026 Policy & Governance Standing Committee meeting.



THIRD PARTY SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS, FAMILIES AND PARENTS

~~PARENT/GUARDIAN OR CAREGIVER SUPPORT~~

Legal References:	<i>Education Act</i>
Related References:	<u>Board Policy G100 – Governance Policy – Foundations</u> <u>Bylaws - Board of Trustees Waterloo Region District School Board</u> <u>Administrative Procedure 1410 – Parent, Guardian or Caregiver Support</u> <u>Standards of Behaviour for the School Community (JHSC, 2014)</u> <u>Communicating With Your School</u> <u>Communicating with the School - Multilingual Language Learners</u>
Effective Date:	September 25, 2006
Revisions:	March 6, 2017 , May 14, 2018, February 8, 2021, January 12, 2026
Reviewed:	

1. Purpose

~~Family Communication with Schools~~

1.1. The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) recognizes that from time to time, ~~caregivers/families/parents~~ **caregivers/families/parents** parents/guardians or caregivers (hereafter referred to as “parents”) of students may need the support of a third party individual(s) during a meeting with WRDSB staff to address and advocate for their child’s interests and needs.

2. Application

2.1. ~~Caregivers/families/parents~~ **Caregivers/families/parents** Parents have the right to have a representative of their choosing in attendance at meetings with WRDSB staff, subject to this policy and the provisions established in the related procedures.

2.1.1. Principals, staff, and ~~caregivers/families/parents~~ **caregivers/families/parents** will be notified in advance of a meeting as to who is anticipated to be in attendance. In the event parents wish to have legal representation at the meeting, staff will be notified at least ~~3 business days~~ **72 hours** in advance so the WRDSB staff can also arrange for legal representation if so required. ~~Administrative Procedure 1410 – Parent Support~~, contains steps to guide ~~caregivers/families/parents~~ **caregivers/families/parents** if they have a concern about a school matter.

2.1.2. All participants are expected to treat one another with dignity and respect at all times, especially when there is a disagreement.

2.2. ~~Caregivers/families/parents~~ **Caregivers/families/parents** may contact trustees at any time. Trustees will facilitate the communication process between the ~~caregiver/family/parent~~ **caregiver/family/parent** and the appropriate WRDSB staff member. Trustees shall direct the ~~caregiver/family/parent~~ **caregiver/family/parent** to ~~Administrative Procedure 1410~~ and these steps should be followed in resolving any concerns. Trustees ~~cannot~~ **are not to** act as a representative of the ~~caregiver/family/parent~~ **caregiver/family/parent** or student at a meeting between ~~caregivers/families/parents~~ **caregivers/families/parents** and WRDSB staff.



SUN SAFETY AND SHADING

Legal References:	Education Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. E.2
Related References:	Board Policy 2000 Environmental Values Administrative Procedure 4130 - Severe Weather Conditions (Bus Cancellation - Student Dismissal - School Closing) Administrative Procedure 4140 Recess/Lunch Outdoor Activities Severe Weather Conditions Administrative Procedure 4490, Waterloo Education Foundation Inc. (WEFI) Shade Audit Information Guide and Tool, Region of Waterloo
Effective Date:	January 2012
Revisions:	March 2015, January 11, 2021, January 12, 2026
Reviewed:	June 13, 2016, March 20, 2017, June 11, 2018

1. ~~Preamble~~ **Purpose**

- 1.1 ~~It is the policy of the~~ The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) ~~to~~ promotes public health through the development of a culture of sun safety through education, communication and action.

2. ~~Sun Safety~~ **Application**

- 2.1 WRDSB recognizes that exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) poses an identified health risk (such as skin cancer) ~~to children and adults~~.
- 2.2 WRDSB recognizes that the strategic provision of shade:
- reduces the urban heat island effect by reducing the temperature of hard surfaces including paved areas and parking lots
 - enables **students** ~~children~~ to play in outdoor environments while protecting them from the harmful impact of UVR.
- 2.3 WRDSB acknowledges the important role of communicating and promoting sun safety awareness and protective strategies to students, parents and staff which include:
- 2.3.1 The potential ill effects of sun exposure
- 2.3.2 Protective Strategies:
- providing shaded areas for outdoor activities
 - wearing protective clothing (long sleeved shirts and long pants and tightly woven fabrics)
 - wearing hats with wide brims, visors and/or back flaps
 - wearing UV protective sunglasses
 - using sunscreens
 - using portable shade devices
- 2.4 WRDSB recognizes the importance of the provision of shade, either natural (trees or other appropriate vegetation) or constructed, as an essential element in the planning and design of new or renovations to WRDSB facilities. **Where possible, the removed trees will be replaced with suitable native species.**
- 2.5 When plans for school construction, additions or renovations include the removal of healthy trees from the school property, the overall communication process should inform and allow input from school communities and surrounding neighbours.

- 2.6 ~~In addition, existing~~ Existing school sites will ~~should~~ be reviewed periodically to ensure that appropriate shaded areas are being provided for ~~students~~ children.
- 2.7 WRDSB supports and encourages schools and school councils to develop school based greening solutions to address ongoing sun safety behaviours and shading initiatives.
- 2.8 WRDSB acknowledges and accepts its responsibility in the community to participate in the development and support of a Region Wide Shade Policy with community partners

DRAFT



STAFF DRESS CODE

Legal References:	Ontario Human Rights Code
Related References:	BP1008-Equity-and-Inclusion BP 1017 - Human Rights
Effective Date:	<i>June 25, 2001</i>
Revisions:	<i>September 2002, January 14, 2026</i>
Reviewed:	<i>April 16, 2018, October 19, 2020</i>

Purpose

1. The Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) is committed to fostering inclusive working environments that are safe and equitable, and recognizes that decisions regarding dress are made with respect to individual expression, gender, cultural, creed and socio-economic needs, and are important to the overall health and well-being of an individual. Staff dress guidelines should not reinforce or increase marginalization, oppression or discrimination of any individual.

Application

2. It is the expectation of the Waterloo Region District School Board (WRDSB) that staff will dress in a manner consistent with their roles and responsibilities with the Board. The specific standard will be established by the supervisor in consultation with the staff.
3. The following general standards apply to all staff:
 - 3.1. Dress should reflect the expectation of being a professional in an educational setting;
 - 3.2. Attire must not pose a safety risk in the work environment (examples: loose fitting clothing near machinery, unsafe footwear in labs or shops);
 - 3.3. Clothing must not display content that is discriminatory, harassing, promotes hate or encourage activities incompatible with the educational setting.



Report to Board

January 26, 2026

Subject: Recommendations from the Student Achievement & Well-Being Standing Committee

Recommendation

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the recommendations from the Student Achievement & Well-Being Standing Committee meeting of January 19, 2026.

Status

Recommendations from the Student Achievement & Well-Being Standing Committee are outlined in Appendix A for Board consideration.

Standing Committee Meeting Agenda Package, Recording and Minutes

For context and background on the recommendations, please refer to the following standing committee materials:

- [Agenda Package](#)
- [Recording](#)
- Meeting Minutes (included in Board meeting package)

Background

In accordance with [WRDSB Bylaws](#), Standing Committees assist the Board in fulfilling its duties related to governance with a system wide focus by providing advice on system issues.

The Student Achievement & Well-Being Standing Committee will ensure matters related to school programs and school services are in alignment with the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and operational goals.

Financial implications

Known financial implications for each recommendation are indicated within the applicable reports from the committee meeting.

Communications

Communications for each recommendation are indicated within the applicable reports from the committee meeting.

Prepared by: Manager S. Reidel for the Student Achievement & Well-Being Standing Committee in consultation with Leadership Council.

Appendix A

Student Achievement & Well-Being Standing Committee Recommendations January 19, 2026

A. Delegation - Sean McCammon - Outdoor Education

That the Student Achievement & Well-Being Standing Committee recommend inclusion of the delegation's topic of Outdoor Education on a future meeting agenda as scheduled by the Agenda Development Committee.



Report to Board

January 26, 2026

Subject: Naming of 605 Wesley Boulevard in Cambridge

Recommendation

*That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve the name, **Giinawind Public School**, from the following shortlisted names for the naming of the elementary school at 605 Wesley Boulevard in Cambridge, Ontario.*

- *Giinawind Public School*
- *Pine Grove Public School*
- *Riverstone Public School*

Status

The Naming Committee for 605 Wesley Boulevard reviewed suggestions received through two rounds of public consultation and has shortlisted the following names:

- **Giinawind Public School**
 - Submitted by the Indigenous community. After much conversation and storytelling with a number of Anishinaabemowin speakers, the name being put forward for consideration for the next WRDSB school is Giinawind (sounds like geen-ah-win), meaning "Us, including you." In discussing this name for the school, the committee spoke about what the name represents and the hope that everyone who walks through its doors will feel welcomed, included, and part of what makes the school thrive.
- **Pine Grove Public School**
 - From the Region of Waterloo website: Earlier known as East Dumfries, the crossroads of Little's Corners in North Dumfries Township was the site of two taverns, one of whose proprietors was William Little, a Scottish immigrant. Little's tavern operated between about 1850 and 1871. The crossroads was on the Stone Road where it met the Branchton Road, present-day Dundas Street East and Branchton Road in Cambridge. A school was in this settlement from 1830; it was known as Pine Grove School in the 1870s. Little's Corners School was closed in 1999. [<https://regionofwaterloomuseums.ca/en/collections-and-research/north-dumfries-township.aspx#littles-corners>]
- **Riverstone Public School**
 - This name reflects and honours the natural environment and geography of the community. The "River" in the name acknowledges Moffatt's Creek,

which flows just behind the school site, embedding the school in the land and water that already belong to this neighbourhood. The “Stone” evokes strength, stability, and a solid foundation; symbolizing the safe, nurturing, and supportive base the school will offer for students’ growth and learning. Together, “Riverstone” captures both movement and roots: a place where children can grow and flourish while grounded in community and belonging. This name supports a school identity that is inclusive, timeless, connected, and encourages respect for the local environment and heritage.

Context

After significant consultation, debate, and conversation with a number of Anishinaabemowin speakers, the local Indigenous community has taken a step to jointly offer a name for our newest location.

By selecting their submitted name, we follow the principle of ‘Nothing about us, without us’; a phrase widely used to shift from tokenistic consultation to genuine partnership and respect for Indigenous sovereignty. As the province of British Columbia tells us, *“Indigenous knowledge may be sacred ... Indigenous Peoples are the primary guardians and interpreters of their cultures. All communications with and about Indigenous Peoples must have their input, review and consent.”*

We believe this is an important step for the Waterloo Region District School Board; to utilize an Indigenous name conceived by the local Indigenous community for one of our schools.

Administrative Procedure 4865 makes clear that any new school name *“should be representative of our commitment to Indigenous sovereignty, equity and human rights.”*

This is echoed in the words of an Indigenous Elder who wrote to us last year during a similar process and said,

“Although I am nowhere near a speaker of my language, I do know that the knowledge encoded in the language could, if acted on, change the course of history ...

Giving a school an Indigenous name ... would start a conversation and open the door to inquiry among students.

It will be the youth of today who will suffer from our actions and it will be the youth of today who can make changes in the future that could either bring us back from the brink or push life as we know it off the planet.

At a time when we no longer recognize the difference between wants and needs, a key tenet buried in the language/culture could by itself alter the course of history; ‘Take no more than you need.’”

We believe that this school will become a hub in service to the entire community and believe that the connections to the region's Indigenous history would be accurately and respectfully represented by the name **Giinawind Public School**.

Students will have many opportunities to learn about the importance of each of us as individuals and as community members to work to be good stewards of the environment and their neighbourhood.

Background

A school provides a focal point for a community. School names typically reflect the community they serve or nearby geographical or historical characteristics. As such, seeking input from the public offers the opportunity to engage with the community in the naming process and an understanding of the rationale and history that prompted the naming of the school.

The naming committee had 3 virtual meetings. The committee met on November 17, January 5, and January 19 to plan its consultation, screening and decision-making processes while ensuring adherence to Board Policy 4020 (Naming and Renaming of Board Facilities) and Administrative Procedure 4865 (Naming and Renaming of Board Facilities).

Between November 24 and December 5, 2026, we asked community members to submit their suggestions for the naming of 605 Wesley Boulevard. The committee received 128 responses; approximately 120 of which met the criteria outlined in Board Policy 4020 (Naming and Renaming of Board Facilities) and Administrative Procedure 4865 (Naming and Renaming of Board Facilities). The meeting on January 5 alongside committee 'homework' sought to review input from the community and to reduce the submission to a list of 10 names for further community consideration. To support the reduction of 120 to 10, each committee member submitted their own 'top 10' which were then scored by the chair (e.g., each #1 got 10 points, each #10 got 1 point, etc.). From that, the top 20 names were reviewed and discussed by the committee to finalize a 'Committee Top 10.'

The committee believed that a "feedback loop" within the school community should play a vital role in informing the committee of its recommendations to Trustees. From January 7 to January 14, 2026, the WRDSB community had the opportunity to indicate their preference of the short-listed names. With 438 responses the committee believes its recommendations to be aligned with and reflective of the entire consultation process.

The committee met on January 19, 2026 to review the feedback from the community consultation process and to determine its final recommendation(s). It is important to note that these recommendations were unanimously approved by the naming committee.

The Naming Committee members, listed in alphabetical order were:

- Trustee Bill Cody
- Kim Freeman, Principal
- Trustee Carla Johnson
- Jamila Maliha, Superintendent
- Krysanne McLean, Community Member
- Vinay Tiwari, System Administrator - Equity & Inclusion
- Christina Restoule (in absentia)

- Alison Gaymes San Vicente, Associate Director
- Jay Fedosoff, Superintendent (Chair)

[Board Policy 4020 - Naming and Renaming of Board Facilities](#), states that facilities must be named in accordance with the following:

- WRDSB schools and facilities will not be named for individuals as of June 2021;
- WRDSB facilities shall be given a name which is meaningful and reflects local historic events and/or places and distinguishing characteristics of the area, and that the name is not associated with family names;
- In selecting a place-based name that acknowledges and honours Indigenous history and the diverse cultures found within a community, it is necessary to seek early engagement and involvement from the appropriate Indigenous and school communities;
- In no case will any school or facility be named after a corporation;
- The Board may choose to accept or reject any recommendation of the Naming Committee, but shall not choose any name not on the short-list of names recommended by the Naming Committee;
- The Board may choose to determine a request to be malicious or vexatious and may refuse to act on the request.

Financial Implications

None.

Communications

As part of the school naming process, prior to communicating the name to the WRDSB community, we will be sharing the name with the Ministry of Education and waiting on their support.

Prepared by: Jay Fedosoff, Superintendent, Student Achievement & Well-Being

Appendix A: Full List of Names Submitted for Naming 670 Thomas Slee Dr.

Names listed (duplicates removed) met the criteria outlined in Board Policy 4020 and Administrative Procedure 4865

- Giinawind
(geen-ah-win)
- Pine Grove
- Riverstone

- All Voices
- Bends on the River
- Black Lives Matter
- Bluebird Grove
- Boulevard City
- Cambridge
Preparatory
- Cambridge
- Cambridge United
- Cedar Bridge
- East of the Grand
- Faith
- Faith Wesley
- Future Horizon
- GAPH
- Grace Ridge
- Grand Acres
- Grand Banks
- Grand River
Harmony
- Grand River
- Great Spirit
- Great Tree
- Green Gate
- Grist Mills
- Grove
- Growth
- Guardian Oak
- Haldimand
- Harmony Heights
- Haven Heights
- Kindred Hearts

- Knowledge Heights
- Limestone
- Maple Lakes
- Mill Creek
- Nasre
- Nations
- New Hope
- North Star
- Open Arms
- Osprey Woods
- Outer Banks
- Peace River
- Peace Tree
- Raven Wood
- Redshank Pond
- River Banks
- Riverlands
- Rivers and Roots
- Riverside Heritage
- Rock Point
- Scentia Collegiate
- Seven Gen United
- Seven Generations
- Simcoe Pathway
- Simcoe
- Simcoe South
- Simcoe Wesley
- Simmand Grand
- Six Nations
- Six Rivers
- Sky
- Sleepy River
- Snowy Peak
- Solidarity
- South East Westley
- Southeast
Cambridge
- Southern Cross

- Southpoint
- Stone Potting Shed
- The Friendship
- Three Sisters
- Tree of Peace
- Two Row
- United Harmony
- Unity Bridge
- Unity Grove
- Unity Heights
- Unity Ridge
- Upper Moffat
- Wampum
- Waterloo Regional
United
- Welsey
- Wesley Boulevard
- Wesley Grove
- Wesley Hill
- Wesley Horizon
- Wesley Ridge
- Wesley Riverstone
- Wesley Union
- Welsey Woods
- White Pine
- Wigwam
- Willow
- Willow River High
- Winterberry Woods



January 14, 2026

Subject: Strengthening Our Commitment to Food Security for All

Dear Chairs,

As Catholic School Board Trustees in Ontario, we have a responsibility to advocate for the students, families and communities we serve, while also supporting government initiatives. One such initiative is the commitment to ensure that every child in our schools has access to affordable food throughout the school day.

We know the positive impact that access to healthy food has on learning, student achievement and overall well-being and we appreciate the focus on student nutritional needs and the intention behind PPM 150 School Food and Beverage Policy. However, over the course of the last 15 years, we have seen increased barriers and inequities within our community that contribute to the overall state of food insecurity for some communities that are most in need within the Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board. We are writing to express our deep concern regarding the growing issue of food insecurity within our communities and to ask for unified support to request the Ministry of Education reexamine the support needed to ensure that all students have access to food during the school day given the reality of increasing need in communities.

It will come as no surprise that more families are struggling with the increased cost of living. Food insecurity is one of the key areas of focused support for our board and our Social Justice Committee in particular. Locally, 1 in 4 of our families experience food insecurity and local food banks and other community partners that support access to food are overwhelmed with the demands that they cannot keep up with. Our public health units have declared a state of emergency for food insecurity across our board and while we continue to be great supporters and beneficiaries of the Healthy Schools Programs in our schools, we are seeing that resources are simply not stretching far enough to meet the increasing needs faced by families and students.

We continue to be blessed with community partners that are extremely generous in providing our schools with nutritious food options that align with the guidelines in PPM 150. However the limitation of the PPM is the absence of provision for any additional support for boards to hire the staff required to order, track, prepare, and actually serve the food. Consequently, we have access to an abundance of food but no staff to oversee the process from start to finish and so we are no further ahead than we were before.

151 Dairy Avenue, Napanee, Ontario K7R 4B2

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When these programs depend on the free volunteer labour of staff and community volunteers, it makes it difficult to great sustainability and consistency for these programs. What is most needed is the allocation of additional resources to support the infrastructure and staffing necessary for sustainable food programs.

We would like to propose the following updates to the current PPM to reflect and be responsive to the new reality that families must face.

1. Clear language that communicates a "food neutral approach" that minimizes the shaming of students and families for what is in lunches. We believe that all families do the best they can, with the resources they have and are asking schools boards to prioritize acceptance of all food as opposed to policing which foods are healthier options for example.
2. Increased funding for infrastructure – including storage facilities and equipment and safe food preparation spaces – to ensure programs can operate efficiently and expand their reach.
3. Financial support to hire dedicated staff – including trained personnel and administrative support – to maintain program quality and continuity.
4. An investment in long-term sustainability – through partnerships, training, and technology that strengthen local capacity and reduce reliance on emergency measures.

These investments are not only essential for meeting the immediate needs but also for building resilient communities where every individual has access to healthy food. We believe that with adequate support, our programs can continue to make a meaningful impact and help break the cycle of food insecurity. This is especially timely in light of the most recent communication from the Minister of Education expressing concerns about the academic success of our students. When the basic human needs of students are met, they are better equipped to succeed in all areas, including academic achievement.

On behalf of our Board of Trustees we ask that you join us in advocating for much-needed changes. We call on other boards to join us in communicating that a financial commitment to support the infrastructure and staffing benefits not only food security but also helps us meet the calls of Catholic Social Teaching and our work towards economic equity and the reduction of the exploitation of free labour that often falls on low paid female staff.

We appreciate your leadership and commitment to this cause and look forward to working together to advocate for these critical resources.



Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Brian Evoy,
Chair of the Board
Algonquin and Lakeshore Catholic District School Board