

*Monday, 22 June 2026]*

No 57 - 2026] THIRD SESSION, SEVENTH PARLIAMENT

# PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, TABLINGS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

MONDAY, 22 JUNE 2026

### COMMITTEE REPORT

**Annual Activity Report of the Standing Committee on Education for the 2025/26 financial year as follows:**

The strategic objectives of the WCPP linked to the Speaker's priorities that have an impact on committees are as follows:

Priority 1: Building a credible WCPP; and

Priority 3: Strengthening the core business.

#### **Members**

Van Wyk, L D (DA) (Chairperson until August 2025)

Johnson, P (DA) (Chairperson from August 2025)

Kaizer-Philander, W F (DA)

Booyesen, M (DA) (Member of the Committee until August 2025)

Walters, T C R (DA)

Christians, F C (ACDP)

Van Minnen, B M (DA) (Member of the Committee from August 2025)

Stephens, D R (PA)

Sayed, MK (ANC)

#### **Alternate members:**

Masipa, N (DA) (Member until August 2025)

Bryant, D (DA) (Member until August 2025)

Booyesen, M (DA) (Member from August 2025)

Van Wyk, L D (DA) (Member from August 2025)

Wessels, D J (DA)

Mbombo, N (DA)

Bosman, G (DA)

Ngqentsu, M B (ANC)

Windvogel, R (ANC)

Petrus, B (PA)

Cassiem, A (EFF)

## **1. Introduction**

The mandate of the Committee is to:

- 1.1 maintain oversight into the Western Cape Education Department (hereafter the WCPP), the way in which the WCED performs its responsibilities, including the implementation of legislation, and holding the executive authority accountable.
- 1.2 consider and report on legislation, the annual reports and matters referred to it by the Speaker.

In fulfilment of its mandate, the Committee:

- 1.3 facilitated public participation and involvement in the legislative and other processes of the Committee;
- 1.4 conducted its business in a fair, open, and transparent manner;
- 1.5 promoted cooperative governance; and
- 1.6 reported regularly to the House.

## **2. Reporting department**

- 2.1. Western Cape Education Department

## **3. Overview of Committee's activities**

Number of committee meetings	15
Number of public hearings	4
Number of oversight visits	4
Number of visit weeks	2
Number of provincial bills considered	0
Number of international visits	0

## **4. Oversight activities**

This Annual Activity Report covers the period from 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026, detailing the oversight work of the Standing Committee on Education. The Committee's activities focused on strengthening governance, reviewing legislation, monitoring departmental performance, and engaging with communities and stakeholders to ensure accountability and transparency in the Western Cape Education Department.

In May 2025, the Committee was briefed on the WCED's Annual Performance Plan and Strategic Plan for 2025/26, which highlighted priorities such as early childhood development, literacy and numeracy, inclusive education, infrastructure development and educator support. Later that month, the Committee considered the Fourth Quarter Performance Report, noting strong financial management and systemic improvements.

During June 2025, the Committee received a briefing on school maintenance and construction projects, where infrastructure backlogs and the Rapid School Build Programme were discussed, and also deliberated on early childhood development funding and registration processes. During this month, the Committee considered Vote 5: Education in the Appropriation Bill [B 4–2025], noting the minority view expressed by the African National Congress.

In August 2025, the Committee visited the Cape Teaching and Leadership Institute to assess professional development programmes and strategies to address the aging teacher population. The Committee also deliberated on the First Quarter Performance Report, raising concerns about unregistered early childhood development centres.

In September 2025, the Committee engaged with SAPS and WCED officials on school safety, focusing on the Safe Schools Programme, discipline strategies and collaboration with the Liquor Authority. Oversight visits were conducted to the Crestway High School and the Boland Landbouskool, where members noted significant progress in academic performance, infrastructure, and community partnerships.

During the third quarter, the Committee deliberated on the WCED's Annual Report for 2024/25, commending achievements such as the highest matric pass rate to date and the success of the Back-on-Track Programme. Public participation was facilitated during these deliberations, with stakeholders and members of the public providing input.

The Committee visited early childhood development centres in Kraaifontein in October 2025, observing challenges and successes in registration, compliance and community support. Towards the end of the third quarter, the Committee considered Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill [B 5–2025], noting the minority view expressed by the African National Congress.

In February 2026, the Committee deliberated on Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill, with public submissions included in the discussions. The Committee requested detailed information on legal costs, bullying interventions and learner support mechanisms. In March 2026, the Committee adopted its final report on Vote 5, reaffirming its support for the vote while noting minority views.

In conclusion, the Standing Committee on Education maintained a robust oversight and engagement agenda throughout the reporting period, demonstrating its commitment to improving educational outcomes and ensuring equitable access to quality education across the Western Cape.

## **5. Legislation**

In the 2025/26 financial year, the Committee dealt with the following items of legislation:

### **5.1 Provincial bills**

- 5.1.1. Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 4–2025].
- 5.1.2. Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Adjustments Appropriation Bill (2025/26 Financial Year) [B 5–2025].
- 5.1.3. Vote 5: Education in the Schedule to the Western Cape Appropriation Bill [B 1–2026].

## **6. Facilitation of public involvement and participation**

In line with its mandate to facilitate public participation as part of the legislative process, the Committee held four public hearings during the period under review. The public was invited to give input on the provincial money bills and the Annual Report of the Western Cape Education Department.

## **7. Financial particulars**

The Standing Committee was allocated R186 111 during the 2025/26 financial year and spend R163 798.00.