

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

to be held in the boardroom
on Tuesday, January 26 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS

- A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA** *Chair
- Motion:
That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 26, 2016 be approved.
- B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** *Chair
- C. PRESENTATIONS**
- D. REPORT FROM THE IN-CAMERA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD** *Director
- E. OLD BUSINESS** *Director
- 1. Efficient Resource Management – International Education Program**
- Motion:
That the project as outlined be funded through the student focused initiative reserve.
- 2. Previous Minutes** *Chair
- a) Motion:
That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on December 14, 2015 be approved.
- b) Motion:
That the minutes of the Organizational Board Meeting held on December 15, 2015 be approved.
- c) Motion:
That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on December 15, 2015 be approved.
- d) Motion:
That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on January 12, 2016 be approved.

3. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals** NIL *SBO
4. **Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees**
- F. **NEW BUSINESS** *Director
 1. **Long-Term Capital Plan**
 Motion:
 That the long-term capital plan be approved.
 2. **Requests for Leave of Absence** *Chair
 Motion:
 That _____ be granted a leave of absence from the January 26, 2016 Board meeting.
 3. **Ontario Student Trustee Association – Board Council Conference** * Chair
 Motion:
 That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Ethan Urban at the OSTA Board Council Conference in Ottawa February 18 to 21, 2016.
 4. **Director’s Remarks** *Director
 5. **Other Items** *Chair
 OPSBA Delegate
 Student Trustee
 6. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions** *Chair
Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.
 7. **Chairperson’s Remarks** *Chair
- G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** *Chair
 1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
 Audit Committee Meeting minutes September 15, 2015 (official)
 Parent Involvement Committee minutes November 3, 2015 (official)
 Equity and Inclusive Education Committee minutes Nov 19, 2015 (official)
 Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) minutes Dec 2, 2015 (official)
 2. **Non-Staff Communications**
 Letter from Minister of Education Liz Sandals dated December 2, 2015
 Letter from Waterloo District School Board dated December 4, 2015
 Letter from Peel District School Board dated December 8, 2015
 Letter from AECOM dated December 15, 2015
 Letter from Minister of Children & Youth Services Dated Dec 23, 2015

- H. FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair
- Student Senate Meeting February 8, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom
 - Parent Involvement Committee February 16, 2016 7:00 pm Boardroom
 - Special Education Advisory Cmttee Feb 3, 2016 12:00 pm Education Centre
 - Strategic Planning Committee February 9, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom
 - Board February 23, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom
 - First Nation Advisory Committee Feb 11, 2016 10:00 am Sagamok First Nation Board
 - July 5, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom

I. ADJOURNMENT *Chair

Motion:

That we do now adjourn at p.m.

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING
held in the Boardroom
on Tuesday, September 15, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: T. Campbell, J. Hunda
Absent: D. Morrison

External Audit
Committee Members: A. Lukezic
Absent: F. Cinotti

Officials: N. Blaseg – Director
D. Cayen-Arnold – Superintendent of Business
K. Kozman – Manager of Finance

Others: D. D'Angelo – Lead Audit Engagement Partner – KPMG
M. Dodge, Regional Internal Audit Manager (RIAM) –
Northern Region
Y. de la Morandiere – Financial Analyst

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: J.Hunda/A.Lukezic

That the agenda for the Audit Committee meeting of September 15, 2015 be approved. – **Carried**

2. **Preliminary Declarations of Pecuniary Interest** – NIL

3. **Previous Minutes**

Motion: J.Hunda/A.Lukezic

That the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held on December 16, 2014 be approved. – **Carried**

4. **2015: SB19 Audit Committees & Regional Internal Audit Updates**

Superintendent of Business Cayen-Arnold discussed the Ministry updates.

The update allows any member of the Audit Committee to be Chair. Previously, the Chair could only be selected from the Trustee members of the Audit Committee.

5. **Election of Chair**

The Director called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Audit Committee.

J. Hunda nominated T. Campbell

Motion: A.Lukezic/J.Hunda

That nominations be closed. – **Carried**

Motion: A.Lukezic/J.Hunda

That Tyler Campbell be declared elected Chair of Rainbow District School Board's Audit Committee. – **Carried**

6. **2014/2015 External Audit Plan – Report from KPMG**

Motion: A.Lukezic/J.Hunda

That the 2014/2015 External Audit Plan be recommended to the Board for approval. – **Carried**

7. **2015/2016 Internal Audit/Multi-Year Internal Audit Plans**

Motion: A.Lukezic/J.Hunda

That the 2015/2016 Internal Audit Plan and the Multi-Year Internal Audit Plan be recommended to the Board for approval. – **Carried**

8. **Northeastern Ontario Region 2014/2015 Annual Internal Audit and Financial Report – Report from RIAM**

Superintendent of Business Cayen-Arnold requested details of administration expenses being claimed by the Sudbury Catholic District Board (the "Host" board) for 2013/2014 and 2014/2015.

9. **Audit Committee Self-Assessment Questionnaire**

Audit Committee members to complete and forward to Chair Campbell.

10. **Evaluation of Regional Internal Audit Team Performance**

Audit Committee members to complete and forward to Chair Campbell.

11. **Future Meetings**

December 2015

12. **Adjournment**

Motion: A.Lukezic/J.Hunda

That we now adjourn at 4:50 p.m. – **Carried**

**Parent Involvement Committee Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, November 3, 2015
Board Office**

Attendance

Sudbury site:

Jessica Joy, Parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Tonya Marcotte, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Lansdowne Public School/Queen Elizabeth Public School; Karla Allen, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School/Lasalle Secondary School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Cheryl Ewin, Parent, Valley View Public School; Adam Pitre, Parent, Larchwood Public School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Jamie Roque, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School/Pinecrest Public School; Alison Bujold, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Tara Labranche-Brosseau, Parent, Queen Elizabeth Public School; Dahnja Schoengen, Parent, Levack Public School; Cheryl Button, Parent, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Gord Santala, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; David Douglass, Teacher, Algonquin Road Public School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Barrydowne College; Susan Cousineau, Principal, Redwood Acres Public School; Janelle Bast, Vice-Principal, Cyril Varney Public School; Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Espanola Site: Jennifer Tilston, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School; Bob Clement, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Dan Koziar, Vice-Principal, A.B. Ellis Public School

Regrets: Cynthia Loiselle-Seguin, Parent, Cyril Varney Public School

1. Call to Order: 7 pm

2. Welcome: Superintendent Judy Noble

Superintendent Judy Noble welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited PIC members to introduce themselves.

3. Presentation on the New Health and Physical Education Curriculum – Superintendent Lesleigh Dye and Superintendent Judy Noble

The Province of Ontario released an updated Health and Physical Education curriculum as well as resources for parents/guardians on February 23, 2015.

Superintendent Lesleigh Dye and Superintendent Judy Noble reviewed a number of key messages with parents. The optional examples, prompts and student responses in the curriculum illustrate the possible breadth and depth of the learning and are provided to assist teachers in program and lesson planning and to prepare teachers for the sort of dialogue or questions that might arise. The revised curriculum contains new material related to important issues such as healthy relationships, consent, mental health, online safety and the risks of sexting and is more inclusive of Ontario's diverse population. The revised curriculum promotes the healthy development – physical, social,

emotional and cognitive – of all students, and builds the skills and knowledge to lead and promote healthy, active lives now and in the future.

A number of resources were distributed at the meeting. These resources are available on the Board website at rainbowschools.ca in the “Parents” section at the following link:

<http://www.rainbowschools.ca/parents/hpecurriculum.php>

If a parent has a concern about a lesson or activity, they should talk to the teacher or principal.

4. Discussion based on presentation

5. Presentation on the revised Student Accommodation policy and the revised Community Planning and Facilities Partnerships administrative procedure – Superintendent of Business Diane Cayen-Arnold

Rainbow District School Board is seeking input on two important documents that will guide accommodation reviews – the revised Student Accommodation policy and the revised Community Planning and Facilities Partnerships administrative procedure. Superintendent of Business Diane Cayen-Arnold reviewed both documents and answered questions.

The purpose of the Community Planning and Facilities Partnerships administrative procedure is to encourage school boards to reach out to community organizations to share planning information prior to commencing an accommodation review. The rationale is to optimize the use of public assets. Superintendent Cayen-Arnold indicated that the Ministry of Education is now making it mandatory that there be an annual meeting with community partners to discuss possible partnerships.

The majority of the language in the Student Accommodation policy comes directly from the Ministry of Education’s guideline issued in March 2015. Superintendent Cayen-Arnold reviewed Section 5 of the policy, which outlines the composition of the Accommodation Review Committee (ARC). What is different is that the Committee no longer has a municipal representative because there is now a comprehensive process to reach out to the broader community, including municipalities, through the Community Planning and Facilities Partnerships administrative procedure. She added that Superintendents and Principals act as a resource for the ARC.

The Role of the ARC (Section 6) and the School Information Profile (Section 7) were also reviewed. The ARC does not make recommendations to the Board. They are the conduit for information shared between the Board and the school communities. The ARC comments on the staff report and may provide other accommodation options with a supporting rationale. This is in accordance with the Ministry guideline. Also in accordance with the Ministry guideline, there is more information in the School Information Profile (SIP). The value to the community and the value to the economy, however, are now part of the comprehensive consultation process with community partners, which includes the municipalities.

Section 15, the modified accommodation review process, was also highlighted. An optional modified accommodation review process has been introduced, where the Board deems the accommodation review to be less complex. In this case, an ARC is not required and there is one public meeting instead of two. Even though the criteria for a modified accommodation review process are met, the Board may choose to use the standard accommodation review process.

6. Approval of Agenda

Motion: "That the agenda for the meeting of November 3, 2015 be approved, as presented."

Moved by: Tonya Marcotte, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: Cheryl Ewin, Valley View Public School

Carried

7. Approval of the Minutes of the PIC Meetings held on May 5, 2015 and October 20, 2015 (Annual General Meeting)

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held on May 5, 2015 be approved, as presented."

Moved by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Lansdowne Public School/Queen Elizabeth Public School

Carried

Motion: "That the minutes of the meeting held on October 20, 2015 be approved, as presented."

Moved by: Cheryl Ewin, Valley View Public School

Seconded by: Jessica Joy, R.L. Beattie Public School

Carried

8. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

Superintendent Judy Noble reviewed the roles of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary in accordance with the Terms of Reference for PIC. Parents serve on PIC for one-year terms. The Chair can serve a two-year term and there must be a break for at least one year before being re-elected.

Judy Noble thanked Tonya Marcotte for having served as Chair for the past school year. She called for nominations for the Chair.

Motion: "That Jessica Joy be elected Chair."

Moved by: Adam Pitre, Larchwood Public School

Seconded by: Karla Allen, Northeastern Elementary School / Lasalle Secondary School

Carried

Judy Noble called for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Motion: "That Bernadette Rémillard be elected Vice-Chair."

Moved by: Adam Pitre, Larchwood Public School

Seconded by: Tonya Marcotte, Lansdowne Public School

Carried

Judy Noble called for nominations for Secretary.

Motion: "That Cheryl Ewin be elected Secretary."

Moved by: Bernadette Rémillard, Lansdowne Public School/Queen Elizabeth Public School

Seconded by: Adam Pitre, Larchwood Public School

Carried

Jessica Joy chaired the meeting at this point.

9. Review of Feedback from Strategic Planning session at the AGM

1. *What do you want for your children in schools, more specifically in your community?*
 - Increasing community partnerships with schools
 - Investigate how we can partner more often with organizations who offer programs such as Roots of Empathy
 - Maintain and increase the support for mental health for students, staff, and all members of the board. Increase awareness on how to access community support
 - Positive use of digital technology
2. *As a system and as a community, what can we do to support student achievement?*
 - Parents would like to see schools providing more options and better accommodation for students with learning disabilities
 - Investigating what keeps students engaged, and engaging parents as well
 - Improved access to facilities
 - Improving the search functions on the Rainbow District School Board website
 - Implementing Skype/Facetime parent-teacher meetings to reach more parents
3. *As a system and as a community, what can we do to support student well-being?*
 - See more schools offer the homework club so students can stay and have help with their homework
 - Would like to see schools sharing best practices with one and other
 - Encourage use of school space for community groups
 - Continue initiatives like SPARK
 - Form partnerships with agencies/community groups that focus on well-being and student success

4. *How can the community ensure that our educational environment remains vibrant and sustainable for students?*

- Would like to see schools connecting with seniors homes as there is enjoyment on both sides, and can provide extra support with literacy and numeracy practice
- Continue to build and upgrade 21st century classrooms
- Maintain buildings and school yards to demonstrate pride
- Ensure that we continue to foster community partnerships that are unique to each school community

5. *What further opportunities exist to close the gaps and increase equity to support all children and all students in reaching their full potential?*

- To see programs such as the breakfast program being offered to all students in all schools not just those from lower income families
- To see more equality when it comes to athletics and clubs. Ensure all schools are following the same rules and regulations when it comes to coaches and access to the school facilities. Consider looking at a partnership between Elementary and Secondary Schools to share facilities and coaching.
- Offer more Special Education support for French Immersion

10. School Announcements

David Douglass, Algonquin – The staff and students are pleased that extra-curricular activities are back and they will be reintroducing them slowly over the next few weeks.

Karla Allen, Northeastern – They are excited to see an increase in parent interest and attendance at the School Council Meetings.

Karla Allen, Lasalle – Lasalle will host an Information Night on November 12th that is open to all Grade 8 students. The students are working on the float that they have entered in the Santa Clause Parade. The Me to We Club has raised \$10,000 to help build a school in India.

Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Barrydowne College – The FNMI Centre and Cambrian College will be partnering to host a pow wow on March 11th, 2016.

Gord Santala, R.H. Murray – KGHM recently donated \$35,000 to the school to purchase a new play structure. The school has recently installed Buddy Benches in the playground.

Adam Pitre, Larchwood – The running team has had many new students join this year. On December 6th, they will be holding their Christmas Tea.

Denis Plouffe, CVDCS – The school has chosen persistence to be their theme for the school year, as they want to encourage students and parents to never give up. The school will be hosting seven tournaments before the end of January. They are in the process of planning a festive dinner for students.

Jessica Joy, R.L. Beattie – R.L. Beattie will host a craft sale on November 21st. They have been fundraising for a new play structure, which consists of small structures that are close to the ground.

They are looking at garden beds that the students can plant and harvest in the fall. The daycare will tend the beds over the summer.

Dahnja Schoengen, Levack – Spirit days have been a great success at the school and they have been selling a lot of school spirit wear. They had to cancel the Harvest Feast, but are looking at holding a Christmas Tea.

Bernadette Rémillard, Queen Elizabeth – Queen Elizabeth will host the GM and Crosstown Drive event in the spring. The students are enjoying SPARK again this year. The school hosted a spaghetti supper in conjunction with Better Beginnings.

Tonya Marcotte, Lansdowne – Lansdowne unveiled their Buddy Benches which were built and painted by the Grade 8 students. The Buddy Benches were featured on CTV News, CBC Radio and Northern Life. They have lots of clubs and teams this year.

Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson – Jean Hanson has used some donations to upgrade their outdoor equipment. The new equipment includes structures that are closer to the ground. They built a new vestibule for students in wheelchairs to use while waiting for transportation. They have repainted the interior of the school to make it more welcoming. They are in the process of designing a new school logo.

Jamie Roque, Redwood Acres – Redwood Acres school recently "hatched" their new mascot Rocky the Redhawk. They recently held their first book fair of the year. The school has welcomed some new pets, including worms and a chinchilla.

Jamie Roque, Pinecrest – Pinecrest had a student place first in cross-country running at Laurentian University. They recently had their fall feast hosted by the School Council.

Lo-Ellen Park – Lo-Ellen Park has a new Principal this year. They have a big fundraiser coming up. The Amazing Race Wrestling Team will be at this fundraiser on November 8th. They will also be holding their annual craft sale on November 13th and 14th.

Dan Koziar, A.B. Ellis – A.B. Ellis recently held their Fall Feast and fed over 300 students. They will be holding a Little Caesars Fundraiser.

11. Communications Report

Nicole Charette delivered the communications report.

Innovative parent involvement projects are being implemented in Rainbow Schools thanks to funding provided by the Ministry of Education's Parent Engagement Office. Eight Rainbow Schools will share a total of \$7,150 in Parents Reaching Out Grants to support School Council initiatives to further engage parents/guardians in their child's learning.

In addition, the Board's Parent Involvement Committee has received a regional grant to produce resources on Developing a Growth Mindset. Parents/guardians will gain a greater understanding of their child's mindset and its importance in building perseverance, confidence and resiliency.

Parents/guardians will learn strategies they can use to support mindset development with mathematics homework.

Grade 9 students in Rainbow Schools will spend the day at work job shadowing a parent, relative, friend or volunteer host on Wednesday, November 4, 2015 as part of the national Take Our Kids to Work program.

Services to mark Remembrance Day are listed on the Board website.

Parents/guardians and students in Grades 7 and 8 are invited to Making the Transition: Finding Your Way from 8 to 9 on Tuesday, November 17, 2015 from 7 pm to 8:30 pm in the Student Centre at Cambrian College.

12. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Motion: "That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Tonya Marcotte, Landsdowne Public School

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

7 pm

Board Office, 69 Young Street, Sudbury

Topic: Poverty/Equity

Equity and Inclusive Education Standing Committee Minutes
Thursday, November 19, 2015

1. Welcome and introduction of committee members. Lesleigh Dye welcomed all new committee members. The committee represents 36 Rainbow permanent staff in a variety of roles in Rainbow.
2. Review of the minutes from February 29, 2015. There was a hiatus of meetings due to job action.
3. **Verve Theatre presentation:** Matkai Burmaster-Hansen and Camil Rochon asked for feedback on their new production. Matthew Carroll took the lead and will be hosting the production at CPS on Friday, December 18, 2015.
4. The book, *All About Gender*, written by Jimmy Stata from EHS and supported by Jayson Stewart, EHS teacher. The book was provided to all members of the committee. A copy has also been purchased for all Rainbow schools.

Pins to advocate against Gender Violence were distributed. Trustee Judy Kosmerly suggested that she bring a motion to the Board of Trustees to support an end to gender violence. The support from the committee was unanimous.

5. **Equity Posters Update:** Another email will be sent to the system for students and staff to submit images as they relate to our Embrace Diversity Posters. The submitted photos were shared and the committee is impressed by the quality and depth of thought by Rainbow students. Thank you to Cori Pitre for taking the lead.
6. **Equity website Update:** Ron Hodgkinson provided an update on the equity and inclusive education website. It was suggested that there be a place to post work from schools in the form of an art gallery.
7. **FNMI Update:** Rainbow currently has 13 Aboriginal Support Workers. There has also been an increase in Native Language and Native Studies courses. There was an interest expressed to host another session about Residential Schools and Treaties.
8. **Survey for 2014:** The committee explored the results of the equity survey. A small working committee has been established to compare these survey results with the results from 2010 to establish trends and patterns.

9. **Dare to Stand Out (DTSO):** CVDCS will host DTSO for grade 7 to 12 students on March 4, 2016. Rainbow will continue to partner with the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity (formerly known as Jer's Vision). Patrick H to chair the DSTO Working Committee
10. New working committees have been established:
- DTSO: Patrick H, Calvin M, Sandy M, Jayson S, Kristina RG
 - Website: Ron H, Jackie B, Kim L, Patrick H, Sandy M, David D
 - Survey: Patrick H, Lesleigh D, Judy K, Cori P, Ron H, David D, Kim L, Kim Little
 - Welcome Newcomers: Cori P, Patrick B, Kari G, Jodie P
11. Committee Meeting date remaining (location to be determined):
- Thursday, January 7, 2016 4:00 pm to 5:30 pm
 - Thursday, March 10, 2016 “ “
 - Thursday, May 5, 2016 “ “

Official

**MINUTES OF THE RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, December 2, 2015
Time: 12:00 PM
The Gord Ewin Centre for Education**

Present:

SEAC Members:

Maureen Beaudry	Canadian Hearing Society
Bob Clement	Trustee (Alternate)
Natasha Delaney	Autism Ontario (Sudbury)
Judy Kosmerly	Trustee
Wendy Larouche (Chair)	Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
Leo Marcoux (Vice-Chair)	IEWS

Staff:

Colleen McDonald	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Amber Perry	Chief Psychologist and Mental Health Lead
Chantal Robert	Speech-Language Pathologist
David Squarzolo	Special Education Consultant
Kathy Wachnuk	Superintendent of Schools

Regrets:

Kelly-Lee Assinewe	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
Dena Morrison	Trustee

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W. Larouche welcomed everyone.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

L. Marcoux read aloud the mission statement.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: Trustee Kosmerly

Seconded by: M. Beaudry

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of December 2, 2015 be approved as amended.

Motion carried.

5.0 Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were noted.

6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Motion 2:

Moved by: M. Beaudry

Seconded by: Trustee Kosmerly

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of November 4, 2015 be approved as amended.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

October 31 Report

Superintendent Wachnuk shared the October 31 exceptionality data for the Board submitted to the Ministry. The Multiple Exceptionalities category will be used by the Board for combinations of other exceptionalities. Discussion occurred regarding the specifics of some of the categories. Younger students with behaviour concerns often have other issues undiagnosed until an assessment has been completed. The overall enrolment in the Board is declining. The number of exceptional students and needs within the Board continues to increase.

Grade 4 and 7 Otis-Lennon School Ability Test (OLSAT)

Superintendent Wachnuk and Amber Perry shared a presentation about the OLSAT, how it is administered, the information obtained from the assessment results, and how the information is used in the Board.

Speech-Language Supports

Chantal Robert shared a presentation about speech-language services available for students in the Board. The Board's speech-language services will also be part of the Special Needs Strategy to be approved provincially to meet the needs of children with multiple or complex needs.

Trustee Clement stated that the Board would be sending a letter to the Ministry of Education outlining their concerns about the need for additional speech-language services for students in the Board. The implementation of the Special Needs Strategy will have an impact on existing services as no new funding is attached to the strategy's implementation.

8.0 New Business

Motion 3:

Moved by: L. Marcoux

Seconded by: Trustee Kosmerly

That the SEAC approve the absences of Kelly-Lee Assinewe and Dena Morrison from the December 2, 2015 SEAC meeting.

Motion carried.

9.0 Superintendent's Report

Itinerant Teachers of the Blind

The Board currently employs two teachers due to student needs and where the students are located. One of the teachers will be going on a leave. Internal postings did not yield any candidates. The Board is currently advertising externally to hire a qualified teacher for a year.

Child and Family Centre (CFC)

CFC is the mental health lead for the community. Their employees may be on strike as of December 7. Superintendent Wachnuk has been in contact with Lina Guzzo, Acting Executive Director at CFC, to establish contingency plans for the five Day Treatment Programs in the Board. CFC halted accepted new referrals for their services on November 1. A plan is not yet in place. All options including discontinuing the partnership with CFC will be considered by the Board.

10.0 Special Education Staff Report

Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Conference

The Board funded 12 staff to attend the CEC Conference in Niagara Falls in

November. A variety of sessions and topics provided valuable training.

Transition to School Evening

Presentations to parents from all four school boards took place on November 25 at École St. Dominique to share information about special education programs and services offered in each board. David Squarzolo represented the RDSB. Individual transition meetings will be organized to take place in March.

Transition Evening at Cambrian College

The Transition from Grade 8 to Grade 9 Evening took place on November 17 at Cambrian College. Secondary Special Education Coordinators Leslie Hamill and Steve Marko attended to share information with parents about secondary special education programs and services. The Board is in the process of making changes to the transition guide for parents to include information about self-contained placements and mental health.

11.0 Board Report

November 24 Board Meeting

The Board adopted the revised policies on student accommodation, community planning and facilities partnership. The Board is looking into the creation of an international student education strategy. The mental health brochures recently produced by the Board will be shared with schools and parents. The Board has requested a presentation on the 21st Century Classroom. The Board is also looking to consolidate all Board services in one location. The former Wembley PS would be considered.

OPSBA

Trustee Clement attended a recent meeting of trustees around Ontario including a meeting of trustees from northern boards. A poem on diversity written by a secondary student from Espanola was well received.

SEAC Motions

Motions made by SEAC involving letters to be written by the SEAC are to be approved by the Board.

12.0 Chairperson's Report

W. Larouche shared an illustration describing the differences between fair and equal, and why some students need accommodations and others do not.

13.0 Information Sharing and Success Stories

Autism Ontario (Natasha Delaney)

The Autism Ontario Halloween Dance successfully took place in the gymnasium at Lasalle Secondary School. A Christmas dance will take place on December 10. Preparations are underway for Autism Awareness Day in April.

Natasha Delaney will send an email to Superintendent Wachnuk and Principal McDonald about Awareness Day.

LDAS (Wendy Larouche)

The LDAS is hosting a Disability Tax Credit workshop on December 10 beginning at 7:00 PM at Lockerby Composite School.

Superintendent Kathy Wachnuk

Michele Smethurst, Executive Assistant to Superintendents Wachnuk and Noble, will attend the January SEAC meeting.

14.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

No correspondence was received.

15.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- Election of Chair and Vice-Chair – January 2016
- Assistive Technology Training and GAFE Presentation – Leslie Hamill – January 2016
- N'Swakamok Native Alternative School and Mishko-deh-Wendam visit – April 2016
- Childhood Trauma – Colleen McDonald & Sue Del Riccio – 2016

16.0 Next Meeting Date

January 6, 2016 from 12:00 until 2:00 PM at the Gord Ewin Centre for Education.

17.0 Adjournment

Motion 4:

Moved by: Trustee Clement

Seconded by: M. Beaudry

That the December 2, 2015 SEAC meeting be adjourned.

Motion carried.

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:45 PM.