

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

to be held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive
on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Chair

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of December 11, 2018 be approved.

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

*Chair

C. PRESENTATIONS NIL

*Chair

D. REPORT FROM THE IN-CAMERA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD

*Director

E. OLD BUSINESS

*Director

1. Previous Minutes

*Chair

Motion:

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 be approved.

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals NIL

*SBO

3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

*Chair

Audit Committee

i) Audit Committee Annual Report

*Chair AC

ii) 2017/18 Financial Statements

*SBO

Motion:

That the 2017/18 Financial Statements be approved.

iii) 2017/18 Year End Report

*SBO

- F. NEW BUSINESS** *Chair
1. **Director's Annual Report** *Director
 2. **Public Education Symposium (PES) 2019** *Chair

Motion:
 That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the Public Education Symposium 2019 in Toronto January 24 – 26, 2019:
 3. **OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium 2019** *Chair

Motion
 That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium 2019 in Toronto April 4 –5, 2019:
 4. **Requests for Leave of Absence** *Chair

Motion:
 That _____ be granted a leave of absence from the December 11, 2018 Board meeting.
 5. **Director's Remarks** *Director
 6. **Other Items** *Chair
 OPSBA Delegate
 Student Trustee
 7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** *Chair
Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.
 8. **Chairperson's Remarks** *Chair
- G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** *Chair
1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
 2. **Non-Staff Communications**
 Letter from ETFO dated November 5, 2018
 Letter from Bluewater DSB dated November 26, 2018
 Letter from Lisa Thompson, Minister of Education dated Nov. 16, 2018
 2019-20 Ministry of Education Funding Guide
- H. FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair
 Student Senate Meeting January 7, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
 Parent Involvement Cmttee January 8, 2019 7:00 pm Boardroom
 Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting Jan 9, 2019 3:30 pm Centre for Education Room 125

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Jan 15, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
Board Meeting January 29, 2019 5:00 pm Boardroom
Special Education Advisory Cmttee Feb 6, 2019 12:00 pm Centre for Education Room 125
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee Feb 14, 2019 4:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
First Nation Advisory Committee Feb 21, 2019 10:00 am Centre for Education Room 125

I. ADJOURNMENT

*Chair

Motion:

That we do now adjourn at p.m.

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, G. Santala, R. Ward, Student Trustee H. Golden
Absent: G. Fox
Officials: N. Blaseg – Director and Secretary of the Board
D. Bazinet - Superintendent of Business
B. Bourget, J Noble, K. Wachnuk - Superintendents
N. Charette, H. Thirkill
Others: L. Killens, C. McDonald, M. Jago, G. Gauthier, T. Batchilder, N. Mousseau, and members of the public

Chair Dewar advised that live stream equipment was being tested during the meeting and requested that cell phones be turned off.

Chair Dewar began the meeting with a statement:

“Before we begin our Board Meeting this evening, I ask that we observe a moment of silence for three tragedies that have occurred in recent weeks.

First, we mourn the loss of those who were killed at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh including Joyce Fienberg, who has ties to the Spiegel family of Greater Sudbury.

Secondly, we pay our respects to the families and friends of the victims of the mass shooting in California.

Lastly, we send thoughts of comfort to the thousands of people who are suffering tremendous losses from the devastating California wildfires.

Prayers and thoughts cannot change history but they may bring comfort to others to know that we stand in solidarity with those of the Jewish faith; that we extend sympathy to the victims and families of mass shootings and that we show compassion for all human tragedy.”

A moment of silence was observed.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 18-R146, R.Ward/G.Santala

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of November 20, 2018 be approved. - **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Director Blaseg provided an enrolment report to trustees.

The Director explained predicted and actual enrolment, the actual count dates, spoke about Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) and spoke specifically about actual 2018 enrolment compared to actual 2017 enrolment for both the elementary and secondary panels. He explained the annual process for administrators, taking into consideration patterns, trends and best practices to come to a very accurate estimate of future enrolment.

Trustees were given the opportunity to discuss and ask questions.

D. REPORT FROM THE IN-CAMERA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 18-R147, J.Hunda/R.Ward

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 be approved. - **Carried**

2. Mental Health Strategic Plan 2018-2021

Mary Jago, Mental Health Lead for the Board, provided trustees with specific information about each initiative listed that required resources.

Trustees discussed and asked questions about the financial request.

Trustee Morrison requested a poll vote.

Motion: 18-R148, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That Rainbow District School Board approve \$200,000 for 2018-2019 from the student focused initiative reserve to support the Mental Health Strategic Plan 2018-2021.

Bob Clement: In-favour

Doreen Dewar: In-favour

Grace Fox: Absent

Judy Hunda: in-favour

Judy Kosmerly: In-favour

Dena Morrison: In-favour

Gord Santala: In-favour

Ruth Ward: In-favour

- Carried

3. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals** NIL

4. **Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees** NIL

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Finance**

Honorarium for Trustees

Under the Education Act, the current Board of trustees is required to pass a motion approving the Honorarium for Trustees for the 2018-2022 term of office.

Motion: 18-R149, D.Morrison/B.Clement

That BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROCEDURE - TRUSTEE HONORARIA, be approved for the 2018-2022 term of office. - **Carried**

2. **Trustee Expenditures 2017/2018**

Superintendent of Business Bazinet explained the details on the Trustee Expenses spreadsheet. The report will be posted on the Board's website.

3. **Insurance Renewal**

Superintendent of Business Bazinet provided a report on the cost of insurance. He pointed out the rebate amount that the Board will be receiving.

Motion: 18-R150, R.Ward/J.Kosmerly

That the 2019 Renewal of Insurance for liability, property, crime and fleet automobile with the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange for \$216,747.92 be approved. - **Carried**

4. **Budget Development Process**

Motion: 18-R151, B.Clement/R.Ward

That the 2019-20 Budget Development Process be approved. - **Carried**

5. **Levying Education Taxes Bylaw**

Motion: 18-R152, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the Levying Education Taxes for 2019 bylaw as attached be deemed to have been read three times and approved. - **Carried**

6. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 18-R153, J.Hunda/G.Santala

That Trustee Fox be granted a leave of absence from the November 20, 2018 Board meeting. - **Carried**

7. Director's Remarks

Director Blaseg provided a human resources update.

We have five elementary teachers retiring during the first semester (December 31, 2018). In the future we hope to change the retirement date to reflect the semester system. In doing so reporting periods will reflect a conscientious transition from one reporting period to the next ie: a new teacher will not have to create a report card for a student they have only known for a month. Secondly, four secondary teacher retirements have been submitted effective January 31, 2019.

We participated in the Ministry of Education consultation telephone town hall earlier today. The teleconference lasted about an hour and covered seven questions (Note we did have an opportunity to vote and ask questions). Each segment was timed and there were strict parameters placed on contributors.

Consultations with our coterminous boards regarding the 2019-2020 school year calendar will begin next week. Just a reminder that we must coordinate the school year calendar not only with our three coterminous Boards but also with Huron Superior Catholic District School Board which shares our bussing in the Espanola/Massey area. Secondly, we must also be responsive to collective agreements and provincial initiatives thus flexibility in arriving at a Rainbow only calendar is quite slim. Finally you should be aware of Elections Canada's request for a PA day on voting day, October 21, 2019. A reminder that the school year structure committee will meet in January 2019 to review the recommendations that staff bring forward.

Just a reminder of the upcoming PA day on Friday, November 30, with the focus on literacy (half-day) and numeracy (half-day) both of which are Ministry initiatives. Some of you are familiar with Lexia, a literacy tool, will be the theme in some of our schools for the literacy focus.

Director thanked Trustees:

I would be remiss to let this Board meeting come to a close without extending my sincere thanks to all of you for your dedicated service over the past four years.

Individually, you brought your experience, perspective, energy and passion to the role of Trustee.

Together, and with input from the communities that we serve, you were called upon to make important decisions and, in the process, demonstrated care, compassion, conviction and, above all, a commitment to student achievement and well-being.

The path towards progress was not always easy, as it often demanded some courageous conversations, but I firmly believe that we are in a good place because of your leadership and your stewardship.

On behalf of staff....

To those who are continuing in the role of Trustee, we look forward to working with you in your next term of office.

To those who are new to the role of Trustee, we extend a warm welcome.

And to those who are completing their terms of office, we thank you for your many years of service and wish you the very best now and into the future.

Thank you.

Itinerary

October 24	Student Achievement Meeting Agenda Setting Lively DSS Awards Ceremony
October 25	Sudbury SS Awards ceremony
October 26	Professional Activity Day
October 29	UCCM Meeting, Manitoulin Island
October 30	Executive Council ETFO Meeting Parent Involvement Committee Meeting
October 31	NOARC presentation
November 1	Lockerby Composite Schools Awards Ceremony
November 6	Executive Council
November 7	Lo-Ellen Pak SS Awards ceremony Agenda Setting
November 8	Superintendent Noble - Family of Schools Meeting Ministry Of Education - Cannabis Webinar
November 9	Alexander PS – Remembrance Day Ceremony Citizenship and Immigration meeting – teleconference
November 12	First Nations Lead meeting Sudbury SS Remembrance Day Ceremony Elementary Principal meeting – President of O.P.C. Ombudsman Teleconference
November 13	Directors Meeting Transition Evening – Cambrian College

November 14	Superintendent Wachnuk - Family of Schools Meeting Agenda Setting
November 15	Superintendent Bourget- Family of Schools Meeting LDAO awards evening
November 17	New Trustee Orientation – Facilitated by Sheila MacKinnon
November 19	Student Achievement Team Meeting
November 20	Executive Council Minister of Education - Town Hall consultation Board Meeting

8. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement reported that he would be attending an OPSBA meeting in Toronto on Friday, December 7, 2018.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Golden reported that student senators held another productive meeting in November. The group is working on a survey that will be going out to students in the next week. She thanked Mary Jago for helping the student senators with this initiative.

Student Trustee Golden advised that work has begun on the Stand Up Speak Out Conference. The focus of the conference will be equity and well-being.

9. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Santala expressed his gratification in being part of the Board since 1989, acknowledging many of the great people he has worked with over the years. He spoke about the changes in the role of the trustee over time, the tough times (accommodation reviews) and also the rewarding times. He thanked the hardworking staff, principals, and superintendents and directors.

Trustee Ward said it was a privilege to serve as a trustee at Rainbow District School Board. She advised that she had been a part of parent council at several schools, then joined the Parent Involvement Committee and then became a trustee. She advised that she is not walking away from education and that she is always available to offer support in any way necessary. She thanked the trustees around the table for their hard work and dedication to students.

10. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Since September, students in Rainbow Schools have been collecting gently used winter clothing items for local families in need. The drive was spearheaded by Cooper Equipment Rental and encouraged by many willing RDSB staff including Principal Chris Bourré. Our students, staff and school communities collected 6,337 items to support approximately 5,500 people. Please note the letter of appreciation.

On Friday, November 16, 2018, Markstay Public School students, staff, families and members of the Markstay-Warren Fire Department created a human chain of caring to hand deliver items to the local food bank. The chain was approximately 500 meters in length, starting at the school and ending at the Markstay Food Bank.

The Free to Be Me Conference will take place this Thursday, November 22nd from 9:30 am to 2 pm at Lockerby Composite School. This annual symposium aims to create and enhance school-based supports for students who are lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual, questioning and two-spirited as well as students with friends and family members in these communities. On the cusp of its tenth anniversary, the conference has expanded to include poverty, race, culture and disabilities.

In December, Rainbow Schools are invited to go green and pay it forward by sharing non-perishable food items and gently used clothing, scarves, hats and mitts. This Go Green initiative is part of the Rainbow Environmental Committee's ongoing efforts to encourage sustainable practices and increase awareness about how purchasing behaviours impact climate change.

Rainbow District School Board is seeking applications to fill positions on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for a period of four years, beginning January 2019. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, December 5, 2018.

Students in Rainbow Schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin will canvass their neighbourhoods for non-perishable food items for their local food banks on Thursday, December 6, 2018. This is the fifth annual Rainbow Kids Helping Kids Day, which is part of the annual efforts to support the Kids Helping Kids Christmas Food Drive in memory of Edgar Burton.

Rainbow secondary schools information nights for Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians will begin with Lockerby Composite School on Thursday, December 6th at 7 pm.

A full list of schools, dates and times are posted on the Board website.

RDSB is currently accepting nominations for the Joan Mantle Music Trust Community Award. If you know someone who shared Joan Mantle's passion for music education for all ages, has had a positive impact on music in the community, promotes lifelong music education and serves as an inspiration to others through their musical contributions, please consider nominating them for the Award. The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2019.

Please check the board website in the near future for a list of festive events in Rainbow Schools.

The thought for the month comes from Newt Gingrich who said, "Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired of doing the hard work you already did."

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

Equity and Inclusive Education Committee Minutes September 20, 2018 (official)

2. Non-Staff Communications

Letter from Toronto DSB dated Nov. 2, 2018 RE: Indigenous writing sessions

Letter from Toronto DSB dated Nov. 2, 2018 RE: student voice

Letter to Minister Lisa Thompson dated Nov. 5, 2018 RE: PRO Grants

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Inaugural Board Meeting Dec 3, 2018 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Parent Involvement Cmttee December 4, 2018 7:00 pm Boardroom

Audit Committee Meeting December 10, 2018 3:00 PM Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Student Senate Meeting December 10, 2018 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Board Meeting December 11, 2018 5:00 pm Boardroom

Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting Jan 9, 2019 3:30 pm Centre for Education Room 125

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Jan 15, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Special Education Advisory Cmttee Feb 6, 2019 12:00 pm Centre for Education Room 125

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee Feb 14, 2019 4:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

First Nation Advisory Committee Feb 21, 2019 10:00 am Centre for Education Room 125

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 18-R154, G.Santala/R.Ward

That we now adjourn at 6:40 p.m. – **Carried.**



2019 PUBLIC EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

January 24 - 26, 2019 Sheraton Centre, Toronto (in partnership with ACÉPO)

PRE-SYMPOSIUM

Thursday, January 24, 2019 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

- 8:00 AM Registration and Breakfast
- 9:00 AM KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **DON DRUMMOND**
"Educating in a World Where Education is Everything"
Adjunct Professor at the School of Policy Studies at Queen's University and Stauffer-Dunning Fellow in Global Public Policy
Consensus is building that education is the answer to many of societies' goals including stronger economic growth, less poverty and better health outcomes. These aspirations will be on a collision course with constrained public resources. Better ways of delivering education will be required but ideology too often prevails over evidence in that dialogue.
- 10:30 AM "Managing Polarization in Public Consultation"
Eric Bergman, Media Training Consultant
This session provides professionals with insights and tools to effectively manage polarization that sometimes threatens to derail public consultation processes. The session also discusses trust as an important catalyst to managing issues effectively, and concludes by outlining the value—and the difficulty—of answering questions effectively to enhance communication and transparency.
- 1:00 PM Parliamentary Procedures: Setting the Stage: Foundational Concepts for Effective Meetings
Lori Lukinuk, Certified Parliamentarian, Professional Registered Paliamentarian
- 2:30 PM CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
- Parliamentary Procedures: Beyond the Basics: Building on the Foundation
 - Trust with Respectful Oversight: What does an effective relationship look like between the Board of Trustees and Administration?

MAIN SYMPOSIUM

January 24, 7:30 PM - January 26, 11:45 PM

- 6:45 PM Registration
- 7:30 PM Opening Ceremonies:
MINISTER OF EDUCATION
The Honourable Lisa Thompson (invited)
- 8:30 PM Reception - Meet your fellow trustees

MAIN SYMPOSIUM Continues

Friday, January 25

- 8:00 AM Breakfast
- 9:00 AM KEYNOTE SPEAKER: **MICHAEL "PINBALL" CLEMONS**
"The Importance of Teamwork"
Few people exemplify the qualities of personal excellence, teamwork, community leadership, and overcoming the odds better than CFL legend Michael "Pinball" Clemons. With boundless energy Pinball's talk centres on the potential for each of us to achieve anything we set our minds to.
- 10:30 AM CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
- Everything a Trustee needs to know about Best Practices for Board Meetings; Conflict Resolution and the Purpose of Code of Conduct; Requests for Trustee Emails and complying with privacy legislation.
Sheila MacKinnon, Partner, Shibley Righton LLP
 - Reconciliation in Education: The Role of the Indigenous Trustee
 - Supporting Student Leaders
Panel of Student Trustees
 - How OPSBA Supports Trustees and School Boards
- 12:00 PM Lunch
- 1:30 PM Labour Relations - Collective Agreements are Expiring: What's Next?
- 2:45 PM DPA for Trustees
- 3:00 PM CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS
- Relationships within School Boards
Panel of Chairs and Directors
 - Trustees and their Boards - The Legal Framework
Michael Hines, Partner, Hicks Morley LLP
 - How OPSBA Supports Trustees and School Boards
- 7:00 PM Reception
- 7:30 PM Dinner & Awards



Leading Education's Advocates



2019 PUBLIC EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

January 24 - 26, 2019 Sheraton Centre, Toronto (in partnership with ACÉPO)

MAIN SYMPOSIUM Continues

Saturday, January 26

- 8:00 AM Regional Breakfast Meetings
- 9:45 AM Discussion of Current Issues and Hot Topics in Education
- Panel:
- Chairs
 - Directors of Education
 - OPSBA Executive Staff

NOTE: Please submit your questions for the panel when you register Online or send them, on or by January 15, to Carla at cgarbas@opsba.org

11:45 AM Program ends

REGISTRATION FEE:

EARLY BIRD ends January 11, 2019

Pre-Symposium: \$130

Main Symposium: \$599

Both Pre and Main: \$725

Student Trustee: \$415

One day only - Friday: \$499

Non-Member: \$740

Registration fee from January 12, 2019

Pre-Symposium: \$150

Main Symposium: \$630

Both Pre and Main: \$755

Student Trustee: \$435

One day only - Friday: \$520

Non-Member: \$740

Pre-Symposium includes: Breakfast and lunch on Thursday

Main Symposium includes: Reception on Thursday evening;

Breakfast, lunch and dinner on Friday; and Breakfast on Saturday

REGISTER ONLINE

MEETINGS

Thursday, January 24 at 4:00 p.m.

- Indigenous Trustees Council
- Education Program Work Team
- Policy Development Work Team

Saturday, January 26

- OPSBA Regional Meetings

ACCOMMODATION

Sheraton Centre Hotel

123 Queen Street West, Toronto

Book online (link on OPSBA's website) or

Phone 416-361-1000 or

Toll free 1-888-627-7175

Request special group rate for "OPSBA Public Education Symposium OR the code OPA24A".

Hotel cut-off date:

Monday, January 7, 2019

After this date, reservations and the conference rate will be extended on a space-available basis only.



Leading Education's Advocates

OPSBA Invites You To The



2019 ANNUAL EDUCATION LABOUR RELATIONS AND HUMAN RESOURCES SYMPOSIUM

*SHARING
STRATEGIES FOR
SUCCESS*

Featuring:

Informative
keynote speakers,
panels and
workshops

Focus:

Labour and Human
Resources issues
in Ontario's K to
12 education
sector

4-5
APRIL

Sheraton Centre Hotel,
123 Queen Street West,
Toronto, ON

See You There!

SAVE THE DATE!

A Program designed for:
School Board Trustees
Labour Relations and Human
Resources Practitioners
Supervisory Officers
Directors of Education





Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario
Fédération des enseignantes et des enseignants
de l'élémentaire de l'Ontario

136 ISABELLA STREET, TORONTO, ONTARIO M4Y 0B5
TELEPHONE: 416-962-3836 TOLL FREE: 1-888-838-3836
FAX: 416-642-2424 WEBSITE: www.etfo.ca



November 5, 2018

Norm Blaseg
Director of Education
Rainbow District School Board
408 Wembley Drive
Sudbury, ON P3E 1P2

Dear Norm Blaseg:

While the school year is off to an incredible start, there are many evolving changes in the education system that will affect children and the staff who work with them on a daily basis. I was heartened this summer to see school boards express concerns over the repeal of the *2015 Health and Physical Education Curriculum* – the collective actions on the part of the school boards sent a powerful message of support to students and their families. I am writing to you today to ask you to take another strong stand on behalf of the staff who work in your system.

Last year, the Ontario government passed *Bill 148*, an important piece of legislation that offered minimum protections and standards for working people, particularly those in precarious employment situations. The amendments included in this legislation directly improved the working conditions of ETFO members by providing fair and reasonable protections for education workers.

The current government has introduced new legislation, *Bill 47, Making Ontario Open for Business Act, 2018*, that would repeal many of the reforms contained in *Bill 148*. While *Bill 47*, if adopted, will roll back the minimum standards on workers, I am asking your school board to maintain entitlements that were introduced through *Bill 148*.

While *Bill 47* appears to be a hastily drafted piece of legislation that strips protections from all workers, it does not mean that employers must reduce standards to the barebones minimum and turn back the clock on workers' rights.

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The *Employment Standards Act* outlines only the minimum basic requirement for workers, but your school board could take a supportive approach to continue providing the entitlements that our members have received over the last year. We would be happy to sit down and discuss the implications and how the board may continue to support your staff with you.

By maintaining these provisions, you can help to maintain decent work. No worker, regardless of where they work or for whom, should have their basic working rights trampled upon. Workers have families, experience illness, stress, and each of them, in every school around this province, plays an important role in fostering the critical and creative minds of tomorrow.

Together, I believe we can develop better schools and ensure healthy learning conditions for children and educators.

Respectfully sent on behalf of the 83,000 ETFO members.

Sincerely,

Sam Hammond
President

SH:DH:VO

Copy Chairperson, Rainbow District School Board



Bluewater District School Board

P.O. Box 190, 351 1st Avenue North
Chesley, Ontario N0G 1L0
Telephone: (519) 363-2014 Fax: (519) 370-2909
www.bwdsb.on.ca

November 26, 2018

The Honourable Marc Garneau
Federal Minister of Transport
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Garneau:

On behalf of Bluewater District School Board, I am writing to inform you that a motion was passed at our November 20, 2018 Regular Meeting of the Board to send a letter encouraging you to expedite the review of regulations regarding seatbelts on school buses and highway coaches.

One of the strategic priorities of Bluewater District School Board is to "Ensure the well-being of students and staff in a safe supportive environment for teaching, learning and working." It is reassuring to hear that your department is willing to take an in-depth look at the question of seatbelts in buses, and we are hopeful that a review will be completed as soon as possible to provide clarification around this issue.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we look forward to hearing the outcome of the review.

Sincerely,

Ron Motz
Chair

cc: Suzanne Tylko, Transport Canada
The Honourable Jeff Yurek, Ontario Minister of Transportation
Ontario Public School Boards' Association
Chairs of Ontario school boards
Ontario Student Trustees' Association
The Honourable Doug Ford, Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Kathleen Wynne, Ontario Liberal Party Education Critic
The Honourable Marit Stiles, Ontario New Democratic Party Education Critic
The Honourable Lisa Thompson, MPP for Huron-Bruce and Minister of Education
The Honourable Bill Walker, MPP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound and Minister of Government and Consumer Services
The Honourable Jim Wilson, MPP for Simcoe-Grey
The Honourable Larry Miller, MP for Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound
The Honourable Ben Lobb, MP for Huron-Bruce
The Honourable Kellie Leitch, MP for Simcoe-Grey

/jp

Ministry of Education

Minister

Mowat Block
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Ministère de l'Éducation

Ministre

Édifice Mowat
Queen's Park
Toronto ON M7A 1L2



November 16, 2018

Ms. Doreen Dewar, Chair
408 Wembley Drive
Sudbury ON P3E 1P2

Dear Ms. Dewar,

Thank you for your letter regarding special education funding and the Rainbow District School Board. I am pleased to respond.

Our government is committed to ensuring that all students have the supports they need in the classroom in order to succeed, including those students with special education needs. As you know, the Ministry of Education provides Ontario's 72 publicly-funded district school boards with additional funding through the Special Education Grant. This funding supports the incremental costs of the additional programs, services and equipment required to meet the educational needs and to support positive outcomes for students with special education needs. This enables equity for all students with special education needs.

Special Education Grant funding is incremental to the Foundation Grants and other special purpose grants of the ministry's education funding model, the Grants for Student Needs. School boards have the authority and flexibility to use other Grants for Student Needs funding, as well as the Special Education Grant, to meet their responsibility to support students with special education needs.

As you know, on August 24, 2018, the ministry announced an update to education funding for the 2018–19 school year. With regards to Special Incidence Portion (SIP) funding, please note the SIP eligibility criteria have not changed from 2017-18 to 2018-19. The maximum claim amount is increasing from \$27,000 in 2017-18, to \$27,405 in 2018-19. Thus, this will not result in a reduction in funding year over year. Instead, it will be a smaller increase to the maximum SIP claim amount. This is not a cut, but rather a smaller increase. In addition, the savings from changes to the SIP maximum claim amount are being reinvested into the Special Education Per Pupil Amount (SEPPA) allocation, which will generate a projected \$170,588 for Rainbow District School Board.

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Finally, Rainbow District School Board will continue to benefit from other special education investments for the 2018-19 school year, such as the new Multi-Disciplinary Supports amount. For further information please visit the ministry's education funding page or feel free to contact our Special Education/Success for All Branch at 416-325-2889.

Once again, thank you for your letter on behalf of the Rainbow District School Board regarding special education funding and for sharing your concerns. Your commitment to students with special education needs is appreciated. I hope you find this information helpful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lisa Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "L".

Lisa Thompson
Minister of Education

2019-20 Education Funding Guide

In June 2018, Ontario elected a government committed to restoring accountability and trust in Ontario's public institutions and finances.

Since coming to office, we have taken a number of positive steps to improve our province's education system. Currently, we are engaging in broad public consultations that will ensure that everyone interested has an opportunity to provide feedback and help shape the future of education in Ontario.

I believe educating our children is the most important job in the world. Here at the Ministry of Education we are committed to working together to achieve student success, while spending taxpayer dollars efficiently and with greater accountability. We are also looking to our education partners to provide input on how we can achieve these efficiencies throughout the sector.

Together, we will prepare Ontario students for success, improve their academic achievement and equip them with the tools they need to face the realities of today and the possibilities of the future.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Lisa Thompson,
Minister of Education

Each year, using the expertise and insight of our partners, the ministry works to address funding challenges and opportunities for Ontario's students and families. Using this engagement guide, we are again requesting feedback that will help us to deliver vital education programs and services efficiently.

Ontario's education system is strong in large part because of the leadership and advocacy of our school boards and education stakeholders. As Deputy Minister, I look forward to further strengthening our partnership and working collaboratively on behalf of students.

Thank you in advance for sharing your valuable insights and ideas as part of this year's education funding engagement.

Sincerely,

Nancy Naylor
Deputy Minister of Education

Introduction

The government recently released a line-by-line review of government spending, [*Managing Transformation - A Modernization Action Plan for Ontario*](#), undertaken by Ernst & Young LLP. The review reveals rapid expenditure growth across key sectors and public programs under the previous government. The review was based on analysis of government financial and program data, and builds on the work of Ontario's Auditor General and the Financial Accountability Officer.

The government is committed to improving accountability and making efficient and effective use of taxpayer dollars. The EY review outlined an objective of efficiency gains in the order of four cents on the dollar to be found in the governments' expenditures. As such, the government will be looking to our partners in the education sector to find efficiencies and improve accountability.

As Ontario's deficit has ballooned to \$15-billion, the line-by-line review recommends a number of large-scale opportunities to transform programs and services to ensure sustainability and value for money. This discussion guide will ask questions about how to start thinking about education funding reform in Ontario, including more efficient price setting and outcomes-based funding.

For more information about the current education funding model, please see the [2018-19 Education Funding](#) page of the Ministry of Education's website.

About this Engagement

Education partners are being provided with an opportunity to submit feedback about education funding, through written electronic submissions, on the following four topics:

- Efficient Price Setting;
- Outcomes-Based Funding;
- Accountability and Value-for-Money; and
- Other Education Funding Efficiencies.

You may also submit feedback on education funding topics not outlined in this guide. In order to ensure your feedback is considered, please forward your electronic submission by **Friday, December 14, 2018** to: EDULABFINANCE@ontario.ca arranged by topic.

Should you have any questions about this engagement guide, please send them to: EDULABFINANCE@ontario.ca.

Other Education Engagements

The government has recently embarked on the largest education consultation in Ontario's history and is inviting everyone – parents, students, educators and interested individuals or organizations – to provide feedback on the education system in Ontario. The consultation includes open submissions, an online survey and telephone town halls.

For more information, please visit the consultation [website](#).

Efficient Price Setting

The modern role of the ministry is as a system funder and steward. One of the best ways to ensure strong delivery of service and return on investment is to set efficient prices. Parts of the Grants for Student Needs (GSN) are already consistent with the concept of efficient price, for example, class size funding based on averages and funding based on the efficient use of space.

Considerations

1. Are there areas of the GSN which currently use efficient price setting which could be re-evaluated for further efficiencies?
2. Are there allocations of the GSN which currently do not use efficient price setting, but should be considered for reform?

Outcomes-Based Funding

Outcomes-based funding is intended to aid students by encouraging schools to focus more on providing supports and clearing the obstacles that prevent some students from achieving their full potential and graduating.

Although the GSN was not designed as an outcomes-based model, portions of it could be targeted to reducing gaps in student outcomes, which could result in better and more equitable results for students and their families.

Considerations

1. Are there areas of the GSN which could be reformed to an outcomes-based model (e.g. Learning Opportunities Grant)? How would the outcome be measured?
2. How can the funding model do a better job of indicating whether the investments made have maximized returns in achievement?

Accountability and Value-For-Money

The ministry is focused on ensuring that taxpayers get the best possible service for their money. It is also focused on ensuring that funding is being used for its intended purpose. With limited resources, it means keeping the focus on key priorities and making strategic choices about how best to use resources to improve student achievement.

Considerations

1. Are there parts of the funding formula that are not core to the delivery of education in Ontario? If so, what are they?
2. Should the government explore ways for alternative access to non-core programming?
3. Should the ministry undertake a review of targeted areas of the funding formula to increase accountability and value-for-money? If so, what are they?

Other Education Funding Efficiencies

The ministry continues to evaluate opportunities to streamline, review and strategically bundle education funding – both in the GSN and through other transfer payments – that support the delivery of education in Ontario.

Considerations

1. Are there areas of overlap or duplication within the GSN? If so, what are they?
2. Are there areas of overlap or duplication with other funding streams (e.g. Education Programs – Other, other ministries, other levels of government)? If so, what are they?

Conclusion

As all effective organizations do, we must continue to look for best practices in managing resources and continue to work collaboratively to develop future strategies for achieving greater efficiencies. Going forward, program funding in the education sector will need to be managed carefully with the goal of preparing Ontario students for success, improving their academic achievement and equipping them with the tools needed to enter the working world.

Thank you for taking the time to read this guide, and we look forward to receiving your submission.