

**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, January 29, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

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<b>AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS</b>
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- |           |                                                                                                                   |           |
|-----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>A.</b> | <b><u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u></b>                                                                                  | *Chair    |
|           | <p>Motion:<br/>That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 29, 2019 be approved.</p>                 |           |
| <b>B.</b> | <b><u>PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</u></b>                                                      | *Chair    |
| <b>C.</b> | <b><u>PRESENTATIONS</u>    NIL</b>                                                                                | *Chair    |
| <b>D.</b> | <b><u>REPORT FROM THE IN-CAMERA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD</u></b>                               | *Director |
| <b>E.</b> | <b><u>OLD BUSINESS</u></b>                                                                                        | *Director |
| 1.        | <b><u>Previous Minutes</u></b>                                                                                    | *Chair    |
| a)        | <p>Motion:<br/>That the minutes of the Inaugural/Organizational Meeting held on December 3, 2018 be approved.</p> |           |
| b)        | <p>Motion:<br/>That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 be approved.</p>  |           |
| 2.        | <b><u>Tenders/Requests for Proposals</u>    NIL</b>                                                               | *SBO      |
| 3.        | <b><u>Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees</u></b>                                                   | *Chair    |
| <b>F.</b> | <b><u>NEW BUSINESS</u></b>                                                                                        | *Chair    |
| 1.        | <b><u>Revised Estimates 2018-19</u></b>                                                                           | *SBO      |
| 2.        | <b><u>EPO Report</u></b>                                                                                          | *SBO      |
| 3.        | <b><u>Capital and Accommodation Plan – Initial Staff Report</u></b>                                               | *SBO      |

4. **Special Education Advisory Committee**

\*Chair

Motion:

That Rainbow District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) membership be approved for the period January 2019 to December 2022.

5. **Ontario Student Trustee Association - Board Council Conference** \*Chair

Motion:

That the Board approved the attendance of Student Trustee Hannah Golden at the OSTA Board Council Conference in Ottawa February 21 to 24, 2019.

6. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

\*Chair

Motion:

That \_\_\_\_\_ be granted a leave of absence from the January 29, 2019 Board meeting.

7. **Director's Remarks**

\*Director

8. **Other Items**

\*Chair

OPSBA Delegate  
Student Trustee

9. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

\*Chair

***Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.***

10. **Chairperson's Remarks**

\*Chair

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

\*Chair

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

Letter to Minister of Education Lisa Thompson dated December 14, 2018  
Letter from Rainy River DSB dated January 14, 2019

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

\*Chair

Student Senate Meeting February 4, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkers Boardroom  
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Feb 5, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkers 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 Checkers Boardroom  
Board Meeting February 19, 2019 5:00 pm Boardroom  
First Nation Advisory Committee Feb 21, 2019 10:00 am Centre for Education Room 125  
Parent Involvement Cmttee February 26, 2019 7:00 pm Boardroom  
Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting Mar 6, 2019 3:30 pm Centre for Education Room 125

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

\*Chair

Motion:

That we do now adjourn at            p.m.

Rainbow District School Board

**MINUTES OF THE  
ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING**

held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
in the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury  
on Monday, December 3, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: B. Clement, D. Dewar, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, K. St. Jean, M. Stringer, Student Trustee H. Golden  
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: C. McDonald, T. Batchilder, G. Gauthier, D. Kitching and members of the public

1. **REVIEW OF ELECTION RESULTS AND INTRODUCTION OF TRUSTEES**

Director Blaseg read a list of members elected to Rainbow District School Board as a result of the October 22, 2018 Municipal Election.

Area 1	Kerrie St. Jean
Area 2	Anita Gibson
Area 3	Judy Kosmerly
Area 4	Dena Morrison
Area 5	Doreen Dewar
Area 6	Judy Hunda
Area 7	Margaret Stringer
Area 8	Bob Clement

2. **DECLARATION OF OFFICE AND OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director Norm Blaseg introduced Justice of the Peace John Gary McMahon to administer the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance.

3. **FIRST NATIONS REPRESENTATION**

The 11 First Nations communities who have educational service agreements with the Board will announce the Trustee who will represent them at a later date.

4. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: 19-R01, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Organizational meeting of the Board of December 3, 2018 be approved. - **Carried**

The Secretary of the Board, Norm Blaseg, appointed Superintendent Bruce Bourget and Superintendent Judy Noble as scrutineers.

5. **Election of Chair**

Director Blaseg called for nominations for the position of Chair of Rainbow District School Board.

Bob Clement nominated Doreen Dewar.

Anita Gibson nominated Dena Morrison.

- a) Motion: 19-R02, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly  
That nominations be closed. - **Carried**

Dena Morrison withdrew her name for the position of chair  
Doreen Dewar confirmed her willingness to stand for this office.

- b) Motion: 19-R03, A.Gibson/J.Kosmerly  
That Doreen Dewar be declared acclaimed Chair of Rainbow District School Board. - **Carried**

6. **In-Coming Chair's Remarks** NIL

7. **Presentation to Outgoing Chair** NIL

8. **Past Chair's Remarks**

I want to thank the trustees for your support over the past year as we continued to focus on the pillars of our Strategic Directions; namely, "*Reaching minds and Touching hearts*".

Guided by our dedicated staff and supported by our parents/guardians, the community, and the elected officials, students in Rainbow Schools engage in a wealth of exciting learning opportunities from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

I thank our educators, administrators and support staff for inspiring success in all students. I also thank our many partners in education for being champions for student success.

I would like to close with a thought - not just for the month but perhaps for the next four years. It is from an unknown, but very wise author, who said,

*“Be decisive. Right or wrong, make a decision. The road of life is paved with flat squirrels who couldn’t make a decision”.*

Trustees of the 2018-2022 Rainbow District School Board: it is a privilege to serve.

Thank you.

9. **Election of Vice-Chair**

Chair Dewar called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair of Rainbow District School Board.

Bob Clement nominated Dena Morrison for the position of Vice-Chair.

- a) Motion: 19-R04, B.Clement/J.Hunda  
That nominations be closed. – **Carried**

Trustee Morrison confirmed her willingness to stand for this office.

- b) Motion: 19-R05, A.Gibson/K.St.Jean  
That Dena Morrison be declared acclaimed Vice-Chair of Rainbow District School Board. – **Carried**

10. **Membership on Standing Board Committees**

Trustees submitted names to appear on the ballots for the various Board committees. Nominations were also accepted from the floor. If required, a vote by secret ballot was conducted for each committee.

Motion: 19-R06, A.Gibson/M.Stringer  
That the membership on Standing Board Committees be approved.  
– **Carried**

**Accessibility Planning Committee**

Trustee Judy Kosmerly

**Audit Committee (year 1 of 4)**

Trustee Judy Hunda

Trustee Dena Morrison

Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Environmental Education Committee**

Trustee Judy Hunda

Student Trustee Hannah Golden

**Equity and Inclusive Education Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement

Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean

**First Nations Advisory Committee**

First Nation Trustee (TBD)  
Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Labour Relations Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Dena Morrison  
Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Parent Involvement Committee**

Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean

**School Year Structure Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Anita Gibson  
Student Trustee Hannah Golden

**Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**

Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Margaret Stringer  
Trustee Bob Clement (alternate)  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean (alternate)

**Strategic Planning Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Doreen Dewar  
Trustee Anita Gibson  
Trustee Judy Hunda  
Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Dena Morrison  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean  
Trustee Margaret Stringer  
First Nation Trustee (TBA)

**Student Senate**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Judy Hunda  
Student Trustee Hannah Golden

11. **OPSBA (Ontario Public School Boards' Association)**

a) ***Delegate***

Judy Kosmerly nominated Bob Clement.

1. Motion: 19-R07, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly  
That nominations be closed. - **Carried**

Trustee Clement confirmed his willingness to stand as the delegate for OPSBA.

2. Motion: 19-R08, J.Kosmerly/D.Morrison  
That Bob Clement be declared acclaimed Rainbow District School Board's voting delegate to the Ontario Public School Board's Association. - **Carried**

b) ***Alternate***

Dena Morrison nominated Judy Hunda.  
Judy Hunda nominated Judy Kosmerly.  
Judy Hunda withdrew her name.

Judy Kosmerly confirmed her willingness to stand as the delegate for OPSBA Alternate.

1. Motion: 19-R09, J.Kosmerly/ D.Morrison  
That nominations be closed. - **Carried**
2. Motion: 19-R10, M.Stringer/J.Hunda  
That Judy Kosmerly be declared acclaimed Rainbow District School Board's voting alternate to the Ontario School Boards' Association.  
- **Carried**

12. **Board Policy No. GOV-05 Code of Conduct: Board Members**

*At the Annual Organizational Meeting, two alternate Trustees shall be chosen by the Board to be used when the circumstance warrant that one or both Trustees are needed in place of the Chair and/or Vice-Chair to carry out the duties required under these Enforcement Procedures.*

a) Call for nominations.

Dena Morrison nominated Judy Hunda.  
Kerrie St. Jean nominated Margaret Stringer.

Motion: 19-R11, D.Morrison/K.St.Jean  
That nominations be closed. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R12, D.Morrison/M.Stringer



That Judy Hunda be declared acclaimed first alternate as per Board Policy No. GOV-05 Code of Conduct: Board Members. - **Carried**

- b) Call for nominations. Kerrie St. Jean nominated Margaret Stringer.

Motion: 19-R13, J.Kosmerly/D.Morrison

That nominations be closed. - **Carried**

Margaret Stringer confirmed her willingness to stand as the delegate for second alternate.

Motion: 19-R14, D. Morrison/K.St.Jean

That Margaret Stringer be declared acclaimed second alternate as per Board Policy No. GOV-05 Code of Conduct: Board Members. - **Carried**

13. **BALLOTS**

Motion: 19-R15 B.Clement/D.Morrison

That the ballots for all positions be destroyed. – **Carried**

14. **Adjournment**

Motion: 19-R16, D.Morrison/A.Gibson

That we now adjourn (6:20 p.m). - **Carried**

**RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
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408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury  
on Tuesday, December 11, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

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Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, K. St. Jean, M. Stringer, Student Trustee H. Golden

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: C. McDonald, G. Gauthier, T. Batchilder, K. Kozman, N. Mousseau, S. Ackroyd and members of the public

Chair Dewar requested that cell phones be turned off.

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 19-R17, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of December 11, 2018 be approved as amended. The amendment being the addition of item 3 iv) *Audit Committee Recommendation* to the agenda. - **Carried**

**B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL**

**C. PRESENTATIONS NIL**

**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: 19-R18, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

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

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

**3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees**

## Audit Committee

- i) Audit Committee Annual Report  
Trustee Morrison, chair of the Audit Committee, provided information from the 2017-2018 Audit Committee Report to the Ministry of Education.
- ii) 2017/18 Financial Statements  
Superintendent Bazinet introduced Derek D'Angelo, Lead Audit Engagement Partner from KPMG, who presented the consolidated financial statements for the 2017-2018 school year and responded to questions from trustees.  
  
Motion: 19-R19, D.Morrison/M.Stringer  
That the 2017/18 Financial Statements be approved as recommended by the Audit Committee and posted on the board website. - **Carried**
- iii) 2017/18 Year End Report  
  
Superintendent Bazinet reviewed the report that was distributed to trustees. Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions and seek clarification.
- iv) Audit Committee Recommendation  
  
Motion: 19-R20, D.Morrison/J.Hunda  
That the Audit Committee recommend to the Board that \$3M be transferred from Unappropriated Operating Accumulated Surplus (working reserve) into the Student Focused Initiative reserve. - **Carried**

## F. NEW BUSINESS

### 1. Director's Annual Report

Director Blaseg reviewed the 2017-2018 Annual Report. This will be distributed electronically again this year. Once this is AODA compliant it will be posted on the website. Trustees expressed appreciation to Director Blaseg for the content of the report and to Nicole Charette for the presentation of the material. Chair Dewar also thanked all Rainbow Staff who make the "good news stories" in the Annual Report possible.

### 2. Public Education Symposium (PES) 2019

Motion: 19-R21, D.Morrison/A.Gibson

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the Public Education Symposium 2019 in Toronto January 24 – 26, 2019:

Trustee Clement  
Chair Dewar  
Trustee Gibson  
Trustee Hunda  
Trustee Kosmerly

Trustee St. Jean  
Trustee Stringer - **Carried**

3. **OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium 2019**

Motion: 19-R22, J.Kosmerly/B.Clement

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:

Trustee Gibson  
Trustee Hunda  
Trustee Kosmerly  
Trustee Morrison  
Trustee Stringer - **Carried**

4. **Requests for Leave of Absence** NIL

5. **Director's Remarks**

On Thursday, November 29<sup>th</sup> I had the opportunity to join Chair Dewar in attending the Canada Wide Science Fair ceremony held by Science North. It was a great opportunity to highlight, as noted in the annual report, students with exceptional talent. Along with the other three boards, we had the honour of celebrating our collection of young scientist. Science North has been and continues to be a great advocate for students in our area. This partnership is truly a great illustration of what we can do when we work together.

On Friday, November 30 Kathy Dokis, System Principal for First Nations, and I attended the Regional Education Committee, Area 2 Meeting. This meeting included members of the First Nations communities that were west of Sudbury (ie: Whitefish First Nations, Sheguindah FN and AOK), the Ministry and four other school boards. Among the many reports, we heard one that had much interest was about First Nation representation on School Boards. We did receive clarification that representation ie: the number of trustees on the board and the process for Trustee selection will remain as is. We have been told this meeting format will continue in February 2019 and the Director and the Indigenous Lead will be invited to the provincial forum. One other note of interest, the Ministry of Education highlighted RDSB's Special Education Plan. It was identified as an exemplary plan and is often cited as a model when the Ministry speaks about what Special Education Plans should look like. Hats off to Superintendent Wachnuk and her staff for their outstanding work.

The Directors continue to dialogue about the 2019-2020 School Year Calendar. We met on November 26<sup>th</sup> to exchange drafts. I will be bringing forward these proposed calendar suggestions to the School Year Calendar committee on January 28, 2019 where we will adopt RDSB's position for the 2019-2020 school year calendar. We will bring the final recommendation to the Board at the February 2019 Board meeting.

We have received a request from the Ministry of Education to submit a response to the *2019-2020 Education Funding Guide*. The response is required by December 14, 2018. This is very concerning as in the letter it indicates the government is looking for efficiencies ie: "four cents on the dollar to be found in the governments expenditures". If we look at our entire budget of 200 million dollars this would represent 8 million dollars. I am very concerned: to find this level of cuts in our budget would require a substantial reduction in programs and services.

On December 6<sup>th</sup> I attended the Edgar Burton Kids Helping Kids drive at MacLeod Public School. Along with Mayor Bigger, Q-92's Mel and Principal Kerri Monaghan we initiated the can food drive. Last year the board raised over 280,000 cans for the Sudbury Food Bank. It's a great initiative and one that has really created great community spirit and in doing so supported a campaign to help those who need the most during this time of year. A reminder that for every dollar contributed is equivalent to six cans of food.

In the same spirit of Kids helping Kids, I was able to attend Redwood Acres Public School today for their Christmas dinner. Trustee Kosmerly joined me in a sit down meal that saw the whole community come together and provide a very special moment for the students at Redwood. The spirit of giving was so evident during this event as over 30 parents were involved. I cannot say enough about this wonderful act of giving, kindness and generosity that generates so much good will. Thanks to all the parents, staff and trustees who do so much for our community and more specifically our children.

To this end I wish all of you a wonderful Christmas holiday.  
Thank you Madam Chair.

### Itinerary

November 21	Safe Schools meeting
November 22	CODE meeting
November 23	OCT meeting
November 26	School Year Calendar Meeting (Four area Directors of Education only)
November 27	Executive Council ETFO meeting
November 28	First Nations Portfolio Meeting Agenda Setting
November 29	Science North, Science Fair Celebration
November 30	Professional Activity day

## Regional Education Committee Meeting Area 2

December 3	Inaugural/Organizational Board Meeting
December 4	Executive Council
December 6	Edgar Burton Kids Helping Kids Food Drive, Macleod PS
December 10	Superintendent meetings Audit Committee Meeting
December 11	Redwood Acres PS Christmas Feast Board Meeting

### 6. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement reported that he attended the OPSBA meeting in Toronto on Friday, December 7, 2018. He reminded that all agendas and minutes can be found on the OPSBA website. He suggested that the PES conference scheduled for January 2019 would be informative for new trustees.

Trustee Clement commented that the executive council with OPSBA remains the same.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Golden reported that student senators held another productive meeting last night. She advised that the group has agreed on keynote speakers for the Stand Up Speak Out Conference that will be scheduled in May 2019.

The survey that the group has been working on has gone out to principals and replies are coming in already.

She advised that student senators are continuing their work in organizing the Boardwide Talent Show that is scheduled for March 2019

### 7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Morrison thanked staff and students for the efforts during this busy time of year. She appreciates trustees being invited to Christmas concerts and Christmas feasts throughout the board.

Trustee Morrison spoke about the Ministry's request for input RE: *2019-20 Education Funding Guide*.

Motion: 19-R23, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

In response to the request for input for the 2019-20 Education Funding Guide, that Rainbow District School Board write a letter to the Minister of Education to consider the consolidation of school boards into one system with education in both official languages in order to achieve significant savings in the education sector.

Trustee Morrison requested a poll vote.

*Bob Clement: In-favour*  
*Doreen Dewar: In-favour*  
*Anita Gibson: : In-favour*  
*Judy Hunda: in-favour*  
*Judy Kosmerly: In-favour*  
*Dena Morrison: In-favour*  
*Kerrie St. Jean: In-favour*  
*Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

**- Carried unanimously**

Trustee Kosmerly advised that she attended the CEC conference in Toronto on November 30 and December 1, 2018. She advised trustees that her notes would be available if requested. She reported that the focus was on “mattering” and that “all students and staff matter”. She attended sessions regarding trauma and inclusion.

## **8. Chairperson’s Remarks**

The festive season is “one of the most wonderful times of the year” in Rainbow Schools as students and staff spread holiday cheer in many ways....

canned food drives  
acts of kindness  
carols and concerts  
parades and pageants  
hand-made ornaments and baked goods  
turkey and the trimmings  
Santa and spirit days  
hats, scarves and mitts for families in need

For a listing of festive events, visit [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca)

On behalf of the Board, I would like to wish all of our students, parents/guardians, staff and community partners, a happy and healthy holiday season.

May 2019 bring you peace and joy.

## **G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

### **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**

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**

Motion: 19-R24, A.Gibson/B.Clement

That we now adjourn at 7:05 p.m. – **Carried.**



<b>Title:</b>	Special Education Advisory Committee						
<b>Contact:</b>	Kathy Wachnuk						
<b>Date Submitted:</b>	January 29, 2019						
<b>Mandate</b>	Under Regulation 464/97 every district school board shall establish a Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC).						
<b>Background</b>	Membership is comprised of members appointed by the Board from its membership, from the First Nations and from local associations that represent parents of children who have exceptionalities. In addition the Board may appoint one or more additional members, who are not members of the Board, or of a member of a committee of the Board.						
<b>Process</b>	<p>Local associations may write to the secretary of the Board to request representation on the SEAC. A Membership Committee considers the requests and establishes a recommendation to the Board. The Board may appoint to membership of the SEAC only those persons who qualify. The term of office coincides with Board member terms.</p> <p><u>Association Members:</u></p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Autism</td> <td>- Autism of Ontario, Sudbury Chapter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Learning Disabilities</td> <td>- Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, Sudbury Chapter</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Developmental Disabilities</td> <td>- Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury</td> </tr> </table> <p><u>First Nations Members:</u></p> <p>Tuition Agreement First Nations          Non-Tuition Agreement Aboriginal Community</p> <p><u>Trustee Members:</u></p> <p>RDSB          RDSB</p> <p><u>Members at Large:</u></p> <p>Ontario Autism Coalition</p>	Autism	- Autism of Ontario, Sudbury Chapter	Learning Disabilities	- Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, Sudbury Chapter	Developmental Disabilities	- Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Autism	- Autism of Ontario, Sudbury Chapter						
Learning Disabilities	- Learning Disabilities Association of Ontario, Sudbury Chapter						
Developmental Disabilities	- Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury						
<b>Recommendation</b>	That Rainbow District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) membership be approved for the period January 2019 to December 2022.						



408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 1P2 | Tel: 705.674.3171 | Toll Free: 1.888.421.2661 | [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca)

December 14, 2018

Lisa Thompson  
Minister of Education  
Legislative Building  
Queen's Park  
Toronto ON M7A 1A1

Dear Minister Thompson:

Thank you for engaging in broad public consultations that will ensure that everyone interested in education in Ontario has an opportunity to provide feedback.

Rainbow District School Board shares your commitment to working together to achieve student success, while spending taxpayer dollars wisely and with greater accountability.

We welcome this opportunity to respond to both your request and that of Deputy Minister of Education Nancy Naylor for feedback that will help to deliver vital education programs and services efficiently.

On December 11, 2018, Rainbow District School Board Trustees unanimously approved the following motion:

*"In response to the request for input for the 2019-20 Education Funding Guide, that Rainbow District School Board write a letter to the Minister of Education to consider the consolidation of school boards into one system with education in both official languages in order to achieve significant savings in the education sector."*

Rainbow District School Board urged the Province to create one publicly funded system in a letter dated March 30, 2007 and a letter dated October 21, 2016. Copies of both letters are attached for reference.

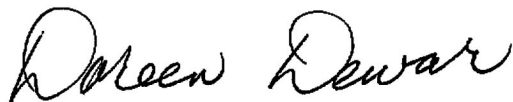
In response to your call for input on how efficiencies can be achieved throughout the education sector in Ontario, we are renewing our request for one school board at this time.

-2-

Rainbow District School Board continues to value co-operation and collaboration to ensure that investments in education are directed where they will have the greatest impact – in the classroom.

One school board, offering English, French Immersion and French-language education, would result in significant savings.

Sincerely,



Doreen Dewar  
Chair

cc: Nancy Naylor  
Deputy Minister of Education

Cathy Abraham  
President  
Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

W.R. (Rusty) Hick  
Executive Director  
Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)



# *Rainy River*

## DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

File Code: DIR GOV

January 14, 2019

### EDUCATION CENTRE

522 Second St. E.  
Fort Frances, ON  
P9A 1N4  
Phone: 807 274 9855  
Fax: 807 274 5078  
Toll Free: 1 800 214 1753

Minister of Education  
900 Bay Street  
14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Mowat Block  
Toronto ON M7A 1L2

Attn: The Honorable Lisa Thompson, Minister of Education:

I am writing today on behalf of the Rainy River District School Board to express our concern for the delay in continued funding for the Ojibwe Language Strategy, Anishinaabemodaa.

### WEB SITE:

[www.rrdsb.com](http://www.rrdsb.com)

### DIRECTOR

Heather Campbell

Language is central not only to First Nation culture but also to identity, history, traditions and governance. In order to sustain and expand Ojibwe Language programming within the Rainy River District School Board, throughout the region, and across the province, a comprehensive Ojibwe language development framework, from Early Years to Grade 12, was initiated in the spring of 2017. The Ojibwe Language Strategy or Anishinaabemodaa, is currently underway through a partnership with Seven Generations Education Institute and SayItFirst, and supported by the 10 First Nation communities in the lower part of Treaty Three. This grassroots project looks to sustain the language, by building speakers, infrastructure and content, and is structured to build speakers and to develop Ojibwe language teachers within seven years.

Language loss is still occurring in our communities. The existing core of teachers within our Board – and within other school boards across Ontario -- will disappear over the next few years with little to no chance of replacement with fluent speakers. Ojibwe speakers in the community, as well, are dying off faster than they can be produced. These two scenarios demonstrate that Ojibwe language is having a near death experience. As a result, we submitted the Ojibwe Language Strategy to the Ministry of Education in March 2017, to sustain the language, within schools, communities, and homes, by building demand for language programming and by creating pathways to increase the supply of teachers.

Our accomplishments to date include:

- providing over 200 preschoolers and toddlers with weekly Ojibwe language instruction;
- developing digital language kits for use in daycares and preschool programs, which include flashcards, songs, and books;
- creating three Anishinaabemowin apps that support language acquisition for preschool aged children, as well as beginner and intermediate language learners of any age;
- developing a Grade 12 University Locally Developed Ojibwe language course, to remove the barrier for language learners to pursue Ojibwe in post-secondary;

*TOGETHER, WE EMPOWER ALL STUDENTS TO BELIEVE IN THEMSELVES, TO ACHIEVE, AND TO DREAM.*

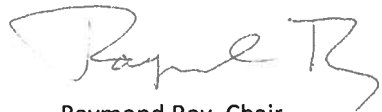
- articulating a pathway for students wanting to pursue teaching as a career, with a focus on Ojibwe language instruction, in partnership with our post-secondary partners;
- completing all Ojibwe verb conjugations and inputting sentence structure within the Ojibwe Translation Tool, which now has over 70,000 translated words;
- writing 17 children's books to be used in daycares, preschool and Kindergarten programming;
- consulting with communities through the Strategy's Elders' Table.

Efficiencies in the revised budget were submitted in December 2018, with the assumption that other sources would be approached for funding. Without the Ministry of Education's support, our ability to attract grants and other funding is also in jeopardy. Due to the delay in funding, the overall Strategy is now at risk, simply as we can no longer sustain the human resources to complete this important work.

The United Nations has declared 2019 as the Year of Indigenous Languages. This is in recognition of two important facts: one, that the many indigenous languages, including Anishinaabemowin or Ojibwe, are at risk of disappearing, and two, that indigenous languages represent an important resource for reconciliation. I thus invite you to view our introductory video, outlining the importance of the Strategy:  
<https://vimeo.com/295186082/62b2c58e4d>.

I trust that when you review the Strategy, its accomplishments to date, and its hope for our students today and in the future, you will understand the urgency of our request.

Sincerely,



Raymond Roy, Chair  
 Rainy River District School Board

- c. Rainy River District School Board Trustees  
 Hon. Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Mines, Northern Development and Indigenous Affairs  
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