

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

to be held electronically via Google Meet
in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive
on Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Chair

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of September 28, 2021 be approved.

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

*Chair

C. PRESENTATIONS

*Chair

Former A.B. Ellis Public School - Fred Yackman

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, August 31, 2021 be approved.

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals NIL

*SBO

3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

*Chair

a) Audit Committee (AC)

*SBO

Motion:

That the 2020/2021 External Audit Plan be approved as recommended by the Audit Committee.

Motion:

That the 2021/2022 Internal Audit Plan and the Multi-Year Internal Audit Plan be approved as recommended by the Audit Committee.

b) **Strategic Planning Committee**

*Chair

Motion:

That the Board write a letter to the Minister of Education and the Minister of Health to ask that the Immunization of School Pupils Act be amended to include Covid-19 as a “designated disease” as recommended by the Strategic Planning Committee.

4. **2021-2022 School Year Update**

*Director

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

*Chair

1. Various Capital Projects Update

*SBO

2. **OSTA-AECO Fees**

*Chair

Motion:

That the 2021/22 membership fees in the Ontario Student Trustees' Association be approved.

3. **Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA) Fall General Meeting**

*Chair

Motion:

That the board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Yao at the OSTA Fall General Meeting November 4 to 7, 2021 in Toronto.

4. **Current Expenditures Borrowing Resolution**

*SBO

Motion:

That the Current Expenditures Borrowing Resolution as attached be deemed to have been read three times and approved.

5. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

*Chair

Motion:

That _____ be granted a leave of absence from the September 28, 2021 Board meeting.

6. **Director's Remarks**

*Director

7. **Other Items**

*Chair

OPSBA Director
Student Trustee

8. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

*Chair

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

9. **Chairperson's Remarks**

*Chair

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

*Chair

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Special Education Advisory Committee minutes May 5, 2021 (official)

Special Education Advisory Committee minutes June 2, 2021 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

*Chair

Student Senate Meeting October 5, 2021 5:30 pm

Special Education Advisory Committee October 7, 2021 12:00 pm

Environmental Education Committee Meeting October 7, 2021 3:30 pm

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting October 13, 2021 5:00 pm

Parent Involvement Committee AGM October 19, 2021 7:00 pm To be determined

Board Meeting October 26, 2021 5:00 pm

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee November 5, 2021 4:00 pm

First Nation Advisory Committee November 18, 2021 10:00 am

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Chair

Motion:

That we do now adjourn at p.m.

RDSB Presentation Script

September 28, 2021

Good evening Madame Chair and Trustees. Thank you for providing our organizations with the opportunity to address the board. On behalf of Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing and the Save A.B. Ellis Committee, I offer our congratulations to Bruce Bourget on your recent appointment as Director of Education.

I'm here this evening along with Angela Roy, President of ARC Management and lead consultant on our Feasibility Study of the A.B. Ellis multi-unit housing project.

We'll be providing you with a summary of the study including:

- Building Condition
- Conversion Plan
- Community Survey
- Market Demand and
- Financial Analysis of the Project

We'll then address two final points:

- How We Got Here and
- Solutions/actions requested of the Rainbow District School Board.

The first goal of the feasibility study was to determine whether the former A.B. Ellis building is structurally sound and worth saving. CentreLine

Architects of Sudbury were given this task and with the assistance of structural, mechanical and electrical engineers they conducted a physical survey of the building and its operating systems. They concluded that building is in good condition and is suitable for the proposed renovation.

The conversion plan for the building includes keeping demolition of interior walls to a minimum by using the existing hallways and classroom walls wherever possible. In terms of energy efficiency, Centreline concluded there are numerous opportunities to vastly improve the current efficiency of the building in renovating the space for residential use. The boiler system, which is in excellent condition, will be used to provide heating for all the common areas of the building.

The converted building will provide 44 units with five in the basement, 19 on the ground floor and 20 on the second floor. 16 of the units will meet the Accessibility for Ontarians With Disabilities Act code.

As part of the study we conducted a community survey on what the people of Espanola wanted from a repurposed building. 212 people from the area responded. Nearly two-thirds were aged 55 years and older, a third were between the ages 25 and 54, and several were under 25 years of age.

As elsewhere in Northern Ontario, affordable housing, especially well maintained accessible affordable housing, is in critically short supply. Difficulty finding housing was a problem for three quarters of those most likely to favour living in the complex. The most cited problems after a general shortage of rental units include: unaffordable rent, high heat and

hydro costs and poor condition of units. The waiting list for affordable housing in Espanola as of July 1st as per the Manitoulin Sudbury District Services Board figures is 255 people.

The bottom line of the survey is if the former A.B. Ellis Public School were a 44-unit building, offering a mix of affordable and market rent, for one and two-bedroom apartments, it would be fully occupied.

I'd now like to turn over this part of our presentation to Angela Roy.

Thank you Fred.

Last fall I was hired to carry out a feasibility study on the conversion of the former A.B. Ellis School into a multi-unit residential property. The study took into consideration assessments on the following components:

- A review of the Regional and Neighbourhood Overview
- Housing Affordability
- Overview of the Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing Organization and Management and
- Financing Alternatives/Options.

My findings revealed that Espanola is not unique in its challenges for housing need. There are 1700 household owners and only 490 private households were renters. 80% of the housing stock was categorized as single-family dwellings and a very small percentage of apartments. This reveals a gap in housing forms in Espanola.

Need was assessed through various means, one of which was the number of clients on wait lists. In this respect, Manitoulin Sudbury District Services Board reports monthly how many people are waiting for housing in Espanola.

Affordability was also assessed in order to identify the most feasible rents for not only the tenants but also for the viability of the housing project.

In this respect, we analyzed numerous scenarios for rents, and equity to ensure the viability of the project for years to come. The assessment took into consideration income distribution in Espanola; affordability based on the income distribution and industry expense standards, lending requirements and possible program requirements relating to Co-investment funding.

I am very happy to say that based on the preliminary assessments, the project is feasible and will be a valuable addition to the community.

Thank you Angela.

Angela's preliminary financial analysis is based on a D Schedule Budget with a 25% contingency. We've applied to the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for a Planning Grant to fund a detailed C Schedule Budget and an "As Built" Appraisal of a fully rented, renovated building. With this updated information Angela will provide a more detailed financial analysis of the project.

So how did we get here?

Over 100 years ago in 1919, the people and businesses of Espanola realized the need for a purpose built public school to serve the educational needs of the community.

For the next 80 years the businesses and citizens of our community paid for the operation, maintenance and multiple additions to the building. Over time it wove itself into the fabric of our community.

In the late 1990's the Rainbow District School Board was created and became responsible for the jurisdiction of the former Espanola School Board. In 2014, due to declining enrolment, the Board made the informed choice to merge A. B. Ellis with the Espanola High School.

Then you made the inexplicable decision to demolish the building and turn it into a paved parking lot at a cost of two million dollars. This was done without any meaningful discussions with the citizens of Espanola about alternative uses for the building. Last November we presented you with a petition signed by over 1000 people in favour of saving the building. To date you've yet to respond to the petition.

SABE and Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing have repeatedly offered to work in collaboration with you, Offers you've yet to take up. So once again, we extend to you an opportunity to work with us, as we make the following requests:

1. The Trustees decision of April 29, 2014; namely the revitalization plan Option#1 - the demolition of the former A.B. Ellis Public School building and turn it into a paved parking lot be placed on hold.
2. You enter into good faith negotiations with Rainbow Community Non-Profit Housing on the disposition of the former A.B. Ellis Public School building and property.
3. You work with the Town of Espanola, the MSDSB, the broader community and us, to put the building to socially, environmentally and fiscally responsible use, for the next 100 years.

I'd like to leave with a final observation. During hearings into the Fewer School Boards Act in 1997, Ms. Val Duhamie, representing the Sudbury Women Teachers' Association said,

“The size of the proposed Espanola-Manitoulin-Sudbury district board is very large, encompassing one city, numerous small towns and villages and a large rural area. Unfortunately, history shows us that in similar situations, the larger, wealthier, more densely populated area assumes a role of control rather than one of partnership.”

Please let us prove her wrong.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Good evening.

5. Governance By-Law 5: Delegations to the Board

- 5.1. Any persons or delegations wishing to appear before or present a brief to the Board or a Committee shall apply in writing to the Secretary of the Board at least sixteen (16) calendar days prior to the meeting at which the presentation is to be made.
- 5.1.1. The application shall state:
- a) the matter on which the submission is to be made;
 - b) the name of the individual(s)(maximum 2) or the organization or interested parties to be represented;
 - c) the authority of the spokesperson.
- 5.1.2. A copy of the brief must be provided to the Secretary of the Board no later than 1:00 pm at least twelve (12) calendar days prior to the meeting. This rule may be suspended by a vote of two-thirds of the members present at the meeting at which the person or delegation wishes to be heard.
- 5.1.3. An individual/delegation may only speak twice per topic regardless of the number of delegations they represent.
- 5.1.4. Any person or delegation may be denied the right to appear before the Board by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Board present at a duly constituted meeting.
- 5.1.5. The presenter(s) shall be reminded by the Chairperson that the written brief has been included as back-up material in the agenda for the meeting and therefore, members will have had the opportunity to read the brief. The presenter(s) of the brief may speak for approximately 10 minutes in order to summarize the pertinent points in the brief and to outline the solution/action which is requested. Presenter(s) should then be prepared to receive questions from the members of the Board. Members of the Board should not present opinions at this time.
- 5.1.6. At no time will trustees or staff engage in discussion with the spokesperson or any member of the delegation except to clarify, through the chairperson, a point made in the presentation.
- 5.1.7. The Board's response, when requested, will be made through the Secretary in writing at a later date, after the trustees have had the opportunity to discuss the matter and arrive at a decision.

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held electronically via Google Meet
and livestreamed from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, August 31, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

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

Officials: N. Blaseg – Director and Secretary of the Board
B. Bourget – Incoming Director and Secretary of the Board
D. Bazinet - Superintendent of Business
J. Noble, K. Wachnuk – Superintendents
L. Fisher – Incoming Superintendent
N. Charette, H. Thirkill, C. Whitson

Others: S. Ackroyd, N. Cecchetto, T. Hayes, C. McDonald, M. McKelvey, N. Mousseau

Chair Dewar advised that the meeting was being live-streamed and archived.

Chair Dewar read a declaration of land acknowledgement aloud.

Director Blaseg completed roll call to establish who was participating in the Google Meet Board meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 21-R85, D.Morrison/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of August 31, 2021 be approved

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: technical difficulties
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

STUDENT TRUSTEE

Motion: 21-R86, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That Michael Yao (Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School) be appointed Student Trustee for the school year 2021-2022.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: technical difficulties
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

– **Carried**

Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance.

Director Blaseg administered the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance to Student Trustee Michael Yao and welcomed him to the board table.

Chair Dewar said: *On behalf of the trustees of the Board, I would like to welcome you Michael as the student Trustee for the RDSB. We look forward to having you bring student insight to the Board table for the school year 2021-2022. Without a doubt I know I speak for all trustees and staff when I say that we really look forward to the day when we can meet you in person. Thank you Student Trustee Yao.*

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Director Blaseg spoke about his journey in education over the last 35+ years, and shared many highlights in his career as he begins retirement tomorrow.

Trustees thanked Director Blaseg for his many years of commitment to education, staff, students and families and wished him a happy, healthy retirement.

Director formally requested that incoming Director Bourget assume the role of the Director.

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

a) Motion: 21-R87, B.Clement/D.Morrison

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

b) Motion: 21-R88, J.Kosmerly/M.Stringer

That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on Tuesday, August 3, 2021 be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

c) Motion: 21-R89, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021 be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals

a) Motion: 21-R90, D.Morrison/B.Clement

That the Board award the contract for Mechanical and Electrical Consulting Services - RFP 2021-12 to Piotrowski Consultants Ltd. and SNC-Lavalin Inc.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

b) Motion: 21-R91, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That the Board award the contract for Architectural Consulting Services - RFP 2021-13 to Luciw Boudreau Architecture, 3rd Line Studio Inc. and Yallowega Bélanger Salach Architecture.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

c) Motion: 21-R92, M.Stringer/J.Kosmerly

That the Board award the contract for Supply of Furnace Oil - RFP 2021-14 to Co-opérative Régionale de Nipissing-Sudbury Ltd.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

d) Motion: 21-R93, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the Board award the contract for Supply of Liquefied Petroleum Gas - RFP 2021-15 to Superior Propane Inc.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

- e) Motion 21-R94, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly
That the Board award the contract for Inspections of Asbestos Containing Material RFP 2021-16 in various school buildings to Englobe Corporation.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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**

- f) Motion: 21-R95, D.Morrison/M.Stringer
That the Board award the contract for Workplace Environmental Consulting Services RFP 2021-17 to Englobe Corporation.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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**

3. **Continuation of Livestreaming Strategic Planning Committee Meetings**

Motion: 21-R96, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That the Strategic Planning Committee meetings held in the Ernie Checkers Boardroom be live streamed and that this be reviewed in one year.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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**

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

5. **September School Reopening Update**

Incoming Director of Education Bruce Bourget provided a detailed update on the 2021-2022 school year.

Incoming Director Bourget spoke about the Reopening Guide for Rainbow Schools, stressing once again that the health and safety of students and staff is the first and foremost priority. He shared information about face-to-face learning and remote learning and the work that has been done to get remote learners set up in a remote classroom with a dedicated remote teacher, at both the elementary and secondary levels.

He shared COVID-19 information and data from Public Health Sudbury and District. He spoke about the focus on well-being as we reopen schools, reconnecting with students and families, the changes to sport, health and physical activity and changes to the screening tool and ventilation.

Incoming Director Bourget also spoke about the success of the kindergarten camp, which provided 432 students from 28 schools with an opportunity to explore. He shared information about the face-to-face Summer Institute sessions, the Leadership Conference and the new employee orientation as well as the upcoming professional learning for staff on the September 1 and 2 Professional Activity days.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2021-2022 Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians**

Incoming Director Bourget provided details about the publication as well as the School Calendar Card.

Incoming Director Bourget thanked Nicole Charette, Jennifer Battach and executive council for all the work they have done on these documents and reminded that these documents will be available on the board website tomorrow.

2. **2021-2022 Executive Council Portfolios and Family of Schools**

Incoming Director Bourget reviewed the 2021-2022 Executive Council distribution of schools and portfolios.

3. **OPSBA Fees**

Motion: 21-R97, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That the 2021/22 membership fees in the Ontario Public School Boards' Association be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: 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

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

5. **Director's Remarks**

Incoming Director Bruce Bourget shared a few words:

Let me begin by saying that it is an absolute privilege to serve the Rainbow District School Board as Director of Education.

I look forward to working with you, Superintendents, administrators, staff, students, families, First Nations Chiefs and communities and all of our partners.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Norm Blaseg for his leadership, support and constant advocacy for students. You will be greatly missed by us all.

Congratulations on your retirement!

We wish you all the best as you begin this exciting new chapter in your life.

Our administrative teams have been hard at work preparing for the start of the school year.

Our incredible staff will all be back this week for professional learning.

According to official predicted enrollment for the start of the 2021-2022 school year, Rainbow District School Board will welcome 13,317 students in Rainbow Schools when classes resume on Tuesday, September 7, 2021.

There will be no early dismissal on the first day of school.

We can't wait to see our students and welcome all our families to Rainbow Schools.

96 per cent of our students will be learning in-person.

Those who have opted for remote learning - elementary as well as secondary - will be part of a separate virtual school.

As I mentioned previously, goal number one will be to reconnect.

Our schools will be safe and supportive places where students have fun while they learn.

We recognize that the pandemic has had an impact on students in varying ways.

While we prioritize reconnecting, mental health and well-being, our teachers will engage with and support students to determine learning needs.

We have an incredible team of administrators, educators and support staff who will nurture student success.

In the coming weeks and months, I will connect with the Board of Trustees and all of our school communities and partners to have conversations and gather input to create a new Strategic Plan.

This will set our path forward over the next five years.

I indicated in my update earlier this evening that public education prepares students to be active, confident, capable and contributing members of society.

Rainbow Schools play a critical role in the academic, social, emotional and physical development of children and young adults.

When students feel safe, supported, accepted, respected and connected - when they have a sense of belonging - they are well on their way towards achieving their full potential.

On behalf of all of our staff, I would like to welcome our students and families to the 2021-2022 school year.

We can't wait to see you on September 7th. Thank you.

6. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Clement reminded trustees that a questionnaire would be distributed later this fall, seeking feedback about OPSBA. Trustee Clement advised that many OPSBA directors from Northern Boards are appreciating the virtual meetings and have requested that this be an option for future meetings (with the exception of the AGM and PES conferences).

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Yao shared his excitement to be working with trustees at the board table. He is honoured to be the liaison between students and the Board. He also spoke about his involvement with OSTA at the provincial level.

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustees thanked Director Norm Blaseg for his dedication to Rainbow District School Board, congratulated incoming Director Bruce Bourget, welcomed Superintendent Lesley Fisher and welcomed Student Trustee Michael Yao.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks**

I would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere thank you to Norm Blaseg, our Director of Education, for his leadership over the past 11 years.

Norm Blaseg's 35 years in public education took him first to classrooms in Attawapiskat; then, to Southern Ontario, and finally back home to Sudbury and Rainbow District School Board.

Director Blaseg respects good governance, appreciates the role of Trustees, values the voice of our First Nations communities, actively engages with staff, students, families and community partners, and moves priorities forward with the support of an exceptional team.

Above all, Norm Blaseg has the remarkable ability to make us feel like we are making a difference for kids. And that, in turn, makes each of us want to continue to contribute to public education. He has instilled in the Rainbow community the idea that to work in the service of children is a noble goal.

With Norm Blaseg's leadership, RDSB has revitalized existing schools, built new schools, enhanced programs and services, and expanded community partnerships; always with a focus on student achievement and well-being.

Indigenous education, special education, mental health, equity and inclusion, parental involvement, student engagement, professional learning and curriculum development have all flourished under Director Blaseg's tenure.

Teaching and learning have continued amidst a global pandemic where Norm Blaseg's leadership has placed the health and safety of our students, staff and families as the first and foremost priority.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank you Norm for being a champion for children. We wish you a retirement filled with good health and much happiness.

The thought for the day is from John Quincy Adams who said, "*If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader*". Director Blaseg – YOU are a leader. Thank you.

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

First Nations Advisory Committee (FNAC) minutes February 18, 2021 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Student Senate Meeting September 13, 2021 5:30 pm

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting September 14, 2021 5:00 pm

Special Education Advisory Committee September 15, 2021 12:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting September 15, 2021 3:30 pm
First Nation Advisory Committee September 16, 2021 10:00 am
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee September 16, 2021 4:00 pm
Board Meeting September 28, 2021 5:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee AGM October 19, 2021 7:00 pm To be determined

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 21-R98, D.Morrison/J.Hunda

That we now adjourn at 7:13 p.m. – **Carried.**

unofficial

Title:	External Audit Plan Report for the year ending August 31, 2021
Contact:	Dennis Bazinet
Date Submitted:	September 28, 2021
Background	<p>The Audit Committee approved the report from KPMG on September 21, 2021.</p> <p>Ministry of Education memorandum 2015:SB19 requires the Audit Committee to report on the content of the external auditor's audit plan to the Board.</p>
Process	<p>The purpose of the external audit is to enhance the degree of confidence of the users of the financial statements through the expression of an opinion on whether the financial statements are prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the Financial Administration Act, supplemented by Ministry of Education memorandum 2004:B2 and Ontario Regulation 395/11 of the Financial Administration Act.</p> <p>The external audit is risk focused, taking into account key areas for financial reporting that, by their nature, require specific audit consideration. The risks identified are applicable to all Boards of Education.</p> <p>Key areas include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fraud risk from revenue recognition Fraud risk from management override of controls Cash and investment income Government grants, grants receivable and deferred revenue Capital assets and deferred capital contributions Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Long-term debt Salaries and benefits, Employee future benefits Accumulated Surplus
Recommendation	That the 2020/2021 External Audit Plan be approved.

2019-2020

Audit	Risk Assessment update	Attendance Management	Follow Up- As management action plans are due
Area	All areas	Human Resources	
Rationale	To determine multiyear plan	High risk score High impact on cost and service delivery	
Result	Deferred to 2020/2021	cancelled	
Notes	Due to pandemic		

2020-2021

Audit	Risk Assessment update	Privacy; educational applications	Follow Up- As management action plans are due
Area	All areas	TBD	
Rationale	To determine multiyear plan	Horizontal audit, relevant	
Result		Draft Issued	
Notes	Carried Forward	High level, limited scope	

2021-2022

Audit	IT Security	Risk Assessment update	Follow Up- As management action plans are due
Area	Information Technology	All areas	
Rationale	High profile process	To determine multiyear plan	
Result			
Notes	Carried forward from 19/20		

School Board Membership Guide



Academic Year 2021–2022



August 2021

A letter from our Presidents

on behalf of the OSTA-AECO Executive Council

Dear Directors of Education, Chairs, and fellow Trustees,

On behalf of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA-AECO), we would like to congratulate your recently elected student trustees on officially beginning their terms of office with your board. The role of student trustee is invaluable to amplifying the student voice at the school board level and we look forward to witnessing their accomplishments throughout the academic year. OSTA-AECO has been the official voice for students across Ontario for the past 20 years. We are honoured to be a strong advocate for education in Ontario, and the largest student stakeholder group in the province, representing over two million students.

At the beginning of each year, our Executive Council develops a strategic plan and advocacy initiatives based on the needs of Ontario's students. In line with our vision, *The Students' Vision for Education*, released in 2019, we strive to enhance equity within our schools and create an environment that fits the needs of every student throughout the 2021–2022 academic year. The Executive Council works with the Board Council Cabinets, Working Groups, and General Assembly to foster student voice and create tangible change within our education system. OSTA-AECO's Catholic Board Council plans to use faith and equitable education as the guiding light of their advocacy for a year founded on three pillars: Faith in Equity, The Art of Giving Back, and Actions in Catholic Servitude. The importance of charity and giving back is especially important, and throughout these three pillars the CBC will work towards walking in the footsteps of Christ. As well as continuing to amplify student voice, student success is a priority for the Public Board Council this year as students transition back into a modified school year. Student success is a topic that encompasses a wide array of student experiences; the PBC cabinet this year will focus on key topics such as mental well-being, equity and inclusion, menstrual equity, and academic achievement.

We will continue to support student trustees through our 3 annual conferences. These conferences provide your student trustees with world-class professional development, networking opportunities, and knowledgeable guest speakers. Student trustees also have the opportunity to engage in interactive roundtable discussions, work in their designated working groups and engage with board council-specific advocacy initiatives, all of which will aid them in enhancing their leadership abilities. By attending our in-person and/or online conferences, you are helping your student trustees unlock their full potential as leaders, allowing them to be equipped in their roles throughout their terms.

As we begin the 2021–2022 academic year, we look forward to your school board's ongoing support of our vision and advocacy work. We appreciate you taking the time to review the following package and trust that you will recognize the benefits of becoming an OSTA-AECO member board. With your assistance, we look forward to continuing to serve Ontario's students and working with your school board in the upcoming academic year. Thank you for your continued support in amplifying student voice across the province.

Yours in education,



Keith Baybayon
President
OSTA-AECO



Jazzlyn Abbott
President
Public Board Council



Sydney Yott
President
Catholic Board Council



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Education advocacy in Ontario

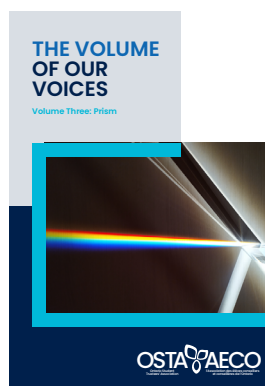
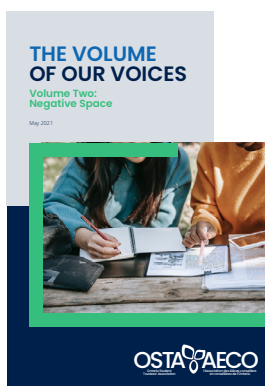
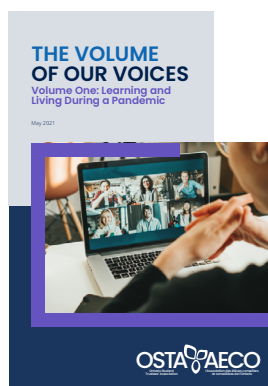
OSTA-AECO is an active partner in Ontario's education system and the largest student stakeholder group in Ontario, representing approximately 2 million students. The General Assembly is comprised of student trustees from public and catholic school boards across Ontario. Members of the organization work tirelessly throughout the year to advocate for student voice and strive to work with our partners in government and otherwise to improve Ontario's education system for our students. More information about our work can be found at osta-aeco.org.

Our initiatives

Members of OSTA-AECO accomplish numerous long and short-term advocacy initiatives on a yearly basis. During the 2020-2021 academic year, OSTA-AECO was able to accomplish the following advocacy projects with help from our partners. Some of our past work includes:

The Volume of Our Voices

- OSTA-AECO's newest advocacy project, The Volume of Our Voices, serves to amplify students' stories in Ontario's education system. We've surveyed and published a diverse collection of stories in three volumes this year, each addressing one of the following themes: the impact of COVID-19, cultural diversity, and diversity in gender identities and sexual orientation. Click each report cover to read.



Affording our Students' Success: 2020/21 Pre-Budget/Grants for Student Needs Submission

- This document, prepared by the 2019-20 executive council and submitted to the Ministry of Education, highlights areas in education which require further investment to better support students.

Student Representation Across Canada

- In 2021, OSTA-AECO developed a comprehensive overview of student representation across Canada with the support of the Canadian School Boards Association.

Distance Learning Recommendations

- Recommendations provided to the Ministry of Education following student consultation on the impacts of distance learning.



Working groups at OSTA-AECO

OSTA-AECO's working groups are comprised of student trustees across Ontario. Student trustees have the opportunity to contribute to the development of initiatives across key areas, including:

Environmental Sustainability Working Group

This working group seeks to uphold a sense of environmental responsibility by motivating and educating students about the potential impacts of climate change, and on how dependent we are on the health of our Earth for survival.

Indigenous Relations Working Group

This working group educates peers of the barriers Indigenous students in Ontario face today and supports the guidelines for reconciliation.

Communications Working Group

This working group crafts content to strengthen and promote OSTA-AECO's brand by generating creative content for OSTA-AECO's social media platforms and designing visual assets for provincial campaigns. During conferences, this group aids in providing world-class professional development to student trustees as they transition into their roles.

French Relations Working Group

The French Relations Working Group works to identify and advocate for the unique barriers students in French programming face.

Student Well-Being Working Group

This working group gives students appropriate resources and tools to help destigmatize the culture surrounding both physical and mental illness.

Equity and Inclusion Working Group

The Equity and Inclusion Working Group seeks to educate students on topics relating to equity (e.g. anti-racism, 2SLGBTQ+ issues etc...) and advocate for equitable and inclusive practices in Ontario education.

Ontario Student Voice Awards Working Group

This working group awards scholarships to recognize students across Ontario who demonstrate academic excellence and community leadership

OSTA-AECO's Working Groups play an essential role within our organization's collective advocacy. Last year alone, our Working Groups took part in a substantial amount of initiatives and projects regarding various aspects of our education system. This includes:

- Our **French Relations Working Group** which assisted in revising the French Versions of an E-Learning concussion module by OPHEA, and planning a French Relations conference to gather Francophone Student Trustees, and foster conversations about improving French Education in Ontario.
- Our **Student Well-being Working Group** which provided students with various mental and physical wellbeing tips through OSTA-AECO's social media accounts year round, and created a Menstrual Hygiene Accessibility Handbook that can be used for student trustees when lobbying school boards to provide students with free menstrual products.

Conferences and professional development

Conferences provide student trustees with **skills development** – (board table basics, professionalism, Roberts Rules, etc.), more **in-depth focus** on what the role of student trustee is and the education system, resources to help student trustees **find their voice** at the board table, breakout sessions – discussions and working group initiatives, and more.

The **Fall General Meeting** focuses on:

- Skill development – board table basics, professionalism, Roberts Rules, etc.
- More in-depth focus on what the role of student trustee is and the education system
- Resources to help student trustees find their voice at the board table
- Breakout sessions – discussions and working group initiatives

The **Board Council Conferences** focus on:

- Encouraging student trustees to work together within their designated council on various initiatives
- Keynote speakers – professional development geared towards attendees' role
- Breakout sessions – focus on student trustees' role and current issues in the education system and brainstorming possible solutions

The **Annual General Meeting** focuses on:

- Providing newly-elected student trustees with general understanding of Ontario's education system and the role of trustees within local boards
- Transitioning between incoming and outgoing student trustees on their role and current initiatives
- Recognizing outgoing student trustee accomplishments and provide them with avenues for future success



Membership highlights

By joining OSTA-AECO as a Member Board, your school board will receive the following benefits:

1

Flexible Registration Adjustment

We allow only our member boards to adjust registration information and invoice amounts up to one week in advance of a conference.

2

Board staff invitation to OSTA-AECO Conferences

We invite our member board staff to attend OSTA-AECO conferences in order to observe student voice in action and learn more about how to support the association.

3

Ongoing Updates from OSTA-AECO

Quarterly organization updates from the Executive Council and Board of Directors. Early access to financial updates and ongoing initiatives. Member Board recognition on many association publications

4

Reduced Conference Fees

We offer reduced conference fees to only our member boards. Member boards can save up to \$100 per conference, per student trustee.

5

Exclusive Additional PD Materials

We offer all conference slide decks, resources and handouts to our member boards only, as well as additional videos and resources created by the association's working groups.

6

Exclusive Social Media Awareness

We share our member boards' social media activity while offering occasional "Member Spotlights" that feature initiatives and projects at the board.

Updates from the board of directors

For over twenty years, OSTA-AECO has been an integral stakeholder in the education community, and we've built a name for ourselves by advocating for the students of Ontario on the provincial stage. Last year, we refreshed the OSTA-AECO brand and committed to a cultural change based on three pillars: accountability, collaboration, and transparency. More information regarding our renewed commitments to these pillars can be found in a letter from OSTA-AECO's Chair of the Board, Arjun Dhanjal, [here](#).

Updating conference supervision practices

Student safety is our number one priority as the Board of Directors. At OSTA-AECO, the Board of Directors is responsible for creating and implementing supervision and safety policies for all student attendees. Prior to arriving at the conference, all student trustees must complete the Student Trustee Registration Form through which they provide us with their contact information, an emergency contact, outline any dietary restrictions or accessibility needs, and agree to the Student Trustee Code of Conduct.

All student trustees are required to complete check-in with the Board between 21:00 and 23:00 each evening of the conference. Once check-in has been completed, student trustees are to return to their hotel rooms to rest for the next conference day. In the case that an attendee has not completed check-in, the student trustee will be contacted via the cellular number provided in their registration. If we are unable to reach the student trustee directly, members of the Board will contact the student trustee's parent/guardian, and Director of Education. All Directors are required to have verified criminal record checks with vulnerable sector screening, in addition to having a level of first aid and mental health training.

Additionally, school boards may send chaperones to all of our professional development conferences if they so choose. Student Trustees with chaperones may choose to complete nightly check-ins with their respective chaperones rather than the Board of Directors. Please note, chaperones or any additions aside from the student trustees formally registered are also required to adhere to the Code of Conduct.

As our conference attendance continues to grow on a yearly basis, we are implementing the following additional measures to ensure the safety of all our students:

- Hiring a mental health counsellor for our annual conferences to provide student trustees with a trusted professional from whom to seek help on matters related to their mental health
- Implementing workshops, trainings, and campaigns relating to gender-based violence and consent
- Designating two Directors, of different genders wherever possible, to be on call and present at all times for the duration of conference days to address any concerns that may arise
- Updating the Student Trustee Code of Conduct to explicitly prohibit student trustees from inviting any unauthorized individuals (anyone not currently a student trustee, supervisor, chaperone, or authorized guest) into conference spaces, including hotel rooms. Upon encountering an unauthorized individual, student trustees will be mandated to report that to the Board of Directors



Building inclusive spaces

OSTA-AECO is committed to conducting all of its affairs with fairness and equity and fostering a unique and inclusive culture by providing an accessible, safe, and respectful work environment that is free from harassment, discrimination, or violence (collectively referred to as “Unacceptable Behaviour” as set out in the *Respectful Workplace Policy*). OSTA-AECO recognizes prevention as the most critical step in effectively reducing the number of incidents of Unacceptable Behaviour in the workplace and in advocacy spaces. In support of this commitment:

- OSTA-AECO will not condone, tolerate or ignore any Unacceptable Behaviour, including, but not limited to discrimination or harassment on the basis of: age, ancestry, colour, race, citizenship, ethnic origin, place of origin, creed, (dis)ability, family status, marital status, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental illness, or any other protected grounds under the Ontario Human Rights Code.
- OSTA-AECO will train managers so they can maintain a workplace free of Unacceptable Behaviour and promptly address concerns raised with them or which they observe.
- Every employee, potential employee, volunteer, potential volunteer, and Director, as well as every customer, supplier, or other person in a business relationship with OSTA-AECO must be treated with dignity and respect.
- We are all responsible for treating others with dignity and respect.
- We must immediately report any Unacceptable Behaviour of which we are aware or suspect so that it may be properly addressed.

Our commitment to addressing systemic racism

Central to our responsibility as an organization and to our change in culture is a commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive working environment for the people who work within the organization. While inclusivity has always been a central tenet foundational to the way OSTA-AECO operates, recent events around the world have demonstrated that now, more than ever, there is an onus on all organizations, including ours, to demonstrate our solidarity and disavowal for discrimination, violence, and hate in tangible ways. To suggest that OSTA-AECO is excluded from that would be grossly negligent and harmful. We recognize that this is an ongoing commitment as we continue to review, change, and operate our organization by incorporating reporting frameworks to address equity concerns throughout the organization. So far, we have committed to the following changes:

- Implementing workshops, training, and campaigns at OSTA-AECO conferences relating to anti-racism
- Mandating equity training on a yearly basis for the executive council
- Implementing and enforcing the *Respectful Workplace Policy* and Respectful Workplace Procedure which outline the types of behaviour we deem incompatible with inclusive spaces
- Implementing and enforcing a *Code of Conduct and Ethics for Employees, Volunteers, and Directors* which outlines the acceptable behaviour of those associated with the organization
- Utilizing an intersectional lens to improve professional development activities to teach student trustees to be inclusive and thoughtful leaders as they advocate for students in their constituency

We are committed to reviewing our practices on an ongoing basis, and we will implement changes in support of our renewed commitment to student well-being. As valued stakeholders, we invite you to get in touch with our Board Chair at Arjun.Dhanjal@osta-aeco.org if they have any questions, comments, feedback, or suggestions on how we can improve as an organization or make our spaces more safe, inclusive, and welcoming for all students.

Contact us

We encourage our school board partners to contact us with any inquiries, questions, and/or feedback.

Advocacy



Keith Baybayon

President

Keith.Baybayon@osta-aeco.org

Financial



Shivohum Nar

Chief Financial Officer

Shivohum.Nar@osta-aeco.org



Alex MacDonald

Board Treasurer

Alex.MacDonald@osta-aeco.org

Governance, legal



Arjun Dhanjal

Chair of the Board

Arjun.Dhanjal@osta-aeco.org



Annika Dela Torre

Chief Executive Officer

Annika.DelaTorre@osta-aeco.org

Board of directors

The Board of Directors has the fiduciary duty to oversee and advise the Executive Council in all operational activities to align short-term goals with the long-term vision of the organization. The Board of Directors maintains internal procedures that promote and sustain fiscal management, accountability, risk mitigation, long-term sustainability, and social responsibility. As a publicly funded not-for-profit corporation, these procedures comply with not-for-profit corporate regulations and are designed to maintain transparent and equitable financial records in accordance with regulatory requirements. For more information, visit osta-aeco.org/governance/board-of-directors.





INVOICE

OSTA-AECO

5-112 Elizabeth Street
Suite 285
Toronto, Ontario M5G 1P5
Canada

Mobile: 888.994.9374
osta-aeco.org

BILL TO
Rainbow DSB
Heather Thirkill
Canada

thirkih@rainbowschools.ca

Invoice Number: 1041

Invoice Date: September 1, 2021

Payment Due: October 31, 2021

Amount Due (CAD): \$1,562.11

Product	Quantity	Price	Amount
OSTA-AECO 2021-2022 Base Membership Fee	1	\$750.00	\$750.00
OSTA-AECO 2021-2022 Variable Membership Fee \$0.05 x Projected Enrollment (12,648 students)	1	\$632.40	\$632.40
Subtotal:			\$1,382.40
HST1 13% (82011 0906 RT0001):			\$179.71
Total:			\$1,562.11
Amount Due (CAD):			\$1,562.11

Note: All membership projections for the 2021-2022 academic year are based on the Spring 2021 Ministry of Education enrollment projections. If you have any questions, please contact Shivohum Nar at shivohum.nar@osta-aeco.org.

Fall General Meeting 2021

Registration Package

November 4th–7th, 2021

**Delta Hotel Toronto
75 Lower Simcoe St, Toronto, On M5J 3A6**



A Letter from the OSTA-AECO Executive Council

Dear Directors of Education, Chairs, and fellow Trustees,

On behalf of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA-AECO), we are pleased to extend an invitation to student trustees across the province for our first conference of the academic year, our Fall General Meeting (FGM). FGM will be taking place at the Delta Hotel located in Downtown, Toronto on 75 Lower Simcoe Street from Thursday, November 4th, to Sunday, November 7th. This conference will help student trustees build the fundamental skills required to be successful in their positions. With knowledgeable and passionate keynote speakers, insightful roundtable discussions, and seminars explaining boardroom etiquette and motion drafting, this conference is an excellent way for student trustees to learn more about their position alongside like-minded individuals, and network with fellow student trustees from across the province. A portion of this conference will also be spent familiarizing student trustees with OSTA-AECO as an organization, and the structure of Ontario's education system. Student trustees will have the opportunity to meet with OSTA-AECO partners, connect with student trustee alumni mentors and work within their respective board councils and working groups.

The FGM will develop partnerships/connections between student trustees across the province to allow for further collaboration and diversity in promoting student advocacy. OSTA-AECO places great emphasis on the importance of supporting student trustees throughout their terms by providing the tools, resources, and professional development they need to succeed. The FGM will be an important transitional aid for your student trustee(s), and we are confident that they will immensely benefit from their participation. Attached you will find the conference information package and preliminary agenda. Please take the time to review this information and register by the specified date.

This past year was incredibly difficult for our former Student Trustees, but we are confident that the upcoming year will be full of change and student advocacy. This conference will assist student trustees in their journey to creating meaningful changes within their respective board, and we will help them build their self-confidence and knowledge. Even amidst a pandemic, OSTA-AECO has seen wonderful initiatives from your student trustees, and we know this will continue.

We are aware of the impacts the COVID-19 pandemic has had and will have on the terms of student trustees' across the province. The safety and well-being of your Student Trustee(s) is our number one priority, and we will be placing the necessary health protocols to keep it that way. As we move through these unprecedented times together, our Board of Directors will continue to monitor the circumstances and make informed decisions using expert recommendations.

On behalf of OSTA-AECO, we would like to sincerely thank you for your ongoing support and for continuing to foster student voice within your board. We hope to see your student trustee(s) in November.

Yours in Education,



Keith Baybayon
President



Jazzlyn Abbott
PBC President



Sydney Yott
CBC President

OSTA-AECO Fall General Meeting 2021

**Date:**

November 4th-7th

Location:

Delta Hotel Toronto, 75 Lower Simcoe St, Toronto, On M5J3A6

Accommodations:

Accommodations for each delegate and school board will be booked by OSTA-AECO's account with the conference hotel upon completion of the online registration form (see below). Hotel reservation details will be sent a week prior to the conference. A block of rooms has been reserved under our group rate and student trustees are strongly encouraged to stay at the hotel where the conference is taking place for supervision purposes.

Registration:

Pre-Conference Registration for our upcoming conference is now available online. Please note that registration fees below are based on the date of registration and the membership status of the school board within the organization. Only student trustees who are registered for the conference will be eligible to attend.

Pricing:

Early Bird pricing will be from September 21st to September 26th. Regular pricing will be from September 27th to October 11th.

***If a student trustee is unable to attend in person for any reason, please contact our Professional Development Coordinator AmaturRaheem Salam-Alada, at AmaturRaheem.Salam-Alada@osta-aeco.org or 613-316-8111. We will handle this in a case-by-case basis**

Fees		
Registration	Member	Non-Member
Early Bird	\$577.00	\$656.00
Regular	\$627.00	\$706.00
Rooms	Cost	
Single	\$237.00	
Double	\$237.00	



Conference Safety

As we return to in-person conferences, OSTA-AECO is introducing new measures to ensure the safety of all student trustees and conference attendees. These new systems are being implemented after extensive internal review and external consultations with school board partners, local and provincial public health units, and our alumni student trustee community.

COVID-19 safety measures:

- Booking larger conference spaces to allow for physical distancing among attendees.
- Facilitating grab-and-go boxed breakfast and lunch meals to limit crowding during mealtimes.
- Providing three-layer medical face masks and hand sanitizer to attendees for the duration of the conference.
- Supporting student trustees who cannot attend in-person through hybrid participation opportunities.
- Following public health and provincial guidelines before, during, and after conferences.

Supporting student trustees:

- Providing a mental health counselor for the entire duration of the conference to prioritize student trustee support.
- Providing free menstrual products to alleviate burdens on menstruators who have historically had to pay out-of-pocket for products.
- Onboarding new Directors to help with conference supervision (for a ratio of approximately 1 board member for every 10 attendees). Directors will be easily accessible for the entire duration of the conference and easily reachable through a phone line monitored 24/7.

If you have any other ideas on how we can continue to support student trustees, or have any questions, comments, or concerns, please email amal.qayum@osta-aeco.org.



Payment Methods

Accepted methods of payment include Credit Card and Electronic Funds Transfer (ETF). Cheques will not be accepted.

***Invoices will be sent a week prior to the conference date.**

Note:

If there are any questions about registration or payment, please do not hesitate to contact our Chief Financial Officer Shivo-hum Nar, at **647-916-4174** or **shivohum.nar@osta-aeco.org**

On-Site Conference Registration:

When student trustees arrive at the conference on the Thursday evening, they must register in-person.

Prior to registering, each student trustee must have filled out the student trustee FGM form and agreed to the code of conduct. Student trustees may be denied registration to the conference if this form is not completed and submitted at this time.

Conference Logistics

School Board Checklist:

- Complete online registration
- Complete and submit invoice received

Student Trustee Checklist:

- Complete online registration

Meals:

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided during conference hours. All other meals are the responsibility of the individual delegate and the board.

Dress Code: Business Casual

Overnight Supervision:

Oversight and Supervision Safety is a primary concern at conferences. OSTA-AECO's Board of Directors is responsible for the supervision and safety of all attendees. All student trustees are required to complete check-in with the Board between 21:00 and 23:00 each evening of the conference. Once check-in has been completed, student trustees are to return to their hotel rooms to rest for the next conference day. In the case that an attendee has not completed check-in, the student trustee will be contacted via the cellular number provided. If we are unable to reach the student trustee directly, members of the Board will contact the student trustee's parent/guardian, and Director of Education, as outlined in the Student Trustee Code of Conduct that each student trustee signs prior to attending conferences. All Directors are required to have verified criminal record checks with vulnerable sector screening, in addition to having a level of first aid and mental health training.

Contact Us



General Inquiries



Keith Baybayon
Keith.Baybayon@osta-aeco.org



Annika Dela Torre
Annika.DelaTorre@osta-aeco.org

Oversight and Supervision



Amal Qayum
Amal.Qayum@osta-aeco.org



Arjun Dhanjal
Arjun.Dhanjal@osta-aeco.org

Fees and Payments



Shivohum Nar
Shivohum.Nar@osta-aeco.org

Conferences



AmaturRaheem Salam-Alada
AmaturRaheem.Salam-Alada@osta-aeco.org

Any other questions? Call 613-316-8111

**RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
BORROWING RESOLUTION**

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE BORROWING OF MONEY TO MEET CURRENT EXPENDITURES OF THE RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD (THE "Board")

- A. In accordance with Subsection 243(1) of the Education Act (R.S.O. 1990) (the "Act"), the Board considers it necessary to borrow the amount of up to Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000) to meet, until current revenue is received, the current expenditures of the Board for the period commencing on September 1, 2021 and ending on August 31, 2022 (the "Period").
- B. Pursuant to Subsection 243(3) of the Act, the total amount borrowed pursuant to this Resolution together with the total of any similar borrowings and any accrued interest on those borrowings is not to exceed the unreceived balance of the estimated revenues of the Board for the Period.
- C. The total amount previously borrowed by the Board pursuant to Section 243 that has not been repaid is \$0.
- D. The amount borrowed for current expenditures is within the Board's Debt and Financial Obligation Limit as established by the Ministry of Education from time to time.

RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The Chair or Vice Chair and the Treasurer are authorized on behalf of the Board to borrow from time to time by way of promissory note, or overdraft, or bankers' acceptance from Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce ("CIBC") or from any other approved lender authorized for borrowing purposes in accordance with Section 243 of the Act a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate Seven Million Dollars (\$7,000,000) to meet, until current revenue is collected, the current expenditures of the Board for the Period (including the amounts required for the purposes mentioned in Subsection 243(1) and 243(2) of the Act), and to give to CIBC or to any other approved lender promissory notes or bankers' acceptances, as the case may be, sealed with the corporate seal of the Board and signed by any two of the Chair or Vice Chair and the Treasurer for the sums borrowed plus interest at a rate to be agreed upon from time to time with CIBC or any other approved lender;
- 2. The interest charged on all sums borrowed pursuant to this Resolution plus any related charges, is not to exceed the interest that would be payable at the prime lending rate of the chartered banks listed in Schedule 1 of the Bank Act (Canada) on the date of borrowing;
- 3. The Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer is authorized and directed to apply in payment of all sums borrowed plus interest, all of the moneys collected or received in respect of the current revenues of the Board;
- 4. The Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer is authorized and directed to deliver to CIBC or any other approved lender from time to time upon request a statement showing (a) the total amount of unpaid previous borrowings of the Board for current expenditures together with debt charges, if any, and (b) the uncollected balance of the estimated revenues for the current year or, where the estimates have not been adopted, the estimated revenues of the previous year less any current revenue already collected.

We hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a Resolution of the Board in the Province of Ontario, duly passed at a meeting of the Board and that this Resolution is in force and effect.

DATED this 28th day of September, 2021.

Chair

Secretary

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

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Natasha Delaney (Vice-Chair)	Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter
Judy Kosmerly	Trustee
Shelly Laronde	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
Wendy Larouche (Chair)	Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
Julia Ritchie	CCR Parent Advisory/ Ontario Autism Coalition
Cereena Rows	FASD
Robert Silvestri	NOARC
Kerrie St. Jean	Trustee

Staff:

Nancy Cecchetto	Manager of Finance
Colleen McDonald	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Joanne Taillon	Special Education Consultant
Kathy Wachnuk	Superintendent

Regrets:

Other:

Doreen Dewar	Chair
Anita Gibson	Trustee

Absent:

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W.Larouche welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

N.Delaney read the mission statement aloud.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: N.Delaney

Seconded by: Trustee Kosmerly

That the amended agenda for the SEAC meeting of May 5, 2021 be approved.

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: N.Delaney

Seconded by: R.Silvestri

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of April 7, 2021 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

No business arising

8.0 New Business

Special Education Budget 2021-2022

Nancy Cecchetto, Manager of Finance, highlighted the changes and shared the proposed special education revenue and expenditures for 2021-2022.

Motion 3:

Moved by: Trustee Kosmerly

Seconded by: R.Silvestri

That the SEAC recommend the proposed 2021-2022 special education budget be approved by the Board.

Motion carried.

Special Education Staffing 2021-2022

Superintendent Wachnuk shared the proposed special education staffing for 2021-2022 and highlighted changes.

Motion 4:

Moved by: N.Delaney

Seconded by: R.Silvestri

That the SEAC recommend the proposed 2021-2022 special education staffing be approved by the Board.

Motion carried.

9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

None

10.0 Superintendent's Report

Summer Program Update:

At this time, we are unsure if our Summer Programs will be offered remotely or in-person.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that 22 students continue to receive in-person learning at Jean Hanson School, A.B.Ellis Public School and the Ruth MacMillan Centre. Parents are now required to complete and submit the daily COVID-19 screener via email or hard copy.

Special Education Consultants have facilitated over 70 Preschool Transition Meetings. This is an increase over past years.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared highlights of a Special Education and Mental Health vision for September 2022 at the Westmount school location. SEAC members are interested in a presentation at our June meeting.

On Tuesday May 4, the Ministry announced that Ontario Boards of Education will be providing both in-person and virtual learning for the 2021-2022 school year.

On May 19, our Aboriginal Support Workers will receive professional development pertaining to Identification Placement Review Committee (IPRC) meetings, Individual Education Plans (IEP) and Mental Health processes.

11.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal McDonald explained that secondary IPRC meetings are being held virtually again this year. On-line parent attendance is very good. These meetings include elementary and secondary staff members along with parent(s)/guardian(s).

Students may also attend.

Consultants/Coordinators are currently reviewing and updating special education bussing requests for students that require transportation accommodations.

Speech Language Pathologists continue to offer interventions to students virtually.

Arrangements have been made to allow our Psychology staff to complete in-person assessments.

Principal McDonald reassured the SEAC that presentations pertaining to Language and Math Interventions will be made at a later time.

12.0 Board Report

Trustee Kosmerly shared that the Board sent a letter to the government requesting that teachers and education staff be prioritized for both of their COVID-19 vaccinations so that they are fully vaccinated before the start of the new school year. The Board also issued a news release recognizing Laurentian University as an important partner in education. The Northern Region Ontario Public School Board Association has identified special needs as one of their four priorities and has requested information about successes and challenges from all Northern Boards. This information will be shared in a letter to all MPPs and to the Ministry of Education to raise awareness of the special concerns of Northern Boards with respect to Special Education. Trustee Kosmerly thanked Superintendent Wachnuk for her help in putting together our submission and acknowledged Director Blaseg's upcoming retirement.

13.0 Chairperson's Remarks

Lasalle, Lockerby, Manitoulin, and Sudbury Secondary School joined forces to create a multitrack recording of a piece called Through the Eye of the Storm. It is available for viewing at rainbowschools.ca. W.Larouche acknowledged that Director Blaseg will be missed and wishes him all the best in his upcoming retirement.

Chair Dewar added that Director Blaseg holds a very special place in special education. We are fortunate to have such an active advocate in special education. He will be missed.

14.0 Association Reports

Natasha Delaney: Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter

As of April 12, additional Foundational Family Services are available. More information can be found on the Autism Ontario website. This site continues to include lists and links to upcoming webinars, resources and services. It has also been updated with pictures of local families.

Shelly Laronde: N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

Part 3 of our Carnival activities included 21 families receiving curbside meal deliveries. Today, May 5 is Red Dress Day, a national day to bring attention to Indigenous women and girls who have gone missing or been murdered in the last three decades.

Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

The Learning Disabilities Association of Canada is hosting a virtual conference on May 28, 2021 entitled "Closing the COVID Gap: Supporting Literacy, Numeracy, and Social Emotional Learning for Students with Specific Learning Disorders". More information is available at <https://www.ldac-acta.ca/>.

The LDAO SEAC Circular will be shared with SEAC members via email.

Julia Ritchie: CCR Parent Advisory/ Ontario Autism Coalition

Six hundred children and youth from across the province who are registered in the Ontario Autism Program will be invited to participate in the soft launch of core clinical services. Once families have received their funding allocation, they will work directly with a clinician of their choice to develop treatment options and plans for their child/children. The feedback from families on their experience is to help the province evaluate and refine the delivery of the program. At this time, it is not known if northern kids/families were chosen. The challenge in the north may be in accessing the services.

15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

None

16.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- Westmount Vision presentation
- Reading Intervention (Lexia, Empower, LLI)

17.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday June 2, 2021 at noon.

18.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:29 PM.

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

Wednesday, June 2, 2021

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Natasha Delaney (Vice-Chair)	Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter
Judy Kosmerly	Trustee
Wendy Larouche (Chair)	Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
Robert Silvestri	NOARC

Staff:

Patrick Hopkin	Principal of Jean Hanson Public School
Mary Jago	Mental Health Lead
Brien Managhan	Behaviour Analysis Lead
Colleen McDonald	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Patricia Ross	Chief Psychologist
Joanne Taillon	Special Education Consultant
Kathy Wachnuk	Superintendent

Regrets:

Shelly Laronde	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
Julia Ritchie	CCR Parent Advisory/ Ontario Autism Coalition
Cereena Rows	FASD
Kerrie St. Jean	Trustee

Other:

Doreen Dewar	Chair of Rainbow District School Board
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Absent:

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W.Larouche welcomed everyone to the virtual SEAC meeting. A moment of silence was observed in honour of the 215 Indigenous children discovered buried on the grounds of a former residential school in Kamloops British Columbia.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was not established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

N.Delaney read the mission statement aloud.

4.0 Confilicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were noted.

5.0 Business Arising

No business arising

6.0 New Business

Special Education / Mental Health / ABA Presentation:

Superintendent Wachnuk, Mary Jago, Brien Managhan, Dr.Patricia Ross and Patrick Hopkin shared a power point presentation outlining the tentative plans and vision for the Westmount Avenue site in 2022. They elaborated on the possibility and benefits of amalgamating many of the current special education programs into one building and the possibility of adding new programs such as needed Mental Health Programs. A proposed floor plan layout was also shared to include current Rainbow programs along with new programs.

Regrets

Regrets were received from S.Laronde, C.Rows, J.Ritchie and Trustee St. Jean.

7.0 Superintendent's Report

June 11 is a School Based/Virtual Professional Development day. Elementary Educators will be working on assessment, evaluation and reporting. Credit Rescue will be the focus for Secondary Educators.

Public Health Sudbury & Districts is working with area school boards. COVID-19 vaccination clinics for students 12 and up and their caregivers are being set-up in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin. These clinics are part of the province-wide initiative to offer youth two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine before the start of the 2021-22 school year.

Some summer programs will run virtually (ex:Lexia IXL Math, Levelled Literacy

Intervention (LLI) while others will be in-person. Students participating in on-line summer learning may keep their technology over the summer. David Squarzolo has been hired as the Principal of Summer Programs.

Cohorting will be expected to continue in the new school year. We are hoping that integration for students in Intensive Support Programs (ISP) will be possible.

At 1pm today, Premier Doug Ford will announce if students will or will not return to in-person learning for the month of June.

8.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal McDonald shared that Special Education Consultants and Coordinators are currently involved in wrapping up the spring Identification Placement Review Committee (IPRC) meetings. They are also preparing for the final Admission Review Demission (ARD) meeting being held on June 15. On June 21, they will receive Behaviour Management System (BMS) trainer-recertification. They are also reviewing and revising the Special Education Plan. Psychological and Speech Language assessments along with parent meetings are on-going. The June Intake meetings will determine the new assessment candidates.

9.0 Board Report

Trustee Kosmerly congratulated SEAC Chair Wendy Larouche as the recipient of the RDSB Community Partnership Award. The search for a new Director of Education continues and the posting is available on the board website. Everyone is welcome to join tonight's free online presentation by crisis response expert Kevin Cameron.

10.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W.Larouche will be attending Kevin Cameron's Zoom presentation this evening. She also thanked all SEAC members for a great school year.

Chair Dewar is awaiting details of today's 1pm announcement from Premier Doug Ford.

11.0 Association Reports

Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

The Coaching Program will move forward and summer sessions will run.

12.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

May 26, 2021 letter to Minister of Education from the Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholics District School Board endorsing Bill 172 to require all boards of education in Ontario to develop policies and guidelines with respect to FASD.

13.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

-Reading Intervention (Lexia, Empower, LLI)

14.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held on Wednesday September 15, 2021 at noon.

15.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:12 PM.