

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

to be held in person and electronically via Google Meet
in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive
on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;">AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS</p>
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Land Acknowledgement

Roll Call

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Chair

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of April 18, 2023 be approved.

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

*Chair

C. PRESENTATIONS

*Chair

1. Science Fair – Superintendent Fisher
2. Math Intervention Tool – Superintendent Fisher
3. School Year Update – Director Bourget

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

*Director

E. OLD BUSINESS

*Chair

1. **Previous Minutes**

*Chair

Motion:

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 be approved.

2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**

*SBO

a) Motion:

That the Board award the contract for R. H. Murray Public School, renovations-tender #2023-05 to _____ for \$_____.00.

b) Motion:

That the Board award the contract for Confederation Secondary School, flex classroom renovations-tender #2023-07 to _____ for \$_____.00.

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

Motion:

That the new elementary school on the Lasalle campus be named Lasalle Elementary School.

F. **NEW BUSINESS** *Chair

1. **Ontario Public School Board Association Annual General Meeting** *Chair

Motion:

That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2023 OPSBA Annual General Meeting in Collingwood June 8-10, 2023.

2. **Ontario Student Trustee Association – Annual General Meeting** *Chair

Motion:

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Kuntsi, Student Trustee Trudeau and the 2 incoming Student Trustees at the 2023 OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting May 18-21, 2023 in Toronto.

3. **Requests for Leave of Absence** *Chair

Motion:

That _____ be granted a leave of absence from the April 18, 2023 Board meeting.

4. **Director's Remarks** *Director

5. **Other Items** *Chair

OPSBA Director
Student Trustee

6. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** *Chair

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

7. **Chairperson's Remarks** *Chair

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** *Chair

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Parent Involvement Committee minutes February 28, 2023 (official)
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes March 1, 2023 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

April 3, 2023 letter to Premier Ford and Ministers Lecce, Jones and Parsa RE:
Co-ordinated system-wide mental health services for children and youth.

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

*Chair

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee April 20, 2023 4:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting May 1, 2023 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting May 2, 2023 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee May 3, 2023 12:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee May 3, 2023 3:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee May 9, 2023 7:00 pm
First Nations Advisory Committee May 15, 2023 10:00 am
Board Meeting May 16, 2023 5:00 pm (@ Sudbury Secondary Library)
Board Awards May 16, 2023 6:30 pm (@ Sheridan Auditorium)

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

*Chair

Motion:

That we do now adjourn at p.m.

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held in person and electronically via Google Meet
and livestreamed from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: B. Clement (Chair) (via Google Meet), L. Corbiere-Addison,
L. Debassige (via Google Meet), D. Dewar (via Google Meet),
D. Farrow, A. Gibson (via Google Meet), J. Hunda (via Google Meet),
J. Kosmerly
Absent: D. Morrison, Student Trustee Kuntsi, Student Trustee Trudeau
Officials: B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board
A. Guilbault – Superintendent of Business
L. Fisher, J. Noble, K. Wachnuk - Superintendents
Staff: N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, T. Hayes, D. Kitching, N. Mousseau,
P. Potvin, S. Tastula, C. Ward, C. Whitson

Chair Clement advised that the meeting was being livestreamed and archived.

Chair Clement read a declaration of land acknowledgement aloud.

Director Bourget completed roll call to establish who was participating in the Google Meet.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 23-R55, A.Gibson/ J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of March 21, 2023 be approved, as amended, with the amendment being the removal of item E.2.a.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Lo Ellen Park - Cross Country Skiing - OFSAA

Principal Pam Potvin introduced Lo Ellen Park Secondary School's Cross Country Ski team coach Colin Ward and members of the team. Coach Ward spoke about the wonderful season the team had and their amazing experience at OFSAA. He expressed his appreciation to administrators, community partners, the school board and Dave Makela for their support in making this such a successful season.

Student members from both the Junior and Senior teams shared their thoughts and experiences from throughout the season.

Trustees congratulated both team members and coaches on the fantastic season.

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

Motion: 23-R56, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That motion #23-W18 RE: Cyril Varney Public School property matter, be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 23-R57, L.Debassige/A.Gibson

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals

Motion: 23-R58, D.Dewar/A.Gibson

That the Board award the contract for Northeastern Elementary School, interior renovations – tender #2023-06 to MTR Construction o/b 1211384 Ontario Inc. for \$384,400.00.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

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

Strategic Planning Committee

Board Governance By-Laws

Motion: 23-R59, A.Gibson/L.Corbriere-Addison

That the recommended changes as outlined in Governance By-Law 14: Electronic Meetings, as amended be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: Opposed
David Farrow: Opposed
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: Opposed
Judy Kosmerly: Opposed
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Defeated

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **TD Canada Trust Resolution**

Motion: 23-R60, J.Hunda/A.Gibson

That the TD Canada Trust Resolution as attached be deemed to have been read three times and be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

2. **Royal Bank of Canada Resolution**

Motion: 23-R61, D.Dewar/J.Kosmerly

That the Royal Bank of Canada Resolution as attached be deemed to have been read three times and be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

3. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 23-R62, L.Debassige/J.Hunda

That Trustee Morrison, Student Trustee Kuntsi and Student Trustee Trudeau be granted a leave of absence from the March 21, 2023 Board meeting.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

4. **Director's Remarks**

I hope that all students and staff enjoyed a well deserved March Break.

Elementary predicted enrolment was 8886 last year.
This year, we are predicting 9133 elementary students for this fall.

Secondary school predictions are due this week.
These predictions, as you know, inform our staffing levels.
Elementary and secondary staffing is underway for the 2023-2024 school year.

In preparation for staffing, I would like to announce the following administrative appointments.

Coleen Eberlein
Melissa Brandon
Ashleigh Conley-Cayer
Shelley Tamura
David Bertrim
Amanda Norquay-Burke

More information will come with this regard later this spring.

Eligibility Process Interviews and New Leaders Professional Learning

We continue to work on succession planning and the support of new administrative candidates.

I would like to thank our Human Resources department and our hiring teams for their tremendous efforts in recruiting employees for teaching positions and support roles.

Career Fair

Rainbow District School Board is hosting its first ever Career Fair on Saturday, April 1st, 2023. The event will take place at Lockerby Composite School from 9 am to 1 pm.

We invite prospective candidates to join us to learn about the many career opportunities in Rainbow Schools.

We are hiring for a variety of positions in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island and look forward to meeting everyone who is interested in possibly working with us.

Rainbow Schools offer rewarding careers working directly with students in the classroom or serving in a support role in the main office or overall school.

Human Resources staff and hiring Principals/Managers will be at the Career Fair to conduct interviews as well as share information, answer questions, and accept applications. If candidates meet the required qualifications for positions of interest, they may be offered an interview on the spot.

Candidates can also pre-book an interview by submitting their application to hr@rainbowschools.ca by this Friday, March 24, 2023. Candidates are asked to submit a cover letter specifying the position they are applying for as well as a copy of their résumé.

Résumés must outline education and experience, including documentation supporting educational qualifications (for example, a copy of the diploma or degree) as well as three professional references, including the current or most recent supervisor. Consent will be requested prior to checking references.

Here are the positions currently available and the qualifications required for each position:

Administrative Assistants

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (Grade 12) or equivalent and some post-secondary courses in an administrative field or equivalent experience

Cleaners

Ontario Secondary School Diploma (Grade 12) or equivalent

Designated Early Childhood Educators

Early Childhood Educator Diploma and Registration with the Ontario College of Early Childhood Educators

Educational Assistants

Post-secondary diploma or degree in a child or youth related program

Occasional Teachers (English and French as a Second Language)

Ontario College of Teachers Certificate or Temporary Ontario College of Teachers Certificate

All job postings are available online at rainbowschools.ca.

Some openings are for the Rainbow District School Board's casual pools to fill vacancies at various locations throughout the school year. Employees in casual pools can bid on permanent positions as they become available. Permanent positions come with a full benefits package, including a pension.

The Trades

The Ministry of Education made significant announcements related to the trades recently.

The Ministry is working to recognize up to 30 credits required to earn the Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) for individuals with a Certificate of Apprenticeship or equivalent.

Students in grade 11 will be able to transition to a full-time, skilled trades apprenticeship program. Upon receiving their Certificate of Apprenticeship, these young workers can apply for their Ontario Secondary School Diploma as mature students.

The government will begin consultations in fall 2023 with employers, unions, education stakeholders, trainers, parents, and others about ways to make it even easier for young people to enter a career in the trades. This includes the potential of lowering entry requirements for some of the 106 skilled trades that currently require a grade 12-level education.

Two days after this announcement, the Ministry announced that it is introducing a new Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) graduation requirement for students to earn a Grade 9 or 10 Technological Education credit, starting with the cohort of students entering Grade 9 in September 2024.

Students will be required to earn at least one credit from the Grade 9 or 10 courses in the Technological Education curriculum, which covers a broad range of sectors, including construction, transportation, manufacturing, computer technology, and communication.

A compulsory credit in Technological Education is intended to give students hands-on experience and early exposure to skilled trades and build on the learning in the recently revised elementary Science and Technology curriculum.

Board Awards

Rainbow District School Board will pay tribute to its dedicated employees and community partners with the presentation of Board Awards on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. The ceremony will begin at 6:30 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium at Sudbury Secondary school.

Awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Co-Curricular Program, Community Partnership Awards, the Go Green Globe Awards, Awards for Excellence, the Barbara Konarek Memorial Award and the William N. Roman Teacher of the Year Award will be presented. Employees with 25 and 35 years of service will also be recognized.

Retirement Dinner

The Board's Retirement Dinner will take place on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at the Caruso Club. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate our retirees.

We respect personal choice to attend or not to attend. It is completely understood that people will make the decision that is best for their own personal circumstances. And we will be happy to accommodate trustees, retirees and guests in any way that we can.

EQAO and OSSLT

Preparations continue for the upcoming EQAO and OSSLT assessments. Our staff and students are hard at work preparing for both. As you know, successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (or course) is a requirement for graduation.

Athletics

Our winter sport season has concluded, with tremendous successes, and our dedicated coaches and athletes are looking forward to spring sports. We would like to extend our congratulations to all participants and thank our dedicated coaches and supervisors who go above and beyond for our student athletes.

Student Senate

Our student senate continues to work hard in preparation for the student conference. Thank Jocelyn and Darcy for their leadership.

Graduations

Plans are already underway for in-person graduation ceremonies. We are compiling a list of dates and will reach out to trustees to confirm their attendance. As always, we want to ensure we have an elected trustee and/or a representative from the senior team at each graduation. This is the most rewarding time of the year as we watch students proudly come forward to accept the diploma they work so hard to achieve.

Tutors update

Ministry funding for tutors ends on March 31, 2023. This tutoring initiative, which began in April 2022, was a key component of the Ministry of Education's COVID-19 recovery plan for students, entitled "Ontario's Plan to Catch Up". The tutoring initiative was slated to end December 31, 2022, but was extended until March 31, 2023 in order to align with the end of the Ministry's fiscal reporting year. We would like to thank the many tutors who joined us for the past year and a half to support our students with reading, writing and math. We would also like to thank Principal of Program Dan Koziar, Principal of Student Success, Maureen McNamara, and the literacy and numeracy consultants and coordinators, who trained and mentored tutors to ensure high-quality supports. Students who required the additional support certainly benefited from this investment, ensuring they mastered foundational skills to continue to grow in their learning.

Thank you

I would like to thank our students, staff, parents and guardians for their hard work, patience and resilience. With only a few short months left in the school year, I encourage our students to work hard to prepare for success in June!!

I am going to borrow a page from the Chair and end my remarks with the message that greets visitors to Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School.... The signage at the entrance reads:

"If you can be anything, be kind."

5. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly shared the upcoming Northern Council zoom meeting will be on April 1st at 9:30 am, everyone is welcome to join. The next OPSBA Board of Directors meeting will be on April 28-29, 2023 in Toronto and the AGM will be on June 8-10, 2023 in Collingwood. Highlights of the last Board of Directors meeting were shared with Trustees by OPSBA with additional supplementary notes from Trustee Kosmerly. One item she shared from the most recent meeting was that the Ministry of Education was planning a consultation regarding electronic meetings and the recent legislation around them. No timeline has been provided as of yet.

A link was shared with trustees, regarding a position paper put out by the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health as back up to the below motion.

Motion: 23-R63, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the board write to the Premier of Ontario, and the Ministers of Education, Health, and Children, Community and Social Services to advocate for the implementation of the recommendations made by the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health in its

position paper, "Let's Put Our Heads Together 2022, Coordinating Our Efforts to Improve Mental Health and Well-Being for Ontario's Children and Youth".

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: Opposed
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

- Carried

Student Trustee - NIL

6. Trustees' Remarks/Questions

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

Trustee Kosmerly advised that March 21st is International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and shared a quote from Prime Minister Trudeau.

7. Chairperson's Remarks

I hope you all had a wonderful March Break.

REGISTER NOW!

As Director Bourget mentioned, we are in the midst of staffing our schools for September. There is still time to register by contacting your area Rainbow school. We staff based on predicted enrolment, so registering early really helps with planning for the upcoming school year. If you have already registered, thank you. We look forward to welcoming your child into Rainbow Schools this fall.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE

In February, staff and students were challenged to use less electricity. This month, spring has sprung and all schools have been invited to grow an indoor garden. This initiative is part of the Environmental Committee's ongoing efforts to encourage sustainable practices.

TECHNOLOGICAL SKILLS COMPETITION

Rainbow District School Board held its 16th annual Technological Skills Competition at Cambrian College on March 1st. Over 120 secondary school students tested their skills in a variety of skilled trades - from Coding to Photography to Welding. Students were vying for the opportunity to compete at the North East Qualifier on April 1st in North Bay or the Skills Ontario Competition on May 2nd and 3rd in Toronto. On behalf of the Board, I extend sincere congratulations to all participants, and wish them continued success.

BOARD SCIENCE FAIR

The Board's Elementary Science Fair took place on March 7th - where 28 projects from students in Grades 7 and 8 were selected to compete at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair at Laurentian University on April 1st and 2nd. Projects from the regional fair will be selected for the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Fredericton this May. Congratulations to all student competitors for letting your curiosity guide you. Best of luck to all participants.

FREE TO BE ME

Rainbow District School Board has been presenting Embrace Diversity: Free to Be Me (formerly known as Dare to Stand Out) since 2009. The educational conference is the ongoing work of the Equity and Inclusive Education Committee which includes community partners. The full-day symposium will offer workshops for students in Grades 7 and 8 on March 30, 2023 and students in Grades 9 to 12 on April 27, 2023.

Free to Be Me is all about listening to and honouring student voice. Staff members reach out to the GSAs from all Rainbow secondary schools to seek input on topics of interest to them.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Parent Involvement Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 11th at 7 pm. The topic will be Student Census Data.

FIGHT AGAINST CANCER GALA

Sudbury Secondary School will host its third Fight Against Cancer Gala on Friday, April 21, 2023 to raise funds for the Northern Cancer Centre through Angels in Pink. The gala, featuring dinner, entertainment and a silent auction, will be held in the lower hall at the Caruso Club, 385 Haig Street in Sudbury. Doors for the gala will open at 5:30 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30 pm with entertainment presented by Sudbury Secondary School students, alumni and community members. Dinner will be followed by music to dance the night away.

COMMUNITY CONCERT

We are celebrating the return of music in Rainbow Schools on Saturday, April 29, 2023. Local performers will join music students, teachers and graduates of Rainbow Schools to mark the 15th Anniversary of the Joan Mantle Music Trust during a gala Community Concert and Silent Auction. The concert will begin at 7 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium of Sudbury Secondary School. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students with proceeds going to music education in Rainbow Schools. Doors will open at 6:15 pm for a Silent Auction. Tickets are now on sale. Visit rainbowschools.ca for details.

DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

This month was packed with many days of significance. Stay up-to-date by visiting the Board's Facebook page.

EASTER HOLIDAY

Just a friendly reminder that schools will be closed on April 7 for Good Friday and April 10 for Easter Monday.

This evening's quote builds on what the director said at the end of his remarks.

One of my favourite actors, Morgan Freeman, once said:
"How do we change the world? One random act of kindness at a time."

Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

Parent Involvement Committee minutes January 17, 2023 (official)

Special Education Advisory Committee minutes February 1, 2023 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**
Elementary and Secondary Graduation dates

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee March 23, 2023 4:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting April 3, 2023 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting April 4, 2023 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee April 5, 2023 12:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee April 11, 2023 7:00 pm
Board Meeting April 18, 2023 5:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 23-R64, D.Dewar
That we do now adjourn at 6:06 p.m. - **Carried**

UNOFFICIAL



AGM and Program

2023 AGM and Program

SAVE THE DATE: June 8–10, 2023, Blue Mountain, Collingwood

Registration and program information will be available in April, 2023.

The AGM kicks-off on Thursday, June 8 with an evening Welcome Reception and continues Friday, June 9 and Saturday, June 10. The AGM will conclude Saturday night after the President's Dinner.

We encourage all attendees to book their hotel stay early: Book your hotel stay by visiting <https://bmrbooking.bluemountain.ca/> and enter the group code GB00005710 or call 1-833-583-2583 and quote "group code GB00005710". Blue Mountain is holding rooms for OPSBA until May 8, 2023 (or until our room block is sold-out).

For more information:

Kendra Tedford Devine, 416-340-2540

or [Email OPSBA](#)

Important Documents for the AGM:

[Constitution and By-Law Submission Guideline](#)

[Policy Resolution Submission Guideline](#)

[OPSBA Guide to Roles and Responsibilities](#)

[Candidates Election Guide](#)

For more information:

Lisa Reinhardt, Director of Corporate Affairs, 416-340-2540

or [Email OPSBA](#)

You're going to this event! [View your order.](#)



May 18



OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting 2023

OSTA-AECO's 2023 AGM is a professional development conference for incoming and outgoing student trustees in the province of Ontario.

By OSTA-AECO



Follow

When and where



Date and time

Thu, May 18, 2023 4:00 PM - Sun, May 21, 2023 4:00 PM EDT



Location

Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel 123 Queen Street West Toronto, ON M5H 2M9

Show map

\$0 - \$706.25

Get tickets

About this event

 3 days

 Mobile eTicket

Welcome to OSTA-AECO's Annual General Meeting! We are excited to host you in beautiful downtown Toronto.

OSTA-AECO's AGM provides an opportunity for student trustees to gain experience and enhance their skillset through professional development sessions. With engaging keynote speakers, thought-provoking discussions, and the opportunity to network with like-minded individuals from across the province, outgoing student trustees will leave the conference better-equipped to maximize the remaining time left in their terms and prepare for life after high school. Incoming student trustees will be equipped to start their terms on a strong note.

On behalf of OSTA-AECO, we would like to thank you for your ongoing support, and for continuing to amplify student voice throughout your board. We look forward to connecting with your student trustees in Toronto this May.

Conference schedule

We have started to reveal our conference schedule! [Check it out here](#). Keep your eyes peeled – more details will be made available as we get closer to the conference.

Accommodations

We are changing our hotel booking process for conferences.

Hotel rooms are no longer being booked by OSTA-AECO. You, the school board, are responsible for booking hotel rooms for your attendees. We have secured a group rate for our conference attendees—you can book rooms online by [visiting this link](#). For supervision purposes, conference attendees are strongly encouraged to stay at the conference hotel. We only reserve a limited number of rooms per conference. Please be aware that room bookings are first come, first served, and we recommend that school boards coordinate with one another to arrange room-sharing for attendees where possible.

Hotel rooms must be booked independently from your ticket purchases here. Hotel rates are subject to increase closer to the event date.

[Book your group rate for OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting 2023](#)

Conference code of conduct

All attendees, speakers, sponsors, chaperones, and volunteers at our conference are required to agree with the following code of conduct. Organizers will enforce this code throughout the event. We expect cooperation from all participants to help ensure a safe environment for everybody.

The quick version

Our conference is dedicated to providing a harassment-free conference experience for everyone, regardless of gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, religion, or

\$0 - \$706.25

orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, religion (or lack thereof), technology choices, or any grounds protected by the *Ontario Human Rights Code*. We do not tolerate harassment of conference participants in any form. Sexual language and imagery is not appropriate for any conference venue, including talks, workshops, parties, Twitter, and other online media. Conference participants violating these rules may be sanctioned or expelled from the conference without a refund at the discretion of the conference organizers.

If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact a member of the conference team immediately. We expect participants to adhere to the code of conduct as well as federal and provincial laws at all conference venues and conference-related social events.

The less-quick version

Harassment includes offensive verbal comments related to gender, gender identity and expression, age, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, body size, race, ethnicity, religion (or lack thereof), technology choices, sexual images in public spaces, deliberate intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, sustained disruption of talks or other events, inappropriate physical contact, and unwelcome sexual attention. Harassment also includes comments and behaviour predicated on any grounds protected by the *Ontario Human Rights Code*.

Participants asked to stop any harassing behaviour are expected to comply immediately.

Sponsors are also subject to the anti-harassment policy. In particular, sponsors should not use sexualized images, activities, or other material. Booth staff (including volunteers) should not use sexualized clothing/uniforms/costumes, or otherwise create a sexualized environment.

If a participant engages in harassing behaviour, the conference organizers may take any action they deem appropriate, including warning the offender or expulsion from the conference with no refund.

If you are being harassed, notice that someone else is being harassed, or have any other concerns, please contact the conference organizers immediately. Conference organizers can be identified as they'll be wearing branded clothing and/or badges. Conference attendees can and should also reach out using the Conference Supervision Line. The number is located on the back of all conference nametags.

Conference organizers will be happy to help participants contact hotel/venue security or local law enforcement, provide escorts, or otherwise assist those experiencing harassment to feel safe for the duration of the conference. We value your attendance.

We expect participants to adhere to these rules as well as federal and provincial laws at all conference venues and conference-related social events.

Well-being at conferences

Supervision

We are committed to the well-being of all attendees at our conferences. During our events, we designate two conference organizers of different genders to be on-site 24/7 on a rotating basis.

\$0 - \$706.25

Every night, attendees under the age of 18 are expected to check in with conference organizers between 22:00 and 00:00. By checking in, attendees are attesting that they are no longer leaving the hotel for the remainder of the night. In the event that an attendee has not completed check-in, the attendee will be contacted via the mobile number provided during registration. If we are unable to reach the attendee directly, conference organizers will contact the attendee's parent/guardian and Director of Education using the contact information provided during registration.

Printed on all attendee nametags is the number for our Conference Supervision Line, which is monitored 24/7 during the conference.

School boards are welcome to send chaperones if they choose. If you would like to chaperone your attendees, please ensure to add a **Chaperone** ticket to your order. Attendees who are accompanied by a chaperone will not be expected to check in with conference organizers each night.

Attendees aged 18+ who verify their age with conference organizers upon their arrival can opt out of nightly check-in procedures.

Mental well-being

During conference hours, conference attendees are able to access a mental health counsellor who can assist with any mental well-being needs.

Additionally, printed on all attendee nametags is a list of mental health resources, including crisis lines, that conference attendees can access.

Spiritual well-being for Indigenous attendees

Beginning with this conference, conference attendees will be able to confer with a mental health worker who specializes in Indigenous communities in the event that they wish to access more culturally-aligned well-being resources or guidance.

Frequently asked questions

Is there parking at the hotel?



What's included in my conference registration fee?



What is your refund policy?



Why isn't OSTA booking hotel rooms anymore?



\$0 - \$706.25

OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting 2023

- Catholic Education Incoming Student Trustees Meals Outgoing Student Trustees Plenary
- Public Education Unscheduled

MAY 18 • THURSDAY

PINNED 6:00pm – 8:00pm	U Conference Registration	Registration Desk – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
8:00pm – 9:00pm	U Welcome to AGM 2023! <i>Speakers: Tabarak Al-Delaimi</i>	Registration Desk – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
PINNED 10:00pm – 12:00am	U Nightly Check-In	Registration Desk – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)

- Catholic Education
 Incoming Student Trustees
 Meals
 Outgoing Student Trustees
 Plenary
 Public Education
 Unscheduled

MAY 19 • FRIDAY

8:00am – 8:45am	M	Breakfast	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
8:45am – 9:15am	P	Opening Ceremonies <i>Speakers: Tabarak Al-Delaimi, Declan Amaral</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
9:15am – 9:45am	P	OSTA-AECO: A Year in Review <i>Speakers: Stephanie De Castro, Tiya Patel, Katie Bowie</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
9:45am – 10:30am	P	Keynote Address - Understanding Public Education and Education Policy with Dr. Sue Winton <i>Speakers: Dr. Sue Winton, PhD</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
10:30am – 10:45am	U	Networking Break	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
10:45am – 11:10am	I	Student Trustee Media and Public Affairs Training <i>Speakers: Naomi Musa, Lindsey Keene</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
10:45am – 11:30am	O	Life After OSTA: Applying your student trustee skills to post-secondary life <i>Speakers: TBA</i>	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
11:10am – 11:40am	I	Boardroom Etiquette <i>Speakers: Katie Bowie</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
11:30am – 12:00pm	O	Résumé and Career Workshop <i>Speakers: TBA</i>	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
11:40am – 12:00pm	I	Connecting With Your Constituents <i>Speakers: Declan Amaral</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
12:00pm – 12:45pm	M	Lunch	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
12:45pm – 1:15pm	P	Introduction to Working Groups	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
1:15pm – 1:35pm	P	French Relations: A Report on Student-Led French Tutoring <i>Speakers: Olivia Heihn, Weiqi Xu</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
1:35pm – 1:55pm	P	Climate Action at the Board Level <i>Speakers: Jocelyn Kuntsi, Ari Chua</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
1:55pm – 2:10pm	U	Networking Break	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
2:10pm – 2:30pm	P	Equity and Inclusion Workshop - TBA <i>Speakers: Sophie Nwaoha, Ethan Ruggiero</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
2:30pm – 3:00pm	I	Introduction to Catholic Education <i>Speakers: Stephanie De Castro, Katie Bowie</i>	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
2:30pm – 3:00pm	I	Introduction to Public Education: A guide to being a public student trustee <i>Speakers: Tiya Patel</i>	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
3:00pm – 3:30pm	O	CPCO Survey + Catholic Education: A year in review <i>Speakers: Stephanie De Castro, Katie Bowie</i>	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
3:00pm – 3:30pm	O	Outgoing Public Student Trustee Programming - TBA <i>Speakers: Tiya Patel</i>	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
3:30pm – 3:45pm	U	Networking Break	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)

3:45pm – 4:45pm	P	Introduction to OSTA Elections & Appointments <i>Speakers: Declan Amaral</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
4:45pm – 5:00pm	P	Day 1 Wrap-up <i>Speakers: Tabarak Al-Delaimi</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
7:00pm – 10:00pm	U	OSTA Prom Night	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
PINNED 10:00pm – 12:00am	U	Nightly Check-in	Registration Desk – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)

MAY 20 • SATURDAY

9:00am – 9:45am	M	Breakfast	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
9:45am – 10:00am	P	Day 2 Welcome + Housekeeping <i>Speakers: Tabarak Al-Delaimi</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
10:00am – 11:00am	P	Roundtable discussions: Sharing Best Practices from One Term to the Next	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
11:00am – 12:00pm	P	Guest Speaker - TBA <i>Speakers: TBA</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
12:00pm – 12:45pm	M	Lunch	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
12:45pm – 1:15pm	P	OSTA Financial Update <i>Speakers: Kira Petriello</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
1:15pm – 2:15pm	C	Acts of Service in Catholic Education <i>Speakers: Stephanie De Castro, Katie Bowie</i>	Pine – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
1:15pm – 2:15pm	P	Indigenous Student Trustee Exec Appointment	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
1:15pm – 2:15pm	B	Reflection and Discussion: Transitioning into and out of the role <i>Speakers: Tiya Patel</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
2:15pm – 2:30pm	U	Networking Break	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
2:30pm – 5:00pm	P	OSTA-AECO Executive Council Elections	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
5:00pm – 5:15pm	P	Day 2 Wrap-up & Closing Remarks <i>Speakers: Tabarak Al-Delaimi</i>	Birchwood – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
PINNED 10:00pm – 12:00am	U	Nightly Check-in	Registration Desk – Level M (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)

MAY 21 • SUNDAY

9:00am – 11:00am	U	Catholic Board Council Mass	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
9:00am – 11:00am	U	Public Board Council Breakfast	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)
11:00am – 12:00pm	U	Hotel Checkout and Departure	TBA (123 Queen St. W., Toronto, ON M5H 2M9)

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7 pm
Via Google Meet

Attendance

Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Angelina Kasunich, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Shannon Ketchabaw, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School; Jessica Newell Tremblay, Parent, Copper Cliff Public School; Meredith Coulas, ETFO rep; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Steffany Bourque, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Denis Plouffe, Community Member, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Tricia Hatfield, Parent, Churchill Public School; Jolene Benoit, Parent, Churchill Public School; Marisa Julian, Parent, R.H. Murray Public School; Misty-Lee Carlson and Derick Carlson, Parents, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School Elementary Program; Trustee Doreen Dewar; Katrina Nadeau, Vice-Principal, Redwood Acres Public School; Eric Bacon, Computers in Education Coordinator, Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Regrets: Trustee Dena Morrison and Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Lasalle Secondary School

Call to Order: 7 pm

1. Welcome

Chair Shannon Ketchabaw welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Self-Introductions

The Chair invited participants to introduce themselves.

3. Technology and Digital Citizenship

Presenter: Eric Bacon, Computers in Education Coordinator

Eric Bacon, a member of the Board's 21C Committee, provided an overview of how applications are vetted for use in the classroom and protections for digital learning. 21st Century competencies include Critical Thinking and Problem Solving; Innovation, Creativity and Entrepreneurship; Learning to Learn/Self-Aware and Self-Directed Learning; Collaboration; Communication and Global Citizenship.

When deciding whether to use digital tools, educators consider the SAMR Model. This model describes the various stages at which technology is integrated into the classroom. Substitution is when students submit work electronically. Augmentation is when traditional pen and paper assignments are replaced with online tasks. Modification is when technology allows educators to redesign tasks in ways that aren't possible with pen and paper. Redefinition sees technology used for the creation of new learning tasks which were not previously available.

In 2020, the Education Computing Network of Ontario created a service for Vetting Applications based on Security and Privacy (VASP). If an application is pedagogically relevant and technologically compatible, the board will submit a request to have it reviewed. School boards receive risk reports, including a board report and an educator report. Ways to reduce risk are also recommended, as required. The Board maintains an online Product Catalogue with all of the digital tool reviews. With the new process for vetting applications centralized, we benefit from the requests made by school boards from across the province.

Parents/guardians are informed of apps their children could be using in the classroom through a Consent Form for the Use of Software. Resources are shared with students, including posters and videos, to help them understand what is expected from a good digital citizen and how to be safe online. There is also professional learning for staff. Education on digital citizenship and online security takes place throughout the school year.

The presentation can be accessed online at:
<https://www.rainbowschools.ca/parents/parent-involvement-committee/>

4. Discussion based on presentation

Chair Shannon Ketchabaw thanked Eric Bacon and said parents appreciate what the Board is doing to keep students safe. She invited PIC members to ask questions. Parents said the presentation was very informative.

5. Approval of Agenda

"That the agenda for the meeting on February 28, 2023 be approved."

Moved by: Angelina Kasunich, Lockerby Composite School

Seconded by: Steffany Bourque, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Carried

6. Approval of Minutes

"That the minutes for the meeting on January 17, 2023 be approved."

Moved by: Angelina Kasunich, Lockerby Composite School
Seconded by: Jessica Newell Tremblay, Copper Cliff Public School
Carried

7. Communications Report

Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor of Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning, delivered the following communications report:

Dare to Care

A total of 12 Rainbow Schools are piloting the Dare to Care bullying prevention program in the 2022-2023 school year. With modules for students, professional learning for staff, and resources for parents/guardians, Dare to Care engages the entire school community to work towards a common goal – transforming the silent majority into the caring majority.

Students learn to understand the difference between a mean moment, normal conflict and bullying. They also learn a shared language around discrimination, racism and cyberbullying. In the older grades, students are introduced to the effects of bullying on mental health, sexual harassment and cyberbullying, and bullying and the law. Students gain skills to de-escalate situations and more effectively report incidents of bullying.

Environmental Challenge

This month, staff and students were challenged to use less electricity. This initiative is part of the Environmental Committee's ongoing efforts to encourage sustainable practices. In March, all schools will be challenged to grow an indoor garden.

Technological Skills Competition

On Wednesday, March 1st, approximately 100 students from Grades 9 to 12 in Rainbow Schools will test their skills in various trades - from carpentry to small-powered equipment to coding. Competitions will take place at Cambrian College and the Carpenter's Union training hall in Azilda. There is a greater emphasis on the trades given the high demand in all sectors.

Special Education Input

A reminder that Friday, March 3rd is the deadline for parents/guardians of students with exceptionalities to provide input into the 2023-2024 Special Education Plan. A link to the survey is available on the board's website.

Elementary Science Fair

The Rainbow District School Board Elementary Science Fair will be held on Tuesday, March 7, 2023. Approximately 54 projects from students in Grade 7 and 8 will be featured at the fair, which takes place at Lockerby Composite School. The public is welcome to view the projects in the Lockerby gym from 12 pm to 1 pm. The awards ceremony will take place in the auditorium at 1:30 pm. Judges and community professionals with a science and/or engineering background will select 28 projects to compete at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair being held at Laurentian University's Alumni Hall on April 1 and 2, 2023.

Board Instructional Holiday

A board-wide instructional holiday will take place on Friday, March 10th. There will be no school for students.

Mid-Winter Break

A friendly reminder that schools are also closed for the Mid-Winter Break from March 13th to 17th.

Career Fair

Rainbow District School Board is hosting its first ever Career Fair on Saturday, April 1st, 2023. The event will take place at Lockerby Composite School from 9 am to 1 pm. Prospective candidates can participate in the Career Fair in two ways - submitting an application in advance to pre-book an interview or dropping off a résumé on site to possibly secure an interview the day of the fair. If you know anyone who may be interested in work with the Board, please share this information with them.

Community Concert

We are celebrating the return of music in Rainbow Schools on Saturday, April 29, 2023. Local performers will join music students, teachers and graduates of Rainbow Schools to mark the 15th Anniversary of the Joan Mantle Music Trust during a gala Community Concert. The concert will begin at 7 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium of Sudbury Secondary School. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for students with proceeds going to music education in Rainbow Schools. Doors will open at 6 pm for a Silent Auction.

Reminder to Register

For those who were unable to attend Information Nights in Rainbow Schools, there is still time to register. Planning has begun for the fall so we encourage everyone to register as soon as possible.

For more information about what's happening in Rainbow Schools, please visit rainbowschools.ca.

9. School Announcements

Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School said students in the Special High Skills Majors participated in a field trip to Science North and a concussion awareness presentation. She highlighted success in sports including curling, basketball, nordic skiing and wrestling where students captured gold at NOSSA. Let's Dance is taking place on Thursday, March 2, 2023 at 7 pm. Sudbury Secondary School's Headstrong Committee received a \$2,000 donation from Desjardins. The Pirates of Penzance was a tremendous success. Elementary schools attended the performance which was also open to the public.

Jolene Benoit of Churchill Public School said the PRO grant will be used to host a Family Zumba Night during Education Week in early May. The library and music room are up and running and construction is now complete. The school celebrated Black History Month with a special presentation by alumnus Robert Esmie. He spoke about his determination to participate in the Olympics, including overcoming challenges.

Steffany Bourque of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School said JK to Grade 12 students participated in a talent show. Students enjoyed a ski trip to Mount St. Louis. CVDCS has hosted tournaments, including volleyball and floor hockey. Leadership students helped to organize the Levack Winter Carnival and are now hosting a carnival for students in Kindergarten to Grade 6. A Think Trades evening is being planned. She praised Principal Danielle Williamson for leading the school to renewal. CVDCS will welcome a new Principal on March 6th as Danielle Williamson assumes a system leadership role.

Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School highlighted a number of success stories from the school newsletter, including learning in Indigenous architecture, a mural of Cree heritage, the Pow Wow at Cambrian College, DNA extraction in biology, lab work on microorganisms, even a science experiment on bubble gum. Grade 9 and 10 students participated in Lexia Rapid Assessments for reading and readiness. Graduates are looking forward to a Spring Equinox Ball on March 30th. From skiing to basketball, snowboarding, swimming and curling, students are keeping active. She invited everyone to lockerby.rainbowschools.ca to access the Virtual Open House website. Lockerby also has a "Viking for a Day" shadow program.

Marissa Julian of R.H. Murray Public School said the community has experienced significant growth in the last five years, resulting in an increase in enrolment. She is pleased that the Board is investing in the school. All space is being used to maximize student learning, including Ojibwe. Students are active with volleyball, x-country skiing, art club, choir practice and other activities. Robotics and coding resources were purchased with the Northern Rural School Grant. The school has partnered with Atikameksheng Anishnawbek First Nation to plan a Pow Wow. Everyone is welcome.

Jessica Newell Tremblay of Copper Cliff Public School said the school is expanding with more community involvement and student engagement. She highlighted a Family Skate and the local arena as well as visits to the Lancer Dome. Grade 7 and 8 students went skiing at Adanac. Primary students made Valentine Cards for local seniors. They also built snow sculptures on the grounds of residences for seniors to enjoy. The entire school received Sudbury Five tickets for Family Day. Knitting and crocheting clubs are underway. New activities are being added to include as many students as possible.

Shannon Ketchabaw of A.B. Ellis Public School said students enjoyed a ski trip to Searchmont. A PJ and Pancake Day was held leading up to Family Day. The musical Peter Pandemonium is being presented on Thursday, March 2, 2023 in the afternoon for students and the evening for families. She highlighted a public speaking competition and basketball tournament. She added that Indigenous artist Michael Cywink and apprentice Gerry Ranger worked with students to produce a mural at the school. Each panel represents a Seven Grandfather Teaching - with an additional three panels added for Community, Resilience and Equity - the values adopted by the Board.

Trustee Doreen Dewar said she enjoyed hearing about the wonderful things happening in schools and thanked parents/guardians for their support.

Adjournment at 7:57 pm

"That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Angelina Kasunich, Lockerby Composite School

Seconded by: Jolene Benoit, Churchill Public School

Carried

Next meeting:

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 7 pm - Via Google Meet

Topic: Student Census Data

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

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Lauri Christison	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Lisa Corbiere-Addison	Trustee
Crystal Corbiere	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
Natasha Delaney	Member at Large
Sara Kitlar-Pothier	Ontario Autism Coalition
Judy Kosmerly	Trustee
Wendy Larouche	Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
Stephanie Roussy	Children's Community Network
Robert Silvestri	Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre

Staff:

Gillian Cacciotti	Special Education Coordinator
Colleen McDonald	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Kathy Wachnuk	Superintendent

Other:

Doreen Dewar	Trustee
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Regrets:

Jennifer Way	March of Dimes Canada
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Absent:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
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1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W. Larouche welcomed SEAC members and guests to the March 1, 2023 meeting.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

R. Silvestri read the mission statement aloud.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: J. Kosmerley

Seconded by: L. Corbiere-Addison

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of March 1, 2023 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: R. Silvestri

Seconded by: J. Kosmerley

That the amended minutes of the SEAC meeting of February 1, 2023 be approved.

Motion carried.

8.0 Business Arising

No business arising from the February 1, 2023 SEAC meeting.

9.0 New Business

W. Larouche provided the SEAC Orientation for the new SEAC Committee.

10.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

J. Way requested a leave of absence from the March 1, 2023 SEAC meeting.

Moved by: L. Christison

Seconded by: J. Kosmerley

11.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wachnuk reported that staffing for the 2023-2024 school year is now underway.

Superintendent Wachnuk reiterated that Principal McDonald will be retiring at the end of this school year. The new Principal of Special Education Programs and Services will be Danielle Williamson. Danielle will be starting in her new role March 6, 2023 and will work alongside Principal McDonald in order to start preparing for next school year.

Superintendent Wachnuk reported that negotiations are beginning in late March with OPSEU, the union that represents our Educational Assistants.

Superintendent Wachnuk provided information on special education funding. There are six pockets of funding for students with special education needs at the Rainbow District School Board: Special Incidence Portion (SIP) funding, Special Equipment Amount (SEA) funding, Pupil Foundation Grant funding, Differentiated Need funding, Northern Support Adjustment Category funding and Partnership Priority Funding (PPF).

The Manager of Finance and Superintendent of Business will be joining the SEAC meeting on May 3, 2023 to provide a financial report related to the special education funding budget for the 2023-2024 school year.

12.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal McDonald shared that the NEO Kids Diagnostic Hub is taking over the diagnosing of children with Autism from Child and Community Resources (CCR).

As of March 1 CCR will no longer be accepting referrals for Autism diagnostic assessments (ADOS). Referrals for Autism diagnostics will now take place via the Ocean eReferral Network through NEO Kids. Some pediatricians will now be able to make diagnoses for Autism through a checklist that incorporates the DSM-V criteria. The Ocean eReferral Network will now also encompass a referral system for occupational therapy and physical therapy.

Principal McDonald provided an update on preschool transition meetings. We have begun preschool transition meetings for the 2023-2024 school year. We currently have 95 referrals for preschool transition meetings for incoming students with complex needs.

Principal McDonald shared that the Spring Identification Placement and Review Committee (IPRC) meetings will be taking place in May and June for students moving from grade 8 to 9 in our board. These IPRCs will take place at the incoming secondary school. The Transition Facilitator will also be supporting these transition meetings.

Principal McDonald provided an update about RISE, our new Individual Education Plan (IEP) platform. Special Education Coordinators are providing daily training opportunities for school staff at the elementary and secondary levels.

Principal McDonald welcomed Danielle Williamson as the next Principal of Special Education Programs and Services.

13.0 Board Report

Trustee Kosmerly shared information from the February Board Meeting. Trustees received a “Dare to Care” presentation about an anti-bullying program that is being provided at 12 of our schools. Director Bourget confirmed that our board will continue to offer remote learning for one additional year. Cecil Facer will no longer be a facility for youth within two years. They will continue to provide school courses during the next school year (2023-2024).

Trustee Kosmerley shared information on the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health document entitled “Let’s Put Our Heads Together”. The document outlines 12 recommendations to coordinate efforts to improve mental health and wellbeing for Ontario’s children and youth. They are advocating for increased funding for tier 3 and 4 children requiring mental health services in the

community. Trustee Kosmerley will be putting forward a motion at the next Board Meeting to write a letter in support of this initiative.

14.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W. Larouche thanked everyone for participating in today's SEAC meeting.

15.0 Association Reports

NOARC

Registration is now open for the Accessible College Transition Course (ACT) that will be running again this year. ACT is a credit-bearing course for students with learning exceptionalities preparing for college or university.

Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

LDAS will be hosting their virtual Awards Dinner on April 5, 2023. The virtual event will include a silent auction. Nomination forms are now available and will be shared via email.

LDAS will be participating in a virtual conference in May 2023 alongside other learning disabilities associations from southern Ontario.

Ontario Autism Coalition

Members met with Northern MPPs to discuss barriers to accessing Autism services in Northern Ontario.

March 6, 2023 is Lobby Day for OAC at Queen's Park. They are hoping to meet with multiple MPP's on that day to discuss how to get additional support for students with special needs in our school boards.

Child and Community Resources

Stephanie Roussy is the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Consultant for Child and Community Resources (CCR). She can provide support to families for children with suspected or confirmed FASD.

Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury

March 21 is International Down Syndrome Awareness Day. This year it will be hosted at the United Nations in New York City. SEAC Members are encouraged to wear mismatched socks on that day in support of the cause.

DSAS will now be providing local member spotlights via social media. They are now accessible on Instagram and Facebook platforms.

16.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

There was no new correspondence addressed to SEAC to share with the committee.

17.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- Alternative and provincial report cards (April 5, 2023 SEAC meeting)

18.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on April 5, 2023 at noon.

19.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:28 PM.



Centre for Education

408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 1P2 | Tel: 705.674.3171 | Toll Free: 1.888.421.2661 | rainbowschools.ca

April 3, 2023

Honourable Doug Ford
Premier's Office
Room 281
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Honourable Stephen Lecce
Ministry of Education
5th Floor
438 University Ave.
Toronto, ON M5G 2K8

Honourable Sylvia Jones
Ministry of Health
5th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 1Z8

Honourable Michael Parsa
Ministry of Children, Community and Social Services
17th Floor
777 Bay St.
Toronto, ON M7A 2J3

**RE: CO-ORDINATED SYSTEM-WIDE MENTAL HEALTH
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Dear Honourable Premier Doug Ford and Ministers Lecce, Jones and Parsa:

At its regular meeting on March 21, 2023, Rainbow District School Board approved the following:

Motion: 23-R63, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the board write to the Premier of Ontario, and the Ministers of Education, Health, and Children, Community and Social Services to advocate for the implementation of the recommendations made by the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health in its position paper, "Let's Put Our Heads Together 2022, Coordinating Our Efforts to Improve Mental Health and Well-Being for Ontario's Children and Youth". CARRIED

In approving this motion, the Trustees of Rainbow District School Board are supporting the Ontario Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health in its efforts to advocate for coordinated system-wide mental health services for children and youth.

A long-term collaboration between ministries has been needed for a very long long time.

Led by the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA), the Coalition is made up of 39 associations representing the fields of health, justice, education, and community and social services. Members work in partnership to promote integrated public policy on child and youth mental health in Ontario.

Data in the position paper "*Let's Put Our Heads Together: Coordinating our Efforts to Improve Mental Health and Well Being for Ontario's Children and Youth*" confirms that the need for mental health services for children and youth has more than doubled over the past 30 years. Emergency and hospital service usage by young people for mental health and addiction problems has increased significantly since the start of the pandemic.

The report acknowledges that good work has been done to address the needs, especially in schools. But schools are just one part of the System of Care Approach for children's mental health. Teachers are not trained to be mental health clinicians, nor should they be.

In the position paper, the Coalition makes nine recommendations under three headings: service coordination; equity; and mental health promotion, prevention, and early identification. These recommendations, if implemented, would result in a timely, equitable, coordinated and integrated approach to mental health services for children and youth.

Coalition members have met with the Ministries of Health, Education and Children, Community and Social Services to present the position paper, and advocate for the advancement of the recommendations.

Rainbow District School Board is now joining its voice with others to respectfully request that the Province of Ontario take immediate action to ensure children and youth have the mental health services they need and deserve.

Well-being is fundamental to student achievement. Making mental health a priority will ensure that students are ready and able to reach their full potential.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Clement', written in a cursive style.

Bob Clement
Chair