

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, September 26, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS

Land Acknowledgement

The Rainbow District School Board would like to acknowledge that we are on the traditional and ancestral territory of the Anishnaabek including Atikameksheng Anishnaabeg and Wahnapiatae Nations.

We would like to acknowledge that we are situated within the Robinson - Huron Treaty of 1850 and want to recognize the inherent rights of the Anishinaabek that maintained these lands from time immemorial.

Roll Call

- | | | |
|-----------|---|-----------|
| A. | <u>APPROVAL OF AGENDA</u> | *Chair |
| | <u>Motion:</u>
That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of September 26, 2023 be approved. | |
| B. | <u>PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</u> | *Chair |
| C. | <u>PRESENTATIONS</u> | *Chair |
| | <u>Summer Programs for Students</u> – Superintendents Fisher, McNamara & Wachnuk | |
| D. | <u>REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD</u> | *Director |
| E. | <u>OLD BUSINESS</u> | *Chair |
| 1. | <u>Previous Minutes</u> | *Chair |
| | <u>Motion:</u>
That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, August 29, 2023 be approved. | |
| 2. | <u>Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees</u> | *Chair |
| | <u>Audit Committee (AC)</u> | *SBO |
| | <u>Motion:</u>
That the 2022/2023 External Audit Plan be approved as recommended by the Audit Committee. | |

F. NEW BUSINESS

*Chair

1. Trustee Vacancy

*Chair

Option A

Motion:

That the trustee vacancy position be filled by a by-election.

Option B

Motion:

That the trustee vacancy position be filled as per Section 221 (a) of the *Education Act*, "if the office of a member of a board becomes vacant before the end of the member's term, the remaining elected members shall appoint a qualified person to fill the vacancy within 90 days after the office becomes vacant, if a majority of the elected members remain in office".

Motion:

That after calling for and considering applications by qualified persons, the vacancy of trustee be filled by appointment following a majority vote of the remaining elected members of the Board.

Motion:

That the Trustee Appointment Process be approved.

2. 2023-2024 School Year Update

*Director

3. Levying Education Taxes Bylaw

*SBO

Motion:

That the Levying Education Taxes for 2024 bylaw as attached be deemed to have been read three times and approved.

4. Various Capital Projects Update

*SBO

5. OPSBA Northern Regional Meeting

*Chair

Motion:

That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2023 OPSBA Northern Regional Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie on October 13-14, 2023.

6. OSTA-AECO Fees

*Chair

Motion:

That the 2023-2024 Ontario Student Trustees' Association membership fees be approved.

7. Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA) Fall General Meeting

*Chair

Motion:

That the board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Greene and Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink at the OSTA Fall General Meeting October 19 to 22, 2023 in Toronto.

8. **Notice of Absence** *Chair
9. **Director's Remarks** *Director
10. **Other Items** *Chair
OPSBA Director
Student Trustee
11. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** *Chair
Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.
12. **Chairperson's Remarks** *Chair
- G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** *Chair
1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes June 7, 2023 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**
June 8, 2023 letter to Minister Stephen Lecce RE: Special Incidence Portion (SIP) Funding
August 31, 2023 letter to Minister Stephen Lecce RE: Funding for Indigenous Education
September 11, 2023 letter of sympathy from Ottawa Catholic School Board
- H. **FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair
- Student Senate meeting October 2, 2023 5:30 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee October 4, 2023 11:30 am
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting October 10, 2023 5:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting October 11, 2023 3:30 pm
Equity & Inclusion Committee October 12, 2023 4:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee AGM October 17, 2023 6:00 pm
Board Meeting October 24, 2023 5:00 pm
- 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, August 29, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: B. Clement (Chair), L. Corbiere-Addison, L. Debassige (via Google Meet), D. Dewar, D. Farrow (via Google Meet), A. Gibson, J. Hunda (via Google Meet), J. Kosmerly, Student Trustee Greene, Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink (via Google Meet)

Absent: D. Morrison

Officials: B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board
A. Guilbault – Superintendent of Business
L. Fisher, M. McNamara, K. Wachnuk – Superintendents

Staff: S. Ackroyd, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, T. Hayes, L. Mantle, M. McKelvey, D. Peristeridis, S. Tastula, C. Whitson

Chair Clement called the meeting to order and advised that the meeting was being livestreamed.

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-R98, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of August 29, 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

STUDENT TRUSTEE

Director Bourget administered the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance to Student Trustees Sawyer Greene and Sonya Jacko-Cywink and welcomed them to the board table.

Motion: 23-R99, D.Dewar/D.Farrow

That Sawyer Greene (Sudbury Secondary School) and Sonya Jacko-Cywink (Manitoulin Secondary School) be appointed Student Trustees for the school year 2023-2024.

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 NIL

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

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

a) Motion: 23-R100, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, June 13, 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

b) Motion: 23-R101, D.Dewar/J.Hunda

That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on Tuesday, July 11, 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 NIL

3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

Strategic Planning (Governance By-Laws)

Motion: 23-R102, J.Kosmerly/D.Farrow

That the recommended changes to the Governance By-Laws, as amended, 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

4. **September School Reopening Update**

Director Bourget provided a detailed update on the 2023-2024 school year.

Director Bourget shared that we were entering year two of our five year plan of the Board's Strategic Directions, which guides our vision, mission, values and priorities.

He shared information about the Summer Institute which was held last week for approximately 70 educators and the New Employee Orientation day that was held at Sudbury Secondary School for over 135 participants.

Director Bourget provided details of the professional development staff will receive on the upcoming P.A. days which will be posted to the board website as information for parents.

He shared our projected enrolment of 13,996 students for the upcoming year, 9,133 for elementary and 4,863 in secondary. The Dare to Care program that was piloted in 12 elementary schools last year will be expanded to all elementary schools for students in Kindergarten to grade 8. Project Search will welcome its second group of students who will engage in internships in various departments at Health Sciences North with support from March of Dimes Canada.

This year all schools have been invited to participate in fall fairs to culminate in the board's first Traditional Harvest celebration on October 13, 2023, which is a joint initiative of our Indigenous Education Department and our Environmental Education Committee.

Director Bourget discussed the Guide for Parents/Guardians which will be shared with parents/guardian the first week of school and is also available on the board website. The card calendar will be distributed in hard copy to all families.

He also provided an update on kindergarten camp which is taking place the week of August 28th and the lighthouse classes will continue this year with 2 in the primary division and 2 in the junior division. He also shared the Ministry's initiative to strengthen core skills in mathematics from Kindergarten to grade 12, which Superintendent Lesley Fisher will be leading.

Trustees were given the opportunity ask questions and provide comments.

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2023-2024 Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians**

Director Bourget provided page by page details about the publication which is available on the board's website.

Director Bourget thanked Nicole Charette and Jennifer Battah-Chartrand for their outstanding efforts to produce the guide and reminded that these documents are available on the board

website and will be distributed electronically through school communication channels the first week of school.

Trustees expressed appreciation for the outstanding informative publication.

2. **2023-2024 Executive Council Portfolios and Family of Schools**

Director Bourget reviewed the 2023-2024 Executive Council's distribution of schools and portfolios.

3. **Current Expenditures Borrowing Resolution**

Motion: 23-R103, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

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

4. **OPSBA Fees**

Motion: 23-R104, D.Farrow/J.Kosmerly

That the 2023-2024 membership fees in the Ontario Public Schools Boards' Association 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

5. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 23-R105, D.Farrow/J.Kosmerly

That Trustee Morrison be granted a leave of absence from the August 29, 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*

6. **Director's Remarks**

Chair Clement, Trustees:

I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer.

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

To begin, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Sawyer Greene and Sonya Jacko-Cywink, and tell you a bit more about our Student Trustees.

A Grade 12 drama student in the French Immersion Program, Sawyer Greene is enrolled in the Specialist High Skills Major in Arts and Culture at Sudbury Secondary School. Sawyer has appeared in a number of plays and musicals as well as stage-managed and co-hosted performances and concerts. Sawyer's extra-curricular involvement in school extends beyond the arts. Sawyer was on the Reach for the Top team that was invited to participate at the provincial level for the first time in decades. Being on Student Parliament gave Sawyer an opportunity to work on many projects, including the Cancer Gala and Dress Drive. This year, Sawyer will join Sudbury Secondary School's musical "The Little Mermaid". They will also continue contributing to the Student Council. Sawyer plans to take a director's course and assist the drama teacher with the Junior class. They will direct "Dramatically Yours", Sudbury Secondary School's annual junior drama performance. In addition to the arts, Sawyer is passionate about cooking and baking, which they say requires patience and practice, ingredients for resilience. Sawyer says: "Involvement in school is important because young minds are able to bring fresh ideas to the table. Students see new ways that events could be changed for the better." They add that student voice can bring a new perspective, inform decision-making, and affect change.

Sonya Jacko-Cywink, from Wikwemikong, is returning to Manitoulin Secondary School. She will continue to be involved in various sports, including volleyball, basketball, badminton and softball. She is a past member of the Student Council and The Three Fires Council, which she will join again this year. The Council helps to plan the school Pow Wow in which Sonya is the head dancer. "Students know students best," she says. "Involvement in school and school life is important because it gives students a chance to have their voice heard." Sonya says joining committees, teams and clubs, enables students to gain skills that will benefit them in the future, such as time-management. She adds: "Being involved in extracurricular activities gives students a chance to meet new students and connect with their peers on a deeper level." Sonya enjoys cooking. Cooking tells a story and connects people. She loves listening to music, travelling, and trying out foods from different cultures. She also enjoys learning about people's stories.

Sawyer and Sonya will co-chair the Student Senate this year which includes representatives from secondary schools across Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin. We look forward to working with you in your roles as Student Trustee.

Our incredible administrative teams have been hard at work preparing for the start of the school year. We are looking forward to the return of our students.

Our dedicated, caring staff will all be back this week for professional learning taking place on September 1st and 5th in preparation for the start of the school year.

The first day of school is Wednesday, September 6, 2023.

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

As always, our schools will be safe and supportive places where students have fun while they learn.

We will continue to prioritize reconnecting, mental health and well-being as our teachers 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.

As we know, 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 in school and in their school community - 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 2023-2024 school year.

We also would like to welcome our newest school administrators:

Christine Cretien who will serve as Vice-Principal of Adamsdale

Chris Claridge who will serve as Vice-Principal of Algonquin

Andrew Kendall who will serve as Vice-Principal Espanola

Brad Smith who will serve as Vice-Principal of Lockerby

Erin Ferguson who will serve as Vice-Principal of Lo-Ellen Park

Steve Doane who will serve as Vice-Principal of Manitoulin

Rachel Goodfellow will serve as Vice-Principal of Manitoulin

Karen Dumont who will serve as Vice-Principal of Queen Elizabeth

Some of our schools will welcome new Principals:

Andrea Therrien has been appointed Principal of Espanola High School.

Coleen Eberlein is the new Principal of Jean Hanson Public School.

Darren Wilson is the new Principal of Levack Public School.

Elizabeth Mack has been appointed Principal of Churchill Public School.

Jim Wachnuk will serve as Principal of the new Lasalle Elementary School.

Kim Boulanger has been appointed Principal of Larchwood Public School.

Kate Mackenzie has been appointed Principal of Markstay Public School.

Laurie-Ann Lielkalns is the new Principal of Barrydowne College.

Melanie Bertrand becomes Principal of Student Success.

Nadia Berardelli is the new Principal of R.H. Murray Public School.

Ryan Lafraniere is the new Principal of Lockerby Composite School.

Shannon Lafrance has been appointed Principal of Monetville Public School.

Susan Kett is the new Principal of Lively District Secondary School.

Our administrators and our staff are excited to work with students and families in their respective schools and school communities.
We look forward to seeing you on September 6th.

I will close my comments with appreciation to our dedicated Board of Trustees. Your support and commitment to our students and staff is greatly appreciated. Thank you for all you do!! We know you share our excitement for the start of another school year filled with pride, promise and possibility as together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.

7. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly shared that the first Board of Directors meeting will be held in Toronto on September 22-23, 2023 and will be on a call with OBSPA Board of Directors regarding collective bargaining on September 13, 2023.

Student Trustee - NIL

8. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Corbiere-Addison attended an OPSBA meeting for Indigenous Trustee Council where the reduction in funding was discussed. The group hopes Minister Lecce will attend the next advocacy day on November 27th.

Trustee Farrow welcomed the new student trustees and wished board and school administrators all the best for a successful start-up.

Trustee Hunda welcomed the new student trustees and expressed her excitement in working with both of them. She thanked staff who dedicate time over the summer to participate in summer programs and wished all staff the best for the coming school year.

9. **Chairperson's Remarks**

On behalf of Trustees, I extend a warm welcome to all students and families as you prepare for a new school year.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to take an active interest in their child's education.

It has been said before this evening, but it is worth repeating...

Ensuring your child attends school regularly is a good place to start.
When parents/guardians value education, students value education.
There is a strong correlation between attendance and achievement.

We also invite community partners to help us mentor and nurture their future workforce. When the home, the school and the community work together, we maximize learning opportunities for students and help them achieve their full potential.

Our youngest learners kicked off the school year yesterday with Kindergarten Camp. The four-day program is running for three hours per day at a number of Rainbow elementary schools. I extend a special welcome to the class of 2037!

For families who have not already done so, there is still time to register. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact their area Rainbow school as soon as possible given that classes begin next week.

I would also like to extend a warm welcome back to our teachers and support staff who make Rainbow Schools great places for teaching and learning. Through their work, they bring our vision, mission, and values to life each and every day.
We appreciate all that they do on behalf of students.

IMPORTANT DATES

A friendly reminder that Labour Day is Monday, September 4th.
Tuesday, September 5th is a PA Day for staff.
The first day of school is Wednesday, September 6th.

Staff and students in Rainbow Schools will wear pink on Thursday, September 14th, as Rainbow District School Board marks its 16th annual "Stand Up Against Bullying Day". We invite everyone in the community to join us and wear pink on September 14th.

As we embark on another exciting year, I will leave you with a quote from Abraham Lincoln. He said:

"The best way to predict your future is to create it."

Wishing everyone a wonderful school year.

And for students...remember...
You are the authors of your own story.
Make the most of each and every day.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Student Senate meeting September 11, 2023 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting September 12, 2023 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee September 13, 2023 11:30 am
Equity & Inclusion Committee September 14, 2023 4:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting September 20, 2023 3:30 pm
First Nation Advisory Committee September 21, 2023 10:00 am
Board Meeting September 26, 2023 5:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee AGM October 17, 2023 6:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 23-R106, S.Green
That we do now adjourn at 6:37 p.m. - **Carried**

APPENDIX A

Briefing Note re: By-election to fill Area 4 Trustee Vacancy, Rainbow District School Board

General Overview

Area 4 encompasses Wards 7 & 8 of the City of Greater Sudbury as well as the municipalities of Killarney, French River, Markstay-Warren, St. Charles, and the Unorganized Townships of Burwash, Cox, Davis, Eden, Hawley, Hendrie, Henry, Janes, Laura, Loughrin, Secord, Servos, Street and Tilton.

Should the decision be made to hold a by-election vs. appointing a new trustee, by-elections would need to take place in each of these areas. Each municipality and the lead for the Unorganized Townships would have to run a separate by-election and put voting infrastructure in place in order to facilitate it. This in essence would result in six separate election events taking place each with their own associated costs. The information provided in this briefing note speaks specifically to the costs and requirements of the City of Greater Sudbury.

Conduct / Requirements

Section 65 of the MEA provides direction to the Clerk of the municipality for the conduct of any by-elections to be held. In the absence of direction to the contrary in subsections 65(4) and (5) the City of Greater Sudbury would be required to hold a by-election that would include the following voting methods and opportunities:

- Advance online voting period (online voting would extend through to “Voting Day”)
- Paper ballot voting on a designated “Voting Day” at approximately five (5) regular voting locations
- Attendance at long term care and retirement facilities within those wards that meet the criteria in the Act, to facilitate paper ballot voting for the residents of the facilities

Given that Area 4 covers two wards in the City of Greater Sudbury, and based on the model used for the October 2022 regular election, there will be approximately 5 medium sized voting locations each of which will require the following:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| • 4 Registration / Revisions Computers | • 2 Ballot Boxes |
| • 4 Bar Code Scanners | • 10 Vote Screens |
| • 4 Printers | • 8 Election Staff |

In addition to the required regular locations there will also be 1 voting location at a long-term care and retirement facility. This will result in one small voting location requiring:

- 2 Registration / Revisions Computers
- 2 Printers
- 2 Ballot Boxes
- 2 Bar Code Scanners
- 4 Vote Screens
- 6 Election Staff

• 5

By-Election Costing Breakdown

In a regular election, the municipality absorbs all costs for the conduct of the Municipal and School Board Election and both elections are planned and run in tandem. However, in the case of a by-election, the legislation dictates that the municipality is to be reimbursed for the reasonable costs of the election.

7 (3) Cost – exceptions - recounts, by-elections

Despite subsection (1), the local municipality shall be reimbursed for its reasonable costs in the following situations:

1. When the clerk conducts a recount in a regular election with respect to,

i. an office on a local board or upper-tier municipality,

ii. a by-law or question submitted by an upper-tier municipality, or

iii. a question submitted by a local board or the Minister.

2. When the clerk conducts a by-election for a local board or an upper-tier municipality or the Minister, or a recount in such a by-election.

Based on the requirements above, the following provides a breakdown of the estimated costs for holding a two-ward by-election to fill the vacancy in Area 4 and it should be noted that these costs would be in addition to those incurred by municipalities of French River, Killarney, Markstay-Warren, St. Charles and the Unorganized Townships.

Estimated Paper Ballot / Internet Voting Equipment and Implementation Costs:

	Registration / Revisions Computers	Bar Code Scanners	Ballot on Demand Printers	Tabulators	Voting Location Rentals*	InVote Gov – Online Voting Module	Voter Information Letter	Service Provider Implementation	Results Reporting Site
Total Required	28	28	28	2	5 Regular 1 Special	5,285	10,723	1	1
Cost Per Unit	\$159	\$27	\$1,168	\$21,400	300-550/non municipal sites	\$0.95/voter	\$1.40/voter	\$36,000	\$7,900
Total Costs	\$4,452	\$756	\$32,704	\$42,800	\$1,200	\$5,020	\$15,012	\$36,000	\$7,900
Total Cost: \$145,844									

*Note: One piece of backup equipment for each location was included in the totals in the table above.

Staff Costs: The costs to staff the voting locations and the requirement for operational /electoral management to run the by-election will be approximately: **\$85,000**

Conduct and Implementation: Additional costs will also be incurred for advertising, materials and supplies, staff training and vehicle rental etc. which would total approximately: **\$64,200**

Total Estimated Cost: Based on the requirements noted above the approximate cost for running a two-ward by-election in Area 4 in the City of Greater Sudbury would be approximately: **\$295,044**.

As previously noted, the costs for the city of Greater Sudbury to run a two ward by-election will be in addition to any costs associated with running by-elections in the municipalities of Killarney, French River, Markstay-Warren, St. Charles, and the Unorganized Townships.

Filling a Vacancy – Appointment

It is important to note that a by-election is not required to fill the vacancy on the Board and a new trustee may be appointed to fill the vacated seat.

In accordance with the Act, if a majority of the positions on the Board are filled then the Board can appoint. Section 38 speaks to the required qualifications for a person to be appointed and to the process that the secretary of the board would follow at a meeting to select a person to fill the vacancy.

Filling vacancies, school boards

37(3) If an office remains vacant on a school board after the declaration of the election of candidates by acclamation under this section and the declaration of the election of candidates following the conduct of the election for offices on the board, the following rules apply:

- 1. If the number of candidates declared elected is insufficient to fill the majority of positions on the board, a by-election shall be held.*
- 2. If the number of candidates declared elected is sufficient to fill the majority of positions on the board, section 38 applies. If it is not possible to fill the vacancies under that section, a by-election shall be held. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 37 (3); 1997, c. 31, s. 157 (3-5); 2002, c. 17, Sched. D, s. 13 (1).*

Appointment to fill vacancy on school board

38 (1) If this section applies, the candidates declared elected to the school board may appoint a person to fill the vacancy at a meeting of the members called for that purpose. 2002, c. 18, Sched. G, s. 14 (1).

Criteria

- (2) A person shall be appointed under subsection (1) only if he or she,*
 - (a) is qualified to be elected as a member of the school board; and*
 - (b) has consented to accept the office if appointed. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 38 (2); 2002, c. 18, Sched. G, s. 14 (2).*

Vote

(3) If more than one person is nominated to fill a vacancy, the secretary of the school board shall take a vote to determine which person shall fill it. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 38 (3).

Who fills vacancy

(4) A person who receives more than half the votes shall fill the vacancy. 1996, c. 32, Sched., s. 38 (4).

Further vote

(5) If no person receives more than half the votes, the secretary shall take another vote, excluding the person who received fewest votes in the previous vote; if two or more persons received fewest votes, the secretary shall choose the person to be excluded by lot.

APPENDIX B

Rainbow District School Board Recommended process and timelines to fill the vacancy of Trustee by appointment

A news release regarding the vacancy and trustee appointment process would be issued to area media and posted on the Board website on **Wednesday, September 27, 2023**.

The vacancy would be advertised on the Board website, on Facebook, and through media outlets online. In addition, the vacancy notice would be sent to all schools for sharing with School Councils.

According to Section 219. (1) of the Education Act *“A person is qualified to be elected as a member of a district school board or school authority if the person is qualified to vote for members of that district school board or that school authority and is resident in its area of jurisdiction. 1997, c. 31, s. 112.”*

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- A Canadian Citizen
- At least 18 years old
- Not legally prohibited from voting
- Is not disqualified by any legislation from holding school board office
- A public school elector

Applicants who qualify in accordance with Section 219 of the Education Act would provide their complete contact information (including name, street/mailling address, email address and phone number), a recent criminal record check, proof of qualifications in accordance with Section 219. (1) of the Education Act, two letters of support and a résumé.

Applicants would also provide a covering letter highlighting the following:

- interest in public education;
- commitment to student achievement and well-being;
- understanding of the role of the trustee;
- willingness to comply with the policies and administrative procedures of Rainbow District School Board as well as its governance by-laws, policies and procedures for trustees;
- ability to commit the time required to fulfill the role of trustee.

Community involvement and volunteerism, prior experience in education, and experience on a corporate board would be considered assets.

The Director of Education and Secretary of the Board, Bruce Bourget, would accept applications until 4 pm on **Tuesday, October 17, 2023**, providing just under three weeks for replies.

Applications would be submitted to:

Cindy Whitson
Executive Assistant
Office of the Director of Education
Rainbow District School Board
408 Wembley Drive
Sudbury ON P3P 1P2
whitsoc@rainbowschools.ca

Confirmation of receipt of applications would be sent to the email address provided on the application by 4 pm on **Wednesday, October 18, 2023**.

The Director of Education would verify qualifications of applicants prior to 4 pm on **Friday, October 20, 2023**. Applicants whose qualifications cannot be verified would be notified immediately at the email address provided.

Names and addresses of all applicants would be recorded in a report to the Board and presented at the open meeting of the Board on **Tuesday, October 24, 2023**. The report to the Board would be posted on the Board website.

Rainbow District School Board is governed by the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act and, as such, would serve notice to all applicants that all résumés will be posted on the Board website as part of the trustee appointment process. Any information being provided in strict confidence must be clearly marked "confidential".

On **Tuesday, October 24, 2023**, a Committee of the Whole Board would consider applications at a closed meeting and bring a motion forward to appoint a candidate at the open meeting of the Board. Trustees would vote on the motion.

The successful applicant would be sworn in at the Rainbow District School Board Office or Local Court Office no later than 4 pm on **Friday, November 17, 2023** and would subsequently assume the role and responsibilities of Trustee. The Trustee would participate in the Board Organizational Meeting on **Tuesday, November 21, 2023**.

Rainbow District School Board
BY-LAW NUMBER 2023-02

Whereas subsection 257.7(1) of the *Education Act* (the “*Act*”) requires the Board to levy the tax rates prescribed under section 257.12 of the *Act*;

AND WHEREAS Ontario Regulation 400/98 prescribes the tax rates under subsection 257.12(1) of the *Act*;

NOW THEREFORE the Board enacts as follows:

The rates set out in Ontario Regulation 400/98 for 2024 are hereby levied in localities within the area of jurisdiction of the Board on the property indicated in section 257.7 of the *Act*.

READ THREE TIMES AND FINALLY ENACTED IN OPEN BOARD MEETING THIS
26th DAY OF September, 2023.

Chair

Secretary



The Ontario Public School Boards' Association
invites you to the

2023
**NORTHERN REGIONAL MEETING &
PROGRAM**

October 13 (evening) and October 14 (full day), 2023
Sault Ste. Marie
Delta Waterfront Hotel

Dear Northern Region Trustees and Directors of Education,

OPSBA extends a warm invitation to you for our upcoming meeting and program, designed especially for the Northern Region. This gathering provides an excellent opportunity to connect and collaborate with trustees within our region.

The meeting will offer meaningful discussions, networking and professional development experiences tailored to trustees in the Northern Region. Attending is highly encouraged to benefit from these insightful conversations.

We look forward to the chance to meet in person this fall.

Registration and program information can be found [here](#)

[Book your hotel stay](#)

2023 Northern Regional Meeting & Program

October 13 to October 14, 2023

Registration Fee: \$295 plus HST

Agenda

Here's what's scheduled for the event.

October 13, 2023

> Registration / Meet & Greet	6:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m.
Welcome & OPSBA Overview	7:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.
Board Profiles Showcase	7:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

October 14, 2023

Breakfast	8:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m.
> Speaker: Margaret Froh	9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.
Networking Break	10:15 a.m.-10:45 a.m.
Speaker: Coming Soon	10:45 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Lunch	12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.
Northern Regional Council Meeting	1:00 p.m.-2:15 p.m.
Break	2:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m.
Algoma District School Board: Trades Trailer & Program Presentation	2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m.
Indigenous Student Trustees' Presentation	3:30 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
Dinner Buffet & Cash Bar	6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m.



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
Canada

whitsoc@rainbowschools.ca

Invoice Number: 1308
Invoice Date: September 1, 2023
Payment Due: November 1, 2023
Amount Due (CAD): \$2,123.16

Product	Quantity	Price	Amount
OSTA-AECO 2023-2024 Base Membership Fee	1	\$950.00	\$950.00
OSTA-AECO 2023-2024 Variable Membership Fee \$0.07 x Projected Enrollment (13,270 students)	1	\$928.90	\$928.90
Subtotal:			\$1,878.90
HST 13% (82011 0906 RT0001):			\$244.26
Total:			\$2,123.16
Amount Due (CAD):			\$2,123.16

School Board Membership Guide



Academic Year 2023–2024



September 2023

Updates from our board of directors

Renewed commitments to accountability, collaboration, and transparency

For 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. However, we recognize that we have more work to do on our internal operations to ensure the success and growth of our organization. Earlier this 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 Board¹, Arjun Dhanjal, at osta-aeco.org/onward.

Updating conference supervision practices

Student safety is our number one priority at conferences. 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 our conferences, all student trustees must complete the Student Trustee Registration Form, where 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 22:00 and midnight 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 cell phone 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. 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 any 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 that chaperones are also required to adhere to the Code of Conduct.

As our organization and conference attendance continues to grow on a yearly basis, and to ensure the safety of all students under our care, we are:

- hiring a mental health counsellor for our annual in-person conferences to provide student trustees with a trusted professional from whom to seek mental health support;
- 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; and
- creating a versatile reporting portal for student trustees to report incidents they may face. This portal will be accompanied by a transparent framework for incident resolution.

Our commitment to addressing systemic racism

We continue to work hard to create equitable and safe working environments for everyone who volunteers with OSTA-AECO or attends our conferences. We have a responsibility to ensure that the internal operations at OSTA-AECO foster safe, welcoming spaces in which advocacy work can thrive. Creating cultures of inclusivity and diversity allow us all do to our best work. In organizations such as ours, inclusive culture is often set by the 'tone at the top'.

Over the last several months, we've introduced corporate governance explicitly enabling these kinds of cultures to grow. Last month, we put into effect the *Respectful Workplace Policy* and *Respectful Workplace Procedure* which outline the types of behaviour we deem incompatible with inclusive spaces. At the outset of our new academic year, we also launched the *Code of Conduct and Ethics for Employees, Volunteers, and Directors*, which came into effect on August 1, 2020 and will act as a guiding framework for all of OSTA-AECO's business, advocacy, and professional dealings and decisions. Furthermore, we are in the process of creating a robust framework to address both systemic racism within the organization, as well as ways to improve internal education for student trustees who interact with OSTA-AECO at our conferences and other events.

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 and board of directors;
- implementing the *Respectful Workplace Policy* and *Respectful Workplace Procedure* which outline the types of behaviour we deem incompatible with inclusive spaces;
- implementing the *Code of Conduct and Ethics for Employees, Volunteers, and Directors* which outlines the acceptable behaviour of those associated with the organization; and
- 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. We invite our stakeholders to get in touch with our Board Chair 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.

¹ Our board of directors is comprised entirely of former student trustees who volunteer on a part-time basis to provide leadership, direction, and support for the organization. The board 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/our-board.

A new era of advocacy

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.

In 2023, OSTA-AECO implemented its new Target State Organization, with a priority on empowering the organization's advocacy initiatives. Under this new model, OSTA-AECO's operations and advocacy sides alike receive more support as the organization continues to grow.

Advocacy Interest Groups at OSTA-AECO

OSTA-AECO's Advocacy Interest Groups are led by a Chair and guide the organization's advocacy goals for the academic year. The advocacy focuses of each AIG are informed by OSTA-AECO's 2019 Vision Document.

Public Education

This AIG represents public education-specific issues on the executive council. The group works with partners to create initiatives and advocate for public education.

Catholic Education

This AIG represents Catholic education-specific issues on the executive council. The group works with partners to create initiatives and advocate for Catholic education.

Indigenous Student Trustees' Council (ISTC)

The ISTC is comprised of student trustees who self-identify as Indigenous. The council advises the executive council of matters affecting their council targets, and provide Indigenous-centric learning opportunities and professional development to members of the general assembly.

Truth and Reconciliation

This AIG, comprised of both Indigenous and non-Indigenous student trustees, focuses on advocacy that furthers the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action.

Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion

This AIG leads OSTA-AECO's advocacy pertaining to promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion of all students within the publicly funded education system.

Student Well-being

This AIG is responsible with ensuring students across Ontario are provided the resources and tools to help destigmatize both mental and physical illness, as well as ensuring students are equipped to promote the well-being of themselves and others.

Curriculum and School Community

This AIG advises on provincial curriculum and education standards in Ontario. In addition, the group focuses on projects that affect student engagement, community, and school spirit across the publicly funded education system.

Conferences and professional development

We provide student trustees with a unique opportunity to attend skills development workshops to set them up for success throughout their term. These sessions feature provincial leaders, industry professionals, and OSTA-AECO alumni. Student trustees also have an opportunity to network and work with their peers from across the province to identify areas of collaboration and advocate for students at the provincial level.

The **Fall General Meeting** includes:

- Skill development workshops – board table basics, professionalism, Robert's Rules, etc.
- In-depth focus on Ontario's education system and the role of the student trustee
- Resources to help student trustees find their voice at the board table
- Breakout sessions – discussions and working group initiatives

Location: The Marriott Eaton Centre, Toronto

The **Board Council Conferences** include:

- Ample working time for student trustees to collaborate with their Advocacy Interest Groups
- 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

Location: The Westin, Ottawa

The **Annual General Meeting** includes:

- Presentations to newly elected student trustees to provide general understanding of Ontario's education system and the role of trustees within local boards
- Transitioning incoming student trustees into the role and initiatives of their outgoing student trustees
- Recognition for outgoing student trustee accomplishments and provide them with avenues for future success

Location: The Marriott Eaton Centre, Toronto



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 personnel access 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

Member boards receive quarterly organization updates from the Executive Council and Board of Directors. We also offer early access to financial updates and ongoing initiatives, and 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 Advocacy Interest 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.

Fee structure

**Fixed base
membership fee:**
\$950



Variable membership fee:
\$0.07 per ADE pupil[†]

[†] In calculating school board membership fees, we use the Grants for Student Needs projections for the academic year.

Contact us

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

General Inquiries



Conference Inquiry Email
OSTA.ConferenceRegistration@osta-aeco.org

Financial Inquiries



Kira Petriello
Treasurer

Supervision Inquiries



Arjun Dhanjal
Chair of the Board



Declan Amaral
Chief Executive Officer

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/our-board.



School Board Membership Guide, OSTA-AECO.
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You're going to this event! [View your order.](#) ✕



Thursday, October 19



OSTA-AECO Fall General Meeting 2023

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

By **OSTA-AECO**
12 followers



Follow

Date and time

\$0 - \$791

Get tickets

Location



Marriott Downtown at CF Toronto Eaton Centre

525 Bay Street Toronto, ON M5G 2L2

[Show map](#)

Refund Policy

Refunds up to **30 days** before event

Eventbrite's fee is nonrefundable.

About this event



3 days



Mobile eTicket

OSTA-AECO Fall General Meeting 2023

Join us for the OSTA-AECO Fall General Meeting 2023, a must-attend event for all Ontario student trustees! Get ready for an exciting gathering where you can voice your opinions and make a difference in our education system. This in-person event will take place on **Thursday, October 19, 2023** starting at **4:00 PM** in the heart of downtown Toronto.

Address: 525 Bay Street, Toronto, ON M5G 2L2

At this meeting, you'll have the opportunity to connect with like-minded students, engage in lively discussions, and learn about the latest developments in education. Together, we'll explore innovative ideas, share experiences, and work towards enhancing the student experience across Ontario.

Don't miss this chance to contribute to shaping the future of education! Mark your calendars and be part of the OSTA-AECO Fall General Meeting 2023. We can't wait to see you there!

\$0 - \$791



Conference schedule

We will be revealing our conference schedule shortly! Keep your eyes peeled. We'll share it here in the coming week.



Accommodations

We are changing our hotel booking process for conferences.

Hotel rooms must be reserved through OSTA-AECO. You, the school board, must reserve hotel rooms for your attendees through **this Eventbrite** by selecting the **Hotel Room** add-on and selecting the **number of hotel rooms you will need for the weekend**. OSTA-AECO has secured a group rate for our conference attendees.

\$0 - \$791

Please note that your entire ticket purchase (conference registration and hotel rooms) will be charged through Eventbrite. Hotel rates are subject to increase closer to the event date.

The deadline to reserve hotel rooms is September 22, 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 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 long, quick version

\$0 - \$791

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

\$0 - \$791

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

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.



\$0 - \$791

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

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Lisa Corbiere-Addison	Trustee
Chantal Cardinal	March of Dimes Canada
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
Danielle Williamson	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services

Other:

Regrets:

Jennifer Way	March of Dimes Canada
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Absent:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Christina Williams	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W. Larouche welcomed SEAC members to the June 7, 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: N. Delaney

Seconded by: S. Kitlar-Pothier

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of June 7, 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: J. Kosmerley

Seconded by: S. Roussy

That the amended minutes of the SEAC meeting of May 3, 2023 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

No business arising from the May 3, 2023 SEAC meeting.

8.0 New Business

Inclusion at Lasalle Presentation

G. Cacciotti provided a presentation on Inclusion at Lasalle Secondary School.

2023-2024 SEAC Meetings

Principal McDonald communicated the 2023-2024 SEAC Meeting Dates. Tentatively, the 2023-2024 SEAC meetings will be held virtually at 12:00pm on the following dates: September 13, October 4, November 1, December 6, January 10, February 7, March 6, April 3, May 1, and June 5.

S. Kitlar-Pothier expressed interest in gathering SEAC member feedback on scheduling of meetings for the 2023-2024 school year. W. Larouche will send out a survey to SEAC members regarding meeting dates and times for the 2023-2024 school year.

9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

J. Way requested a leave of absence from the June 7, 2023 SEAC meeting.

Moved by: R. Silvestri

Seconded by: J. Kosmerley

10.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wachnuk expressed that the Inclusion initiative at RDSB has been life-changing for many students with special needs and their families. Superintendent Wachnuk thanked both board and school staff for their ongoing support of the Inclusion initiative.

Superintendent Wachnuk spoke to the motion from May's SEAC meeting regarding writing a letter referencing the proposed changes to SIP funding. Our Communications Officer is finalizing the letter now and as soon as it is ready it will go out to school boards and the Ministry of Education. Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the Rainbow District School Board approximates an increase of 20% in SIP funding annually, whereas the proposed changes would mean only a 6% increase. On average school boards see an increase in SIP funding of 11% annually.

S. Kitlar-Pothier notified members that she reached out to several SEAC committees from around the province to ask about their concerns with the proposed changes to SIP funding and they were largely unaware. Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the information was shared with Special Education board staff across the province at the OCASE Conference at the end of May. Superintendent Wachnuk notified SEAC that once the letter is finalized it will be sent to the Minister and a copy to OPSBA Member Boards as well as the MPPs.

Superintendent Wachnuk reminded SEAC members of the Challenge Meet taking place on June 14 from 10:00-2:00 pm at the Laurentian University Track for students with special needs. The Kinsmen organization will be there on site barbequing lunch and the City of Sudbury water buggy will be on hand. In the event of substantial rain the backup date will be June 21. Parking should be available close to the Ben Avery Gymnasium at Laurentian University (Lot 15).

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that graduation ceremonies are beginning for the 2022-2023 school year. Executive Council and Trustees will be out attending these graduation ceremonies.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared her appreciation and kind regards for Principal McDonald in her retirement.

11.0 Special Education Report

Principal McDonald shared that Friday, June 9 is the final PA Day of the 2022-2023 school year. Board Special Education staff are working with community partners to offer virtual professional development sessions for elementary Educational Assistants on that day.

Principal McDonald shared an update on Project Search. Six of the current interns have now acquired full-time positions, four of which are at Health Sciences North. Ten incoming interns have been selected for Project Search for next year. March of Dimes will continue to support these students with onboarding over the summer to prepare for their official start in September.

Principal McDonald shared parting sentiments, thanking SEAC members for their ongoing work and dedication in supporting our students with special needs.

12.0 Board Report

Trustee Kosmerley shared that at the May 16 Board Meeting the 2023-2024 Special Education Plan was approved, which includes the special education budget and staffing for next school year. Trustees also approved, by motion, a request by SEAC to write to the Minister of Education, with a copy to OPSBA, member boards, and our MPPs, expressing our grave concerns over proposed changes to the SIP funding model as it will result in a significant loss of revenue to support students who need additional supports.

Trustee Kosmerley also shared that the Board reviewed the proposed budget for the 2023-2024 year at this week's Strategic Planning meeting. They are anticipating a \$1.2M funding shortfall for next year. The budget will be brought to the Board for approval at our next Board Meeting, scheduled for June 13, 2023.

13.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W. Larouche expressed her appreciation and kind remarks for Principal McDonald in her retirement at the end of June.

14.0 Association Reports

Ontario Autism Coalition

The Ontario Autism Coalition has partnered with the NDP to prepare an Exclusion survey for parents. The survey has been open for two weeks and will close on June 30th. Reach out to S. Kitlar-Pothier for more information, she will send the survey to SEAC members. Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the Ministry of Education and CBC have requested data on exclusions from the Rainbow District School Board.

N. Delaney expressed concerns regarding access to the ASD Summer Program. Superintendent Wachnuk shared information about the information sharing and selection process for the ASD Summer Program.

15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

- None

16.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- SEAC survey for scheduling meetings for 2023-2024 school year

S. Roussy inquired about SIP funding and the use of Educational Assistants to support students with special needs. Superintendent Wachnuk provided information on the SIP funding model.

17.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will tentatively be held virtually on September 13, 2023 at 12:00pm.

18.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:31 PM.



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

June 8, 2023

Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
Mowat Block,
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Sent via email to Minister.edu@ontario.ca

RE: Special Incidence Portion (SIP) FUNDING

Honourable Stephen Lecce:

We are writing to express our collective concern regarding the Ministry of Education's proposed changes to how SIP funding is allocated to school boards.

The move from a claims based approach to a grant based model will have an adverse impact on Rainbow District School Board's most vulnerable students.

As a result, the following motion was approved at the regular meeting of the Board held on May 16, 2023.

Motion: 23-R80, J.Kosmerly/D.Farrow

"As recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) at its meeting held on May 3, 2023, that Rainbow District School Board write a letter to the Minister of Education expressing its deep concerns over the proposed SIP funding change which will result in a significant loss of revenue for students in Rainbow Schools who require additional support."

Carried Unanimously

Rainbow District School Board applies for additional funding for students who require more support based on their significant needs. The Special Incidence Portion that is allocated by the Ministry goes directly to support the student for whom an application has been made.

At first glance, the proposed changes appear to maintain the level of funding while reducing the overall workload required by the current application process. A closer look, however, confirms that Rainbow District School Board will lose millions of dollars with this new approach. This means our most vulnerable students will not receive the support they require and most certainly deserve to enable them to achieve their full potential.

We request that the Ministry of Education reconsider this approach. A simple calculation of the present SIP funding under the current claims based model versus the projected SIP funding under the proposed grant based model will clearly demonstrate the loss for Rainbow District School Board.

We would be pleased to assist with these calculations and provide concrete examples of how students will be negatively impacted. The reduced funding under the new model will only grow over time, having a cumulative effect on learners with special needs.

While some boards may benefit from this new approach, we are not one of them. For this reason, there is some urgency in addressing this inequity.

It might take staff time to complete the paperwork, but doing so ensures that each and every student in our care receives the support they need to succeed. The time allocated to this task is an investment in our future.

Thank you for your prompt attention to our concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Clement', with a stylized, cursive script.

Bob Clement
Chair

Copy to:
OPSBA Member Boards
MPP Jamie West, Sudbury
MPP France G  linas, Nickel Belt



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

August 31, 2023

Honourable Stephen Lecce
Minister of Education
Mowat Block,
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A 1L2

Sent via email to Minister.edu@ontario.ca

RE: Funding for Indigenous Education

Honourable Stephen Lecce:

The Ministry of Education's new funding formula for Indigenous Education has resulted in an overall decrease in the allocation for Rainbow District School Board at a time when Truth and Reconciliation is more important than ever.

The funding change is not consistent with the Ministry of Education's commitment to Truth and Reconciliation and Rainbow District School Board's plan that acknowledges and addresses the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's calls to action.

Concerned with the impact, trustees approved the following motion at the Board Meeting held on June 13, 2023:

Motion: 23-R90, L.Corbriere-Addison/L.Debassige

"That the Rainbow District School Board write a letter to the Minister of Education outlining their concerns to the changes in the funding formula for the Indigenous education."

Carried

The Board motion also reflects the feedback that we received from our First Nations Advisory Committee and First Nations communities who were dismayed to learn about the funding change. Rainbow District School Board has education service agreements with 11 First Nations in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island. We have a proud partnership based on mutual respect.

The loss in funding for Indigenous Education not only has a direct impact on the education of students from our First Nations communities, it also limits our ability to offer all students of the Board more opportunities to learn about the history of First Nations Peoples, including residential schools and treaties.

Education not only creates awareness, more importantly, it builds understanding. Understanding is fundamental to our collective journey towards Truth and Reconciliation. While progress has been made, there is much more work to be done.

Rainbow District School Board serves a significant population of Indigenous students. In some of our schools, Indigenous students account for half of the school's total enrolment.

Reallocating the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies per pupil grant to the Board Action Plan has resulted in a loss of close to \$500,000 for Rainbow District School Board, which has put a significant strain on the 2023-2024 budget.

The current budget reflects staffing allocated last spring in preparation for the coming school year. The Ministry of Education released the GSN's in late spring after staffing commitments had been made.

While this loss has been mitigated by one-time funding of \$324,000 for the 2023-2024 school year, it represents an overall decrease of \$143,000 in the first year. The cumulative effect will be much more substantial in 2024-2025 and beyond as there is no indication that mitigation funding will be available next year and in the years to come.

For these reasons, we respectfully request that the allocation for First Nations, Métis and Inuit Studies under the previous per pupil formula be fully reinstated as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bob Clement', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Bob Clement
Chair

Copy to:
OPSBA Member Boards
MPP Jamie West, Sudbury
MPP France Gélinas, Nickel Belt



Office of the Director of Education
570 West Hunt Club Road
Nepean, Ontario K2G 3R4
Phone: 613-224-4455 ext. 2272
Fax: 613-228-4158

ocsb.ca

September 11, 2023

Mr. Bob Clement, Chair
Mr. Bruce Bourget, Director
Rainbow District School Board
408 Wembley Drive
Sudbury, ON P3E 1P2

By email to: clemenb@rainbowschools.ca
bourgeb@rainbowschools.ca

Dear Chair Clement and Director Bourget,

On behalf of the Ottawa Catholic School Board community, we are writing to express our sincere condolences on the loss of your long-serving Trustee, Dena Morrison, who has been with your Board since its creation in 1998. She leaves behind a legacy of dedicated service to public education.

Please be assured that our thoughts and prayers are with you, Dena's family, and your Board and school community during this difficult time. A prayer for Dena will also be said at the next Board Meeting.

Yours truly,

Thomas D'Amico
Director of Education

TD:sd

Mark D. Mullan
Chairperson