

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, January 23, 2024 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 Wahnapiitae 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. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Chair

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 23, 2024 be approved.

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

*Chair

C. PRESENTATIONS

*Chair

Intermediate Student Success Strategies

Superintendents Fisher, McNamara & Wachnuk

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

*Director

E. OLD BUSINESS

*Chair

1. Previous Minutes

*Chair

a) Motion:

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 be approved.

b) Motion:

That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on Monday, December 11, 2023 be approved.

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

Accessibility Planning Committee *SBO

Motion:
That the Board approve the Multi-year Accessibility Plan 2023-2027, as recommended by the Accessibility Planning Committee.
3. **Motion** *Chair

Motion:
That motion #24-R18, "That the board of trustees receive an electronic copy of board presentations/slidedecks made at board meetings.", be rescinded.
- F. **NEW BUSINESS** *Chair
 1. **Revised Estimates 2023-2024** *SBO
 2. **OSTA/AECO – Education Action Conference** *Chair

Motion:
That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Greene and Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink at the OSTA/AECO Education Action Conference in Ottawa on February 8-11, 2024.
 3. **Notice of Absence** *Chair
 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**
Accessibility Committee minutes December 8, 2022 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes April 11, 2023 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes May 9, 2023 (official)
Audit Committee minutes September 25, 2023 (official)
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes October 4, 2023 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes October 17, 2023 (official)
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes December 6, 2023 (official)
 2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
Redwood Acres Public School

3. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

*Chair

Parent Involvement Committee January 30, 2024 7:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting February 5, 2024 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee February 6, 2024 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee February 7, 2024 12:00 pm
First Nations Advisory Committee February 15, 2024 10:00 am
Equity & Inclusion Committee February 15, 2024 4:00 pm
Board Meeting February 20, 2024 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, December 5, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

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

Absent: L. Debassige

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, N. Mousseau, D. Peristeridis, S. Tastula, C. Whitson

Guests: D. D'Angelo

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

Chair Farrow 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: 24-R23, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of December 5, 2023 be approved.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Lasalle Volleyball - OFSAA

Director Bourget welcomed Dale Beausoleil, coach of the Lasalle Secondary School's Senior Boys' Volleyball team, who was joined by team members, to acknowledge them as OFSAA AA back-to-back champions. Director Bourget congratulated Coach Beausoleil and team on an extremely successful season.

Coach Beausoleil thanked the board for the invitation and shared some thoughts on the team's wonderful season and expressed his pride in the team both on and off the court.

Team member, Ashton Eadie-Chartrand, thanked Coach Beausoleil for his commitment and dedication to the team. He shared that Mr. B was an incredible coach and a huge role model to them all.

Trustees Congratulated Dale and the team on a fantastic season.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

a) Motion: 24-R24, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the minutes of the Organizational Board Meeting held on Tuesday, November 21, 2023 be approved.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

b) Motion: 24-R25, J.Hunda/A.McCauley

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

Poll vote

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

- Carried

2. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

a) Audit Committee

i) Audit Committee Annual Report

Trustee Hunda, Chair of the Audit Committee, provided information from the 2022-2023 Audit Committee report.

ii) 2022/2023 Financial Statements

Superintendent Guilbault introduced Derek D'Angelo, Lead Audit Engagement Partner from KPMG, who presented the consolidated financial statements for the year ended August 31, 2023.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Motion: 24-R26, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the 2022/2023 Financial Statements be approved.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Director's Annual Report

Director Bourget provided a page-by-page review of the 2022-2023 Annual Report, that will be posted on the Board's website in the coming weeks.

Trustees were given the opportunity to comment and ask questions.

2. Insurance Renewal

Motion: 24-R27, A.McCauley/D.Dewar

That the 2024 Renewal of Insurance for liability, property, crime and fleet automobile with the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange for \$353,411.96 be approved.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

3. Budget Development Process

Motion: 24-R28, J.Hunda/L.Corbiere-Addison

That the 2024-25 Budget Development Process be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour*

*David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Alex McCauley: In-favour*

- Carried

4. **Notice of Absence**

Chair Farrow stated, "Trustee Debassige sends her regrets".

5. **Director's Remarks**

I would like to thank Superintendent Guilbault and Manager Nancy Cecchetto and the Finance Department team for the excellent work in preparing for the audit. The Clean Audit Report is the highest level of assurance and is a testament to the good practices and work that is being done.

Also would like to thank Principal Brenda Carr for assembling a team of Rainbow staff and thank the staff who came out to volunteer at the Sudbury Lions/MCTV Christmas Telethon. We currently have a Food Drive also underway lead by Vice-Principals Brad Smith of Lockerby and Andrew Kendall of Espanola and held a Coats for Kids campaign lead by Principal James Norrie. Rainbow District School Board cares about our communities and I am grateful to all staff, students and volunteers for their efforts to provide support and show kindness over the holiday season.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Board of Trustees, Executive Council, our School Administrators, our teachers and all support staff for the incredible work you do each and every day in support of students and student learning.

There are many events in the upcoming weeks for students and staff to enjoy. A very well earned break is just around the corner. As this is the last regular board meeting of 2023 I wish everyone a restful, safe, fun-filled holiday season! We look forward to continuing our good work on behalf of students in the new year.

6. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director - Trustee Kosmerly attended the Board of Directors meeting in Toronto on November 26th followed by OPSBA's Day of Advocacy on November 27th. At the meeting, OPSBA approved specialized training for Board Chairs that will take place the day after the PES conference. There is still no update from the Ministry on electronic meetings or about consultation on the Trustee code of conduct. There are 2 online surveys that OPSBA is encouraging trustees to complete, with direct links found in the November 24th provincial update email. Nominations open in December for 6 OPSBA awards and 2 leadership scholarships for students. The Board of Directors approved a new "Legal Action Fund" policy and are seeking feedback from trustees on a new draft policy on restricted reserves. Trustee Kosmerly will share the draft with trustees to provide feedback directly to OPSBA. The Canadian School Board Association recently completed a research project on student success in provinces where there are no elected trustees. The report is currently being reviewed by OPSBA, but an early read shows the need for locally elected school board trustees. On the November 27th Advocacy Day, Trustee Kosmerly attended a question period and met with 2 local MPPs, where discussion included concerns around Special Education funding and Indigenous funding, the proposed accelerated apprenticeship program and student transportation.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Greene shared many secondary schools participated in Diabetes Awareness Month initiatives and thanked senators for spreading awareness and information within their schools. Student Senate received a presentation from Senator Alexandra Wilson-Zegil on “Women in Stem Fields” who also created posters and worked with elementary teachers on Manitoulin Island to create assignments and lesson plans to encourage female learners to join and feel confident in STEM spaces. Student Senate continues to work on the year-end conference with more details to come. Student Trustee Greene shared they are proud of senators as it takes a lot of courage to come into the Boardroom as grade 10, 11 and 12 students and they are doing an incredible job.

7. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Kosmerly shared as per Governance by-law 8.3.2 and 8.8 and further to written notification provided to Chair Farrow on December 1st, 2023, the following will be presented at the January board meeting:

Notice of Motion: 24-R29, J.Kosmerly

That motion 24-R18, “That the board of trustees receive an electronic copy of board presentations/slidedecks made at board meetings.”, be rescinded.

Trustee Kosmerly also wished her fellow trustees and all Rainbow staff a joyous, happy holiday season.

Student Trustee Greene thanked trustees for being so welcoming and thanked Trustee Hunda, Superintendent McNamara and fellow student trustees for making this such a fun experience.

Trustee Hunda wished happy holiday to all staff and thanked them for all they do for our kids. She also encouraged fellow trustees to attend the many holiday and festive events taking place in schools.

Trustee Dewar thanked board staff for their assistance with technology while attending meetings virtually and thanked trustees and staff for their understanding during this time. She also extended her best wishes to staff for the holidays and into the new year.

8. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

As we head into the festive season, one of the most wonderful times of the year in Rainbow Schools, staff and students are spreading cheer and goodwill in many ways. A list of festive events is posted on the board website.

The **Parent Involvement Committee** will meet next Tuesday, December 12th. Some schools will share their Parents Reaching Out projects. All parents/guardians are welcome to attend in person in the boardroom or via Google meet. The meeting begins at 7 pm.

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to **Information Nights** in Rainbow secondary schools which continue this month and into the new year. Confederation Secondary School’s will take place tomorrow - Wednesday, December 6th at 6 pm. Sudbury Secondary School will host an Open House on Monday, December 11th at 6 pm.

In January, we have Lo-Ellen Park on Thursday, January 11th at 7 pm; Chelmsford Valley District Composite School on Wednesday, January 17th at 6 pm; and Lockerby Composite School on Thursday, January 18th at 7 pm. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Manitoulin Secondary School will host its annual awards night on Thursday, December 21st at 7 pm. Close to \$50,000 in awards will be presented to students. We commend the community of Manitoulin for its continued support.

A friendly reminder that the winter break will soon be upon us. Schools will be closed from December 25th to January 5th. Schools will reopen on Monday, January 8, 2024.

Do you have a child starting school this fall? Elementary schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island will host **Kindergarten Information Nights** for families on Wednesday, January 17th at 5:30 pm for the English program, and Thursday, January 18th at 5:30 pm for schools offering French Immersion and schools offering both English and French Immersion. All parents/guardians and children are welcome.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to wish all staff, students, families and community partners a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

We look forward to working with you in 2024.

Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Special Education Advisory Committee December 6, 2023 12:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee December 12, 2023 7:00 pm
Equity & Inclusion Committee December 14, 2023 4:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting January 8, 2024 5:30 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee January 10, 2024 12:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting January 10, 2024 3:30 pm
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee January 18, 2024 4:00 pm
Board Meeting January 23, 2024 5:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 24-R30, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That we do now adjourn at 7:00 p.m. – **Carried**

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

held electronically via Google Meet
from Room #216
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive
on Monday, December 11, 2023 at 3:30 PM

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

Absent: Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink

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

Staff: N. Charette, T. Hayes, C. Whitson

Chair Farrow called the meeting to order.

Chair Farrow 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; 24-R31, L. Debassige/J. Hunda

That the agenda for the Special Board meeting of December 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
Alex McCauley: In-favour

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

NIL

C. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BOARD COMMITTEES

Motion: 24-R32, J. Hunda/B. Clement

That motion #24-W02 RE: Labour Relations, 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
Alex McCauley: In-favour

- Carried

D. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 24-R33, J.Hunda/D.Dewar
That we do now adjourn at 3:36 p.m.

UNOFFICIAL



MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 2023 TO DECEMBER 2027

MULTI-YEAR ACCESSIBILITY PLAN

**Rainbow District School Board
January 2023 – December 2027**

Prepared by

**Accessibility Planning Committee
In accordance with
Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act
Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation**

January 2023

This publication is available through the Rainbow District School Board's

- Website (www.rainbowschools.ca → About Us → Accessibility)
- In accessible formats upon request

For more information, please contact:
info@rainbowschools.ca

or call (705) 674-3171 x 7217

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Objectives

This Plan:

- Describes the process by which the Rainbow District School Board will identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- Reviews recent efforts of the Rainbow District School Board to remove and prevent barriers;
- Describes the measures the Rainbow District School Board will take in the period 2023-2027 to identify, remove and prevent barriers;
- Makes a commitment to update the Wheelchair Accessibility and Lockdown Tracking reports within the multi-year accessibility plan, annually;
- Makes a commitment to review and update the multi-year accessibility plan at least once every 5 years;
- Describes how the Rainbow School Board will make this accessibility plan available to the public.

Commitment to Accessibility Planning

This plan will be established, reviewed and updated in consultation with persons with disabilities, the Board's Special Education Advisory Committee, Parent Involvement Committee and the Accessibility Planning Committee. It will be presented to the Board for approval.

The Rainbow District School Board is committed to:

- Maintaining an Accessibility Planning Committee;
- Continuing the process of consulting with the Special Education Advisory Committee and with persons with disabilities;
- Ensuring, wherever practicable, that Board policies, procedures and practices are consistent with the principles of accessibility and inclusive/universal design. The Accessibility Planning

Committee will provide input re: accessibility issues, where appropriate, with regard to new policies and procedures and to those under review;

- Improving access to facilities, policies, programs, practices and services for students, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers and members of the community. Consideration of ongoing identification of barriers will be the responsibility of the Accessibility Planning and will, wherever practicable, be incorporated in the multi-year plan.

The Director of Education has authorized the Accessibility Committee to review and update the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan that will enable the Rainbow District School Board to meet these commitments.

Description of Rainbow District School Board

Rainbow District School Board covers a geographic area of more than 14,757 square kilometers in Sudbury, Espanola, Manitoulin Island and Shining Tree.

Nine trustees govern Rainbow District School Board, including a trustee who represents 11 First Nations who have educational service agreements with the Board, and two student trustees. Elected every four years, the trustees are the public's voice at the Board.

Rainbow District School Board is the largest school board in Northern Ontario with 28 elementary schools and 9 secondary schools. The Board also operates other educational programs – Barrydowne College, Cecil Facer Secondary School, Frank Flowers School, N'Swakamok Native Alternative School, Ruth MacMillan Centre, Child Adolescent Mental Health Program (CAMHP), Children's Treatment Centre, O'Connor Park, Restart, SHILO, Attendance Centre and Mishko-Deh-Wendam.

Rainbow District School Board had 14,285 students on October 31, 2023, with a staff of approximately 1,777. The approved budget for 2022-2023 was \$235.3 million.

In Rainbow Schools, programs focus on student success from Kindergarten to Grade 12 in English and French Immersion.

Mission

Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.

Vision

We are leaders in learning, inspiring success for all students by reaching minds and touching hearts.

Values

*	Humility	*	Respect
*	Bravery	*	Love
*	Honesty	*	Resilience
*	Wisdom	*	Equity
*	Truth	*	Community

Priorities

- Student Success and Achievement
- Literacy and Numeracy
- Truth and Reconciliation
- Mental Health and Well-Being
- Environmental Education and Sustainability
- Equity and Inclusive Education

Members of Accessibility Planning Committee

Working Group Member	Department	Contact Information
Judy Kosmerly	Board of Trustees	Phone (705) 897-1603 e-mail kosmerj@rainbowschools.ca
Tiffany Hayes	Human Resources	Phone (705) 674-3171 X 7232 e-mail hayest@rainbowschools.ca
Adam Guilbault	Administration	Phone (705) 674-3171 X 7235 e-mail guilbaa@rainbowschools.ca
Nicole Charette	Director's Office/ Communications	Phone (705) 674-3171 X 7217 e-mail charetn@rainbowschools.ca
Dave Kitching	Information Services	Phone (705) 674-3171 X 7251 e-mail kitchid@rainbowschools.ca
Nathalie Mousseau	Facilities	Phone (705) 674-3171 X 7291 e-mail moussen@rainbowschools.ca
Kathy Wachnuk	Administration	Phone (705) 674-3171 X 7235 e-mail wachnuk@rainbowschools.ca
Shannon Ketchabaw	PIC Representative	Phone e-mail shannonketchabaw7@gmail.com

(Note: The above list is based on typical composition of the Accessibility Planning Committee or Accessibility Working Groups currently in place.)

Strategy for prevention and removal of barriers

Beginning on September 1, 2001, the principles of inclusionary practice, freedom from barriers and accessible environments have informed all Rainbow District School Board policies, programs, procedures and services. Through the annual accessibility plan status report process implemented under the *Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2001*, the Rainbow District School Board's programming, policies and practices have been assessed to ensure continuous improvement in accessibility. This process will continue through the establishment of a multi-year accessibility plan which places particular emphasis on the provisions of the regulations made under the AODA with

regard to customer service, information and communications, employment and school transportation.

Barrier Identification Methodologies

The Accessibility Planning Committee uses the following barrier-identification methods:

Group	Methods
Students	Barriers to accessibility are identified by students, parents and school staff. Facilities, Special Education and staff work with stakeholders to remove/prevent barriers and develop accommodation plans.
Staff	Employee and Human Resources staff identify barriers, restrictions and limitations and develop accommodation plans.
Public	Barriers to accessibility are identified by individuals accessing programs and services offered by the school board. Members of the public may bring concerns to the attention of the school or the Board Office. The Rainbow District School Board website also provides an opportunity for feedback. Barriers identified by members of the public are referred to the Board's Accessibility Committee. Development of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and the ongoing feedback opportunities are additional important methods to identify barriers to accessibility.
Board Wide	Ongoing liaison with bargaining partners, provincial associations, school boards, and public sector agencies provides updates on emerging barriers to accessibility. SEAC, PIC and the Ontario Public Schools Boards Association are examples of some of the resources used for barrier identification. Review of our facilities provides up-to-date identification of barriers and permits planning to remove/prevent such barriers.

Recent Barrier Removal Achievements that have been addressed under the previous Multi-Year Accessibility Plan(s)

- Procurement practices now incorporate accessibility criteria for goods, services and facilities.
- Ongoing accessibility awareness training has been/is provided for all Educators/classroom-based staff on accessible instruction and program delivery.
- Educational resources and materials, student records and information on program requirements in accessible formats are available upon request.
- Ability to respond to feedback to ensure accessibility to persons with disabilities and to provide accessible formats and communication supports upon request
- New websites and content meet WCAG 2.0 Level A standards.
- Human Resources procedures have been updated with regard to accommodating persons with disabilities.
- School transportation plans continue to be developed and reviewed with parents for students with disabilities.
- School libraries are able to provide accessible or conversion-ready formats of print resources upon request.
- The Board is able to provide information and communication supports upon request and in a timely manner to persons with disabilities.
- New school construction has adhered to the current building code and includes level access to schools, automatic door openers, elevators in schools of more than one floor, accessible washrooms. Details of accessibility by school is outlined in Appendix A.

Barriers to be addressed under the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan 2023-2027

Rainbow Board intends, through this Multi-year Accessibility Plan for the period 2023-2027, to take action to address barriers to accessibility related to the Standards areas of current Regulations. This is in addition to ongoing training and ongoing work the Board is undertaking with regard to identification and removal of barriers in the Board's physical environment.

2023-2024

Type of Barrier	Location	Action	Effective Date
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of accessibility awareness training to ensure new staff have been trained	Ongoing
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of Board accessibility policies and procedures and update as required	Ongoing
Physical	Board-wide	Capital construction work to remove and/or accommodate existing physical barriers	Ongoing

2024-2025

Type of Barrier	Location	Action	Effective Date
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of accessibility awareness training to ensure new staff have been trained	Ongoing
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of Board accessibility policies and procedures and update as required	Ongoing
Information and Communication	Board-wide	Upon request, provide, procure or acquire accessible or conversion ready versions of printed based educational or training supplementary learning resources.	January
Information and Communication	Board-wide	Provide, procure or acquire an accessible or conversion ready format of digital or multimedia resources for a	January

		person with a disability upon request.	
Physical	Board-wide	Capital construction work to remove and/or accommodate existing physical barriers	Ongoing

2025-2026

Type of Barrier	Location	Action	Effective Date
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of accessibility awareness training to ensure new staff have been trained	Ongoing
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of Board accessibility policies and procedures and update as required	Ongoing
Information and Communication	Board-wide	All internet websites and web content must conform to WCAG 2.0 at level AA, other than live captions and audio descriptions	Ongoing
Physical	Board-wide	Capital construction work to remove and/or accommodate existing physical barriers	Ongoing

2026-2027

Type of Barrier	Location	Action	Effective Date
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of accessibility awareness training to ensure new staff have been trained	Ongoing
Systemic	Board-wide	Review status of Board accessibility policies and procedures and update as required	Ongoing
Physical	Board-wide	Capital construction work to remove and/or accommodate existing physical barriers	Ongoing

Review and Monitoring Process

The Accessibility Planning Committee meets annually to review progress and evaluate the effectiveness of implementation of barrier-removal and prevention strategies and to plan for increased accessibility throughout the Board.

The Accessibility Planning Committee will ensure that in respect of the Multi-Year Accessibility Plan the following steps take place:

- (a) An annual status report on the progress of the measures taken to implement the plan is prepared.
- (b) At least once every 5 years the plan is reviewed and updated in consultation with persons with disabilities, with the Board's Special Education Advisory Committee and other relevant committees.

Communication of the Plan

This Multi-Year Accessibility Plan and the Annual Reports prepared by the Accessibility Planning Committee will be posted on the Rainbow District School Board's website [www.rainbowschools.ca/aboutus/accessibility] and made available to the public in accessible formats upon request.

Questions, comments or feedback regarding the Accessibility Plan may be directed to:

info@rainbowschools.ca

Phone: 705-674-3171, ext. 7217

For more information on providing feedback, please visit:
www.rainbowschools.ca/aboutus/accessibility

Appendices

Wheelchair Accessibility Report - November 2023.....	A-14
Lockdown Tracking Report – November 2023.....	A-15

A-14 Wheelchair Accessibility Report

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD Wheelchair Accessibility of Facilities Updated September 2023 As of September 1, 2023															
Elementary School	Wheelchair Accessible	Washrooms Wheelchair Accessible	Elevator	Exterior Ramps	Interior Ramps	Auto Door Openers	Fountain	Playstructure Yard	Shops	Stage	Bleachers	Science Labs	Strips on Stairs	Alarms & Signals	Parking with Signs
A.B. ELLIS (New)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	Yes	N/A			Yes
ADAMSDALE	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	***	N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
ALEXANDER	Yes*	Yes	Yes (no a	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	N/A		N/A	N/A	Yes		Yes
ALGONQUIN	Yes	Yes	***	Yes*	***	Yes	Yes	***	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			Yes
ASSIGNACK	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes	***	N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
C.R. JUDD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	***	N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
CARL A. NESBITT- closed	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	Yes	No	Yes	***	N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
CENTRAL MANITOULIN	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
C.C. MCLEAN	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
CHELMSFORD SENIOR- clo	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
CHURCHILL	Yes*	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
COPPER CLIFF	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
CYRIL VARNEY- closed	Yes	Yes	Lift	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
ERNIE CHECKERIS- closed	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	Yes	No	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
JEAN HANSON	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			Yes
LANDSLOWNE	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
LARCHWOOD	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
LASALLE ELEMENTARY		Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
LEVACK	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
LITTLE CURRENT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
MACLEOD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
MARKSTAY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
MONETVILLE	Yes*	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
NORTHEASTERN ELEM	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A		Yes	N/A	Yes		Yes
PRINCESS ANNE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A	Yes		Yes
QUEEN ELIZABETH	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	No	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			No
R.H. MURRAY	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
R.L. BEATTIE	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes*	***	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A		N/A	N/A	Yes		Yes
REDWOOD ACRES	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
S. GEIGER	Yes*	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
VALLEY VIEW	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A		Yes	Yes
WALDEN PUBLIC	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A		N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
WESTMOUNT- closed	Yes	No	N/A	Yes*	N/A	No	Yes		N/A		N/A	N/A			Yes
SECONDARY SCHOOL	Wheelchair Accessible	Washrooms Wheelchair Accessible	Elevator	Exterior Ramps	Interior Ramps	Auto Door Openers	Fountain	Playstructure Yard	Shops	Stage	Bleachers	Science Labs	Strips on Stairs	Alarms & Signals	Parking with Signs
CECIL FACER	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes****	Yes			No	No		Yes	Yes	Yes
CHELMSFORD VALLEY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes				Yes				Yes
CONFEDERATION	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes
ESPANOLA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes			Yes
LASALLE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes			Yes
LIVELY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes				N/A				Yes
LOCKERBY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes			Yes
LO-ELLEN PARK	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MANITOULIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes	Yes			Yes
SUDBURY SECONDARY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Board Office - Wembley	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A		Yes
Notes															
N/A - Not Applicable															
* - Not All Entrances Are Accessible (Limited Access)															
** - A Portable Wheelchair Lift Is Available To Schools To Access School Stage															
*** - Portion Of School Is Accessible															
**** - Hand Held Remote To Open Door															

A-15 Lockdown Tracking Report

Master Lockdown Systems Tracking sheet

ELEMENTARY	Fiscal Yr Installed	Fiscal Yr Proposed	Comments		
A.B. Ellis P.S. (EHS)	2021-2022				
Adamsdale P.S.					
Alexander P.S.					
Algonquin P.S.					
Assignack P.S.					
C.R. Judd P.S.					
Carl A. Nesbitt P.S.		N/A			
Central Manitoulin P.S.					
C.C. McLean P.S.					
Chelmsford P.S.		N/A			
Churchill P.S.					
Copper Cliff P.S.					
Cyril Varney P.S.		N/A			
Ernie Checkeris P.S.		N/A			
Jean Hansen					
Lansdowne P.S.					
Larchwood P.S.					
Levack P.S.					
Little Current P.S.					
MacLeod P.S.		2021-22			
Markstay P.S.					
Monetville P.S.					
Northeastern E.S.	2020-21				
Princess Anne P.S.					
Queen Elizabeth P.S.					
R.H. Murray P.S.					
R.L. Beattie P.S.					
Redwood Acres P.S.					
S. Geiger P.S.					
Valley View P.S.	2018-19				
Walden P.S.	2017-18				
Westmount P.S.		N/A			
SECONDARY					
Chelmsford V. D.C.S.	2021-22				
Confederation S.S.	2017-18				
Espanola H.S. (ABE)	2021-2022				
Lasalle S.S.	2020-21				
Lively District S.S.	2020-21				
Lockerby C.S.	2020-21				
Lo-Ellen Park S.S.	2015-16				
Manitoulin S.S.	2018-19				
Sudbury S.S.	2017-18				
Administration					
Centre for Ed	2016-17				

OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference 2024

B Breakout **C** Check-in **G** Group Activities **P** Plenary **U** Unscheduled/Break

FEBRUARY 8 • THURSDAY

PINNED 6:00pm – 8:00pm	C Conference Registration	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
8:00pm – 8:15pm	P Welcome to EAC 2024!	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4) <i>Speakers: Tristan Kim, Savrup Saran, David Beshai, Afaq Virk</i>
8:15pm – 9:00pm	G Icebreakers	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4) <i>Speakers: Tristan Kim, Savrup Saran, David Beshai</i>
9:00pm – 11:59pm	U Free Time	N/A (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
PINNED 10:00pm – 11:59pm	C Nightly Check-In	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)

FEBRUARY 9 • FRIDAY

8:15am – 8:45am	U	Breakfast	The Westin Ottawa — British Columbia/Manitoba (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
8:45am – 9:00am	P	Opening Ceremonies	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4) <i>Speakers: Declan Amaral, Tristan Kim, Siobhán Marie</i>
9:00am – 10:00am	P	OSTA-AECO Vision Update	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4) <i>Speakers: David Beshai, Tristan Kim, Savrup Saran</i>
10:00am – 10:45am	B	Catholic Education Interest Group Breakout	<i>Speakers: David Beshai</i> The Westin Ottawa — British Columbia (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
10:00am – 10:45am	B	Public Education Interest Group Breakout	<i>Speakers: Savrup Saran</i> The Westin Ottawa — Manitoba (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
10:45am – 11:00am	U	Networking Break	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
11:00am – 12:00pm	P	Keynote Speaker — People for Education	<i>Speakers: Annie Kidder</i> The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
12:00pm – 12:45pm	U	Lunch	The Westin Ottawa — British Columbia/Manitoba (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
12:45pm – 1:00pm	P	Midday Check-in	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4) <i>Speakers: Afaq Virk</i>
1:00pm – 1:45pm	B	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
1:50pm – 2:00pm	U	Networking Break	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
2:00pm – 3:15pm	P	Public Education Exchange World Café	<i>Speakers: Sonia Martin</i> The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
3:15pm – 4:15pm	B	Mock Boardroom Meetings	<i>Speakers: Tristan Kim</i> The Westin Ottawa — Les Saisons (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
3:15pm – 5:00pm	B	Indigenous Student Trustees' Council Breakouts	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
4:15pm – 5:00pm	B	Catholic Education Interest Group Breakout	<i>Speakers: David Beshai</i> The Westin Ottawa — British Columbia (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
4:15pm – 5:00pm	B	Public Education Interest Group Breakout	<i>Speakers: Savrup Saran</i> The Westin Ottawa — Manitoba (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
5:00pm – 5:30pm	P	Closing Ceremonies	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4) <i>Speakers: Tristan Kim</i>
5:30pm – 8:00pm	U	Free Time	N/A (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
8:00pm – 10:00pm	G	Nighttime Activity — The OSTA Town	The Westin Ottawa — Les Saisons (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
PINNED 10:00pm – 11:59pm	C	Nightly Check-In	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)

FEBRUARY 10 • SATURDAY

8:15am – 9:00am	U	Breakfast	The Westin Ottawa — British Columbia/Manitoba (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
9:00am – 9:15am	P	Opening Ceremonies <i>Speakers: Tristan Kim</i>	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
9:15am – 10:00am	P	OSTA Talks <i>Speakers: Afaq Virk, David Beshai, Tristan Kim, Savrup Saran</i>	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
10:00am – 10:15am	U	Networking Break	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
10:15am – 11:00am	B	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts	N/A (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
11:00am – 12:00pm	B	Education Marketplace	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
12:00pm – 12:45pm	U	Lunch	The Westin Ottawa — British Columbia/Manitoba (Level 2) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
12:45pm – 2:15pm	P	Alumni Panel <i>Moderators: Afaq Virk</i>	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
2:15pm – 2:30pm	U	Networking Break	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
2:30pm – 3:15pm	B	Concurrent Workshops	The Westin Ottawa — Lobby (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
3:15pm – 4:30pm	P	OPC-CPCO <i>Speakers: Nadine Trépanier-Bisson, Joseph Geiser</i>	The Westin Ottawa — Ontario (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
4:30pm – 5:15pm	B	Catholic Education Interest Group Breakout	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
4:30pm – 5:15pm	B	Public Education Interest Group Breakout	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
5:15pm – 5:30pm	P	Closing Ceremonies	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
5:30pm – 8:00pm	U	Free Time	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
8:00pm – 10:00pm	G	Nighttime Activity — OSTA Gala	The Westin Ottawa — Les Saisons (Level 3) (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
PINNED 10:00pm – 11:59pm	C	Nighttime Check-in	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)

FEBRUARY 11 • SUNDAY

PINNED 8:00am – 12:00pm	C	Departures	TBA (11 Colonel By Dr, Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4)
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**Official Minutes
Accessibility Planning Committee
held in room 216
at the Centre for Education
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
Thursday, December 8, 2022 at 10:30 AM**

Committee Members Present: Dennis Bazinet, Adam Guilbault, Tiffany Hayes Judy Kosmerly, Dave Kitching, Nathalie Mousseau, Kathy Wachnuk

Others: Dawn London, Jennifer Battah Chartrand

Regrets: Nicole Charette

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome – Superintendent Bazinet
2. Motion to approve agenda as amended (the amendment being the addition of item 7 c. - Committee Membership)
Moved by Judy Kosmerly, seconded by Kathy Wachnuk

3. Review of June 6, 2018 Minutes

Minutes approved - Moved by Nathalie Mousseau, seconded by Judy Kosmerly

Trustee Kosmely questioned if alarms and signals have been installed in all schools. All fire alarms are flashing now. Lockdown systems have flashing blue lights but not all schools are complete. Superintendent Wachnuk will review to see if any new students with needs have come into schools.

4. Review of the updated RDSB Multi Year Accessibility Plan

Superintendent Bazinet walked through the document provided. Discussed and mentioned updated names and extensions.

Nathalie Mousseau discussed the wheelchair accessibility sheet, stating that Larchwood PS is now completely accessible.

Discussed adding columns to the accessibility sheet to include schools with lockdown systems.

The Accessibility Plan will be brought to the next SEAC meeting in February.

Lansdowne PS is on the list as an upcoming project.

Discussions will be had regarding the school yard at Alexander PS.

Trustee Kosmerly reported that Trustee Gibson had suggested bringing the Accessibility Plan to a Board Meeting.

5. AODA Gap Analysis (Internal audit team)

Melissa Dodge, Regional Internal Audit Manager, is pursuing a consultant to complete this analysis. Hopefully it will be completed early in 2023.

6. Training Update

RDSB still actively uses the training modules for new employees and tracks confirmation of training. New employees are required to complete these modules before commencing his/her new position with Rainbow District School Board.

7. Other Business

A. Guide/Service Animals

An Administrative Procedure is in effect for students but Trustee Kosmerly questioned if we should have one for the public accessing a school with a service animal.

Superintendent Bazinet suggested discussing this policy at an Executive Council meeting.

Trustee Kosmerly provided a copy of Ottawa-Carleton District School Board's policy on public use of service animals for review.

B. Development of proposed Kindergarten to Grade 12 (K-12) education standards - 2022 final recommendations report

A committee was brought together by the province to generate a report. Superintendent Bazinet will send out a link or hard copy of the report.

C. Committee Membership

After reviewing the Governance By-Law for the Accessibility Planning Committee, Superintendent Bazinet noticed that we should have a parent involvement committee member.

Jennifer Battah Chartrand will give the Governance By-Law to the Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) to bring forth at their next meeting, December 13, 2022.

Meeting adjourned @ 11:20 am

Official

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 11, 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; Meredith Coulas, ETFO rep; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Dennis Plouffe, Community Member, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Tricia Hatfield, Parent, Churchill Public School; Marisa Julian, Parent, R.H. Murray Public School; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Nadia Berardelli, Principal, Jean Hanson Public School; Anthony Davis, Parent, Churchill Public School; Jolene Benoit, Parent, Churchill Public School; Kim Boulanger, Principal, Churchill Public School; Jason Smallboy, Parent, Churchill Public School; Trustee Judy Kosmerly; Trustee Doreen Dewar; Katrina Nadeau, Vice-Principal, Redwood Acres Public School; Brenda Carr, Principal, Valley View Public School; Jennifer Harvey, Principal, Lansdowne Public School; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Regrets:

Trustee Dena Morrison and Steffany Bourque, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Call to Order: 7 pm

1. Welcome

Chair Shannon Ketchabaw welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited participants to put their name and school in the chat box.

2. Dare to Care Anti-Bullying Program

**Presenters: Principal Brenda Carr, Valley View Public School
Principal Jennifer Harvey, Lansdowne Public School**

Valley View Public School and Lansdowne Public School joined together to pilot the Dare to Care Program in the 2022-2023 school year. They are among 12 schools piloting the bullying prevention program in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island.

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 about the importance of being kind, the difference between bullying and mean moments, tattling versus asking for help, and standing up for yourself and others.

Prevention and intervention strategies focus on social emotional learning with an emphasis on empathy. Through the program, all stakeholders – including administrators, teachers, support staff, parents/guardians and students – gain a deeper understanding of bullying, and, more importantly, develop tools to create a caring community. 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.

The program also helps parents/guardians become allies in supporting their children through resources and videos on a Parent Portal. Dare to Care carefully defines the word bullying and stresses the importance of having a common understanding of the definition. Parents learn what bullying looks like, including the difference between normal peer conflict and bullying. Tips and guidelines are provided for parents to help their children make positive choices both online with social media and other technology and in their daily face-to-face interactions. During webinars, parents learn six non-reactive life skills that can be reinforced at home so children feel more confident and competent in dealing with bullying situations.

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

3. Discussion based on presentation

Chair Shannon Ketchabaw thanked the presenters and was pleased the program engages the whole school community, including parents. PIC members asked if the program will be introduced in all schools. Superintendent Fisher said the pilot will be evaluated and the program will be explored for all schools. She noted that feedback to date has been positive. Parents asked if the program will be implemented in secondary schools. Dare to Care was developed for a Kindergarten to Grade 8 audience. Rainbow District School Board is focusing on the elementary level to give younger students a foundation as they move forward to secondary school. It was noted that Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School hosted anti-racism workshops for students supported by a PRO Grant application.

4. Approval of Agenda

"That the agenda for the meeting on April 11, 2023 be approved."

Moved by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Seconded by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Carried

5. Approval of Minutes

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

Moved by: Anthony David, Churchill Public School

Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Carried

6. Communications Report

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

Environmental Challenge

Environmental Challenges are continuing this month with Earth Day celebrations on April 22nd. All schools have been invited to protect our natural resources for future generations. This is the time of the year when schools are gardening, planting trees, engaging in community cleanups, learning in outdoor classrooms, making art for the school yard, going on nature hikes, and more. Students may even be encouraged to ride their bikes to school.

Here are some of the questions we are asking students to think about - What can you do in your daily living to keep our planet around for centuries? How big is your ecological footprint? What will be the negative consequences when our Earth heats up 1.5 degrees Celsius?

Of course, we continue to invite students to take what they learn at school and apply it at home and in the community. Through an Indigenous 'Anishinaabe' perspective, we can invest in our planet by taking the time to acknowledge the life-giving qualities of Mother Earth and spending our own personal time to connect with the land, water, and nature.

Board Science Fair

Three projects from Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School captured top honours at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair. These projects were selected for the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Edmonton this May. Congratulations to all science fair participants.

Elementary Chess Tournament

Students are honing their skills for a board-wide chess tournament on Thursday, April 20, 2023. Some 242 students from Grades 1 to 8 will play chess at the Local 6500 Hospitality, Conference & Education Centre in Sudbury (formerly United Steelworkers Hall). Students from 13 Rainbow Schools are participating in the event.

Free to Be Me

Embrace Diversity: Free to Be Me will continue on April 27th for students in Grades 9 to 12. Staff members have reached out to the GSAs from Rainbow secondary schools to seek input on topics of interest to them. The program is currently being finalized.

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. We hope you can join us.

Loran Scholar

Student Trustee Jocelyn Kuntsi is Rainbow District School Board's newest Loran Scholar. She is among 36 students from across Canada to earn a 2023 Loran Award, the largest undergraduate merit scholarship in Canada. It has a value of more than

\$100,000. The Loran Award is a comprehensive four year enrichment program, offering an annual living stipend, summer work experiences, mentorship, scholar gatherings, and a tuition waiver at one of 25 university partners. After graduating from Manitoulin Secondary School this June, Jocelyn Kuntsi plans to pursue studies in Engineering at McMaster University or the University of Waterloo.

School Year Calendar

The calendar for the upcoming school year has been posted on the board website. The 2023-2024 school year for students will begin on Wednesday, September 6, 2023. Please note: The day after the Labour Day weekend – Tuesday, September 5, 2023 – is a professional activity day.

Professional Learning

Friday, April 28th is a professional learning day. There will be no school for students.

Music Monday

Music Monday will be held on Monday, May 1st. This will lead into Education Week.

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

7. School Announcements

Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School said media arts students captured all top prizes in their category at the Tech Skills Competition and the first place team will participate in Skills Ontario in Toronto. Students enjoyed their trip to Europe. She also highlighted the parent/teacher conference, wellness initiatives, a dance workshop, sports, music, and the school's Cancer Gala on April 21, 2023.

Jolene Benoit of Churchill Public School said the school hosted activities and welcomed guests to celebrate Black History Month as it continues to focus on equity and inclusion. An Earth Day assembly will be presented in April. The school will participate in National Indigenous Heritage Day in June. The school has received a Go Wild Grant for a pollinator garden. Players from the Sudbury Five will visit the school with a focus on goal setting. Churchill participated in Autism Awareness Month and organized other activities, including composting.

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said students have been very busy with athletics. She praised Dale Beausoleil and other teacher coaches for bringing out outstanding skills in students, adding that Northeastern hosts many tournaments. She

was pleased that the school received PRO Grant funds to help make the school entrance more welcoming. A new Chess Club is popular. A lot of great activities are taking place to raise awareness of autism.

Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School highlighted items from the school newsletter which is well received and much appreciated by parents. She covered a number of areas from the PowWow at Cambrian, an adventure in Biology, success of school bands, real life learning in Accounting, growing bacteria in Science, success in sports, fundraisers and community partnerships such as student participation on the Police Chief Youth Advisory Council.

Marissa Julian of R.H. Murray Public School said students were excited to participate in the music festival with an inclusive choir that captured gold. The school will host a PowWow in June with three First Nations in the community represented.

Shannon Ketchabaw of A.B. Ellis Public School said the School Council was hosting a movie night on the eve of the April 28th professional learning day. She highlighted public speakers, the Scholastic Book Fair and basketball.

Sheila James of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School said the school hosted CVDCS Rocks the Spectrum in recognition of autism. The school's elementary choir will be performing at the Sudbury Music Festival and the Joan Mantle Music Trust 15th Anniversary Community Concert. The school will also host a concert along with Levack Public School on Music Monday. School knitters made 22 blankets for the Cancer Centre. Eco Flyers participated in a conference in Toronto. Their next campaign focuses on bike repair kits and helmets to encourage students to bike to school.

8. Adjournment at 8:11 pm

"That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Angelina Kasunich, Lockerby Composite School

Seconded by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Carried

Next meeting:

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7 pm - Via Google Meet

Topic: Planning for 2023-2024

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 9, 2023 at 7 pm
Via Google Meet

Attendance

Angelina Kasunich, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Meredith Coulas, ETFO rep; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Nadia Berardelli, Principal, Jean Hanson Public School; Jolene Benoit, Parent, Churchill Public School; Trustee Judy Kosmerly; Trustee Doreen Dewar; Katrina Nadeau, Vice-Principal, Redwood Acres Public School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Lasalle Secondary School; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Regrets:

Trustee Dena Morrison and Shannon Ketchabaw, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School

Call to Order: 7 pm

1. Welcome

Vice-Chair Melissa Gladu chaired the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

"That the agenda for the meeting on May 9, 2023 be approved."

There was no quorum to approve the motion.

3. Approval of Minutes

"That the minutes for the meeting on April 11, 2023 be approved."

There was no quorum to approve the motion.

The meeting proceeded as information only.

4. Planning for PIC meetings in 2023-2024

Following brainstorming, a schedule of topics was proposed.

DATE	TOPIC
October 17, 2023	Annual General Meeting <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Elections from 6 pm - 7pm• Keynote from 7 pm - 9 pm (Dr. Jean Clinton)
December 12, 2023	Social Media/Cyber Safety (plus voting on new PRO Grants)
January 30, 2024	Parents Reaching Out Grants School Success Stories
February 27, 2024	Student Census
April 9, 2024	Parent Portal
May 7, 2024	Planning for 2024-2025

5. Communications Report

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

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

Kindergarten Orientation sessions for children starting school this fall and their parents/guardians continue throughout May. Families will have an opportunity to connect with Kindergarten teachers, early childhood educators and school personnel. They will meet other children starting school. Registrations for September 2023 will also be accepted at the orientation. For dates and times, visit rainbowschools.ca.

BOARD SCIENCE FAIR

Four young scientists from Rainbow Schools who captured top honours at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair will compete at the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Edmonton, Alberta from May 14 to 19, 2023. We wish the students, who are from Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, the best as they compete against the top young scientists in Canada.

BOARD AWARDS

Rainbow District School Board will honour its dedicated employees and community partners at the annual Board Awards ceremony on Tuesday, May 16, 2023. These awards represent a rich tradition of honouring excellence in Rainbow Schools. The celebration will be held in the Sheridan Auditorium of Sudbury Secondary School at 6:30 pm. Everyone is welcome.

LAUNCH OF THE HONOURABLE HARVEST

Students and staff had the pleasure of meeting Robin Wall Kimmerer during a system-wide virtual presentation on May 4th. She is the author of *Braiding Sweetgrass*. She combines her deep knowledge of science with her lived experience as an Anishinaabe Kwe, inviting us to “*sustain the ones who sustain you and the earth will last forever.*” The presentation served as the launch of Rainbow District School Board’s first school-community Traditional Harvest Celebration coming this fall. Robin Wall Kimmerer said Mother Earth provides us with everything we need. What does the Earth ask of us? Gratitude (living in thankfulness) and reciprocity (giving back).

MATH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OLYMPICS

Grade 7 and 8 students in Rainbow Schools will take part in the Math, Science and Technology Olympics at Science North on Friday, May 26, 2023. In the morning students will enjoy challenging questions and activities related to Science North exhibits that also tie in to the curriculum. In the afternoon, students will take part in a technological design challenge. An awards ceremony will take place at 2:30 pm in the Vale Cavern.

ROCK BAND PERFORMANCE

Confederation Secondary School’s new rock band, The Noise, will host a concert featuring music of the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and 2000s on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 6 pm in the Confederation Secondary School gymnasium.

KINDERGARTEN CAMP

Parents and guardians of children starting school this fall are invited to register their children for Kindergarten Camp. Rainbow elementary schools will offer the program from Monday, August 28th to Thursday, August 31st from 9 am to 12 pm. The deadline to register is June 26, 2023. Visit rainbowschools.ca to learn more.

GUIDE FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS FOR 2023-2024

Rainbow District School Board will produce a Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians for the 2023-2024 school year. The Guide will be distributed electronically the first week of school. It will also be available on the Board website along with a handy card calendar.

Printed copies of the card calendar will be distributed when school starts for posting on your fridge.

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

6. School Announcements

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said the school had a busy Education Week. The school hosted an Awareness Day in partnership with local agencies. Workshops were held for students to interact with organizations. The community had an opportunity to see what Northeastern offers to support student needs. The Vice-Principal of the school spoke to students about resiliency.

Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School highlighted items from the school newsletter, including an educational trip to Montreal, Lockerby's participation in the Joan Mantle Music Trust 15th anniversary celebration, Music Monday, outside artwork, fingerprint analysis, and the Student Senate Leadership Conference. Students also participated in a hot docs film festival.

Katrina Nadeau of Redwood Acres Public School said the school will host its Welcome to Kindergarten orientation session next week. The school is working in partnership with Wahnapiatae First Nations to host a day of celebration and learning in June. Families will be invited to attend along with students.

Trustee Judy Kosmerly talked about the environmental education presentations at the recent Strategic Planning Committee meeting. She said students can teach us about what we can do to take care of our planet.

7. Adjournment at 8:05 pm

"That the meeting be adjourned."

There was no quorum to approve this motion.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6 pm
Annual General Meeting
Sudbury Secondary School Library
Followed by a guest speaker at 7 pm
Sudbury Secondary School Auditorium

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

held in person and electronically via Google Meet
from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.

Present:

Trustees: J. Hunda, D. Farrow

External Audit Committee Members: F. Cinotti

Absent: A. Lukezic

Officials: B. Bourget, Director
A. Guilbault, Superintendent of Business
N. Cecchetto, Manager of Finance

Others: D. D'Angelo, Lead Audit Engagement Partner (KPMG)
M. Dodge, Regional Internal Auditor (RIAM)
L. Corbiere-Addison, B. Clement, D. Dewar, J. Kosmerly - Trustees
Y. de la Morandiere, Assistant Manager of Finance
A. Conaty, Financial Analyst
C. Whitson, recording secretary

Director Bourget completed roll call to establish who was participating in the Audit Committee Meeting via Google Meet.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: F.Cinotti/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Audit Committee meeting of September 25, 2023 be approved.

- carried

2. **Preliminary Declarations of Pecuniary Interest** NIL

3. **Previous Minutes**

Motion: D.Farrow/F.Cinotti

That the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of December 5, 2022 be approved.

- carried

4. **Election of Chair Audit Committees**

The Director called for nominations for the position of Chair of the Audit Committee.

Trustee Farrow nominated Trustee Hunda, seconded by F. Cinotti.

- a) Motion: F.Cinotti/D.Farrow
That nominations be closed. – **carried**

Trustee Hunda accepted the nomination.

- b) Motion:
That Trustee Hunda be declared Chair of Rainbow District School
Board's Audit Committee. – **carried**

5. **2022/2023 External Audit Plan – Report from KPMG**

Motion: D.Farrow/F.Cinotti
That the 2022/2023 External Audit Plan be recommended to the Board for approval.
- **carried**

6. **Accessibility Consult Summary**

RIAM Dodge reviewed the report that was included in the back up.

Committee members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

7. **Succession Planning**

RIAM Dodge reviewed the report that was included in the back up.

Committee members were given the opportunity to ask questions.

8. **Audit Committee Self-Assessment Questionnaire**

Committee members discussed and Chair Hunda requested any input or suggestions be sent to her to compile for a future meeting in December.

9. **Evaluation of Regional Internal Audit Team Performance**

Committee members discussed.

10. **Evaluation of External Auditors Performance**

Committee members discussed.

11. **Future Meetings**

December 2023

12. **Adjournment**

Motion: D.Farrow/F.Cinotti
That we now adjourn at 4:19 p.m. – **carried**

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

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
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
Jennifer Way	March of Dimes Canada

Staff:

Carole Burke	Special Education Coordinator
Gillian Cacciotti	Special Education Coordinator
Danielle Williamson	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Kathy Wachnuk	Superintendent of Special Education Programs and Services

Other:

Doreen Dewar	Trustee
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Regrets:

Robert Silvestri	Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre
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Absent:

Lisa Corbiere-Addison	Trustee
Christina Williams	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W. Larouche welcomed all members to the virtual meeting and to the 2023-2024 school year.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

G. Cacciotti read the mission statement aloud.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: J. Kosmerly

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of October 4, 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: N. Delaney

Seconded by: S. Roussy

That the amended minutes of the SEAC meeting of September 13, 2023 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

S. Kitlar-Pothier raised the topic of integration for students with special needs. Families are seeking information on the appropriate support to access integration opportunities for their children with special needs currently enrolled in self-contained classroom placements.

D. Williamson shared that the decision to integrate is very individual to the student so it is difficult to provide an overall board mandate.

W. Larouche shared that there is information on integration in the RDSB Special Education Plan available via the board website. W. Larouche asked that individual families seek this information from their individual school teams, beginning with the classroom teacher and working up from there.

K. Wachnuk shared that decisions around integration are made on an individual basis. These decisions are based on the student's levels and on what the individual school can provide regarding classroom support. In the last few years this has been especially challenging due to pandemic-related staff shortages. School staff try to integrate students with special needs from self-contained classrooms into age-appropriate mainstream classrooms for things like social development. In subject areas where the student is learning well below grade level their learning needs would be better supported in an Intensive Support Program environment to help close individual learning gaps.

8.0 New Business

No new business.

9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

R. Silvestri requested a leave of absence from the October 4, 2023 SEAC meeting.

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: J. Kosmerly

10.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that our board will be audited for SIP applications (Student Incident Portion) in the 2023-2024 school year. SIP funding represents the largest source of funding from the Ministry of Education for Special Education at our board, typically receiving about \$8M to serve our students with the highest needs. Sue Del Riccio, retired RDSB Special Education Consultant, is contracted out to do these applications on behalf of our board.

In the spring of 2023 the Ministry of Education announced upcoming changes to SIP funding. These changes would mean a six percent overall increase, our board typically generates much more than that through the application process so this would be detrimental to our school board.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that for now, school board's have now been given the decision to either go with the six percent increase or continue with the application process. Our board will continue with the application process for this school year. This funding is primarily used to fund Educational Assistants across our board.

J. Kosmerly inquired as to whether there are other school boards in the province who are being audited around SIP funding.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that there was a change in the process of diagnosing Autism in the province. Previously students diagnosed with Autism underwent an ADOS Assessment to determine the diagnosis. These assessments were conducted by a team of three or more qualified professionals. In an effort to remove barriers to families they have changed the practice of Autism diagnoses to remove the need of an ADOS Assessment. Family doctors, Pediatricians, Nurse Practitioners and Psychologists can now provide Autism diagnoses so families are able to access funding and services through the Ontario Autism Program. There are now over 50,000 children registered with the Ontario Autism Program. The funding from the Ministry of Education to school boards has not changed in the province in line with this change in process for diagnosis. Specifically, Special Education Resource Teacher funding has not increased to support the increased number of students with Autism across the board.

N. Delaney raised the issue that the RDSB IPRC definition of Autism does not align with the medical terminology and definition. Superintendent Wachnuk reiterated this issue and explained that the definitions of individual student identifications through the Ministry of Education do not align with the medical terms and definitions of these identifications. As a school board we are mandated to use the definitions of special education identifications as outlined by the Ministry of Education.

J. Kosmerly wondered if it is too early to have SEAC recommend to the board to write a letter to the Ministry of Education advocating for increased financial support to schools in supporting the increased number of children with Autism.

Superintendent Wachnuk recommended waiting to see how this unfolds as the changes were only made this spring and consider gathering data on the increased number of students with Autism in our schools in the meantime. Superintendent Wachnuk suggested discussing this further later on this year in an upcoming SEAC meeting.

W. Larouche reiterated that the definitions used on the IPRC documents do come from the Ministry of Education, of which the Board is mandated to use.

11.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal Williamson shared an update on an additional Project Search site in Sudbury for the 2024-2025 school year. We are in the process of gathering data and feedback from past and current Project Search candidates to explore the viability of a second program. We may look at teaming up with the City of Greater Sudbury for a possible second Project Search site.

Principal Williamson shared information on preschool transition meetings for incoming children with special needs. We are looking to make changes to the timing of these meetings. During the 2022-2023 school year we ran over 100 preschool transition meetings to support incoming students with special needs from January to the end of June. The timing of the meetings posed an issue because staffing was completed in March.

Principal Williamson shared that updated Preschool Speech and Language (PSL) and Children's Rehabilitation Guidelines have been released. Historically community agencies (such as WordPlay) have provided speech and language services to children into their first year of Kindergarten. With the new changes community agencies will now only provide services up until they begin school. This will require a change in our service model for speech and language services through our board. Principal Williamson will keep SEAC informed of these changes moving forward.

12.0 Board Report

Trustee Kosmerly shared that at the September Board Meeting trustees received a presentation on summer 2023 programming that was offered. The Board also approved an appointment process to fill the position of Trustee. The closing date for applications is October 17, 2023 and more information is available on the board website.

Trustee Kosmerly shared that several events took place on September 28, the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation to recognize and commemorate the legacy of residential schools. Trustee Kosmerly attended the Sunrise Ceremony held at the Rainbow District School Board Office on Wembley Drive.

13.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W. Larouche shared that any associations networking with families please encourage them to fill in the parent feedback survey to communicate suggestions for improving special education programs and services at the Rainbow District School Board. This survey is available in paper copy as well as online via the board website.

14.0 Association Reports

March of Dimes Canada - J. Way

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month. On October 19 the March of Dimes is planning the "Light It Up" event, where landmarks across Sudbury will be lit up in support of National Disability Employment Awareness. Individuals are encouraged to wear blue and purple to support the cause and share pictures via social media.

Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury - J. Contini

The Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury is hosting their annual walk on October 22 at 11:00 am at Lockerby Composite School.

Our Children Our Future (OCOF) - N. Delaney

N. Delaney is now on the Our Children Our Future Board of Directors. She is hoping to connect daycares to our schools in further supporting children with special needs in our community.

Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury (LDAS) - W. Larouche

October is Learning Disabilities Month. They will be hosting a variety of events this month in support of learning disabilities awareness. LDAS will be planting blue flags along Paris Street next week. They will also be lighting up the Big Nickel on October 10. On October 14 they will be hosting a session with Cambrian College and the Sudbury Five to have all children come and play with the Sudbury Five players. On October 17, Krissy Bouthillier will be providing an assistive technology workshop at Lockerby Composite School in the evening, all

are welcome to the event. Lastly, LDAS will be hosting a Halloween-themed Wolves Game on October 27. Discounted tickets can be purchased for \$18 each, children 10 and under can be purchased for \$10.00.

15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

W. Larouche discussed an email from a parent of a student with special needs who attends the Rainbow District School Board regarding how special education students receive music programming. D. Williamson shared that when possible, we want to integrate students into the regular program for authentic learning experiences. We are often looking at secondary subjects, like Music, Art, and Physical Education. This is not always the best fit for all students, and needs to be decided on an individual student basis. The Music program differs significantly from school to school in our elementary schools.

16.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- Revisit SEAC making a recommendation to have the board write a letter to the Ministry of Education about supporting the increased number of students with Autism in our schools.

17.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on November 1, 2023 at noon.

18.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:07 PM.

**Parent Involvement Committee Annual General Meeting
Minutes
Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 6 pm
Sudbury Secondary School Library
with Google links to
Espanola High School and Manitoulin Secondary School**

Call to order 6 pm

Attendance

Sudbury: Bob Clement, Chair, Rainbow District School Board; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Kathy Wachnuk, Superintendent of Schools; Maureen McNamara, Superintendent of Schools; Bruce Bourget, Director of Education; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Ashley Vickman, Parent, Walden Public School; Alisha Basaraba, Parent, Algonquin Road Public School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Jennifer Dalton, Parent, Adamsdale Public School; Tiija Luttrell, Parent, Larchwood Public School; Meredith Coulas, ETFO rep; Heather Downey, Principal, Sudbury Secondary School; Coleen Eberlein, Principal, Jean Hanson Public School; Katrina Nadeau, Vice-Principal, Redwood Acres Public School; Laurie-Ann Lielkalns, Principal, Barrydowne College; and Sara Bau, Parent, Algonquin Road Public School

Espanola: Melanie Manitowabi, Parent, Kenjewan Teg; Lui Kong, Parent, Espanola High School; Cynthia Townsend, Parent, Espanola High School; and Chris Lewis, Parent, Espanola High School

Manitoulin: Robyn Charbonneau, Parent, Little Current Public School; Janet McCarville, Parent, Assiginack Public School; Holly Hoy, Parent, Assiginack Public School; Joanna Rosenbaum, Parent, Central Manitoulin Public School; Stacy Pfeifer, Parent, Charles C. McLean Public School; Candi Kaiser, Parent, Lakeview/Central Manitoulin Public School; Deanna Hardy, Parent, Charles C. McLean Public School; Emily Weber, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Brandy Smith, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Christine McNaughton, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Sandra Bond, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Shanah Pitawanakwat, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School and Valerie Bailey, Manitoulin Secondary School

1. Welcome from Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle

Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting. Administrators at each site - Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin - read a land acknowledgement. She reviewed the agenda for the evening and introduced members of the 2022-2023 PIC Executive. She also introduced the administrators, teachers and Trustees who participated in PIC. She acknowledged all of the parents who attended PIC meetings and thanked them for their interest and support.

2. Greetings from Board Chair Bob Clement

Chair Clement extended a warm welcome to everyone in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin. He indicated that School Councils are among the many ways we build connections between the school and the home and thanked parents/guardians for being involved in their child's school and their child's education.

"What did we do to help our children through school?" he asked. "We were always there." We attended school events, we joined school committees, we went to basketball games and concerts, we set time aside at home for reading, homework and projects. We were actively involved in our children's education - at school and at home. Children demand our time, our attention and our energy. Chair Clement said "being there" just like you are "here" this evening is an important part of being a parent.

He added that sending kids off to school is not the end, it's just the beginning. We want parents to know what's happening at their child's school. We want parents to ask their children what they are learning and how they are doing, and to practice skills - like reading, writing and math - at home. Just like practice makes perfect, parental involvement improves student achievement.

Chair Clement acknowledged Shannon Ketchabaw of A.B. Ellis Public School and Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School for serving as Chair and Vice-Chair of PIC over the last school year. He also acknowledged the parents/guardians who put their names forward to be on PIC in this school year, and thanked them for answering the call to serve.

3. Greetings from Director of Education Bruce Bourget

Director Bourget thanked parents/guardians for attending the PIC AGM. He said their presence sends a strong message - you value education – and that goes a long way in contributing to our shared purpose.... *Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.*

He said it is an honour for him to work on behalf of children and all of the students that we serve in Rainbow Schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island. Director Bourget said he visits schools on a regular basis and is always inspired by what he sees in our classrooms - especially in reading, writing and math which are the foundation for all learning.

Rainbow District School Board has a terrific team of trustees, school administrators, and educators supporting student success. He thanked parents/guardians for reinforcing what the school is doing at home. Reading with your child daily, for example, helps to increase fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.

The first goal since the beginning of the school year, he said, has been to build positive connections with students and create supportive school communities in warm and welcoming environments. When students feel safe and supported, and when they have allies by their side in the form of trusted friends and caring adults, they develop a strong sense of belonging at school.

When parents/guardians have high expectations for their children's education, this encourages students to trust in their abilities. Students who believe in themselves develop a growth mindset. They approach learning with a positive attitude and are willing to persevere to master a skill.

4. Meeting dates and topics for 2022-2023

Senior Administrator Mantle reviewed the topics explored during the 2022-2023 school year:

October 18, 2022:	Parenting Through The Storm with author Ann Douglas
December 13, 2022:	De-streaming
January 17, 2023:	Inclusion
February 28, 2023:	Technology and Digital Citizenship
April 11, 2023:	Dare to Care Bullying Prevention Program
May 9, 2023:	Planning Meeting for the 2023-2024 school year

5. 2023-2024 Election of PIC Membership

Senior Administrator Mantle explained that at the AGM a slate of up to 10 candidates is approved for the PIC Executive. According to the Terms of Reference for PIC, the membership includes one representative from each of the Espanola and Manitoulin Island areas, and eight representatives from the Sudbury area.

Prior to the meeting, schools were invited to send nominations.

Senior Administrator Mantle presented the slate of nominees, as follows:

Shannon Ketchabaw	A.B. Ellis Public School
Sara Ball and Alisha Basarabe	Algonquin Road Public School
Jessica Newell-Tremblay	Copper Cliff Public School
Tijja Luttrell	Larchwood Public School
Ashley Vickman	Walden Public School
Angelina Kasunich and Debbie Sokoloskie	Lockerby Composite School
Jennifer Dalton	Adamsdale Public School
Natasha Delaney	Jean Hanson Public School

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said she had also asked that her name be put forward.

Only members in attendance may be considered for the PIC Executive at the AGM.

The PIC Executive for 2023-2024 was acclaimed as follows:

Sara Ball and Alisha Basarabe	Algonquin Road Public School
Tijja Luttrell	Larchwood Public School
Ashley Vickman	Walden Public School
Jennifer Dalton	Adamsdale Public School
Natasha Delaney	Jean Hanson Public School
Melissa Gladu	Northeastern Elementary School

Prospective PIC Executive members will be considered at the December 12, 2023 meeting. The Committee requires two more representatives from Sudbury and one each from Espanola and Manitoulin Island.

Senior Administrator Mantle introduced this year's non-parent PIC members:

Leslie Mantle (Senior Administrator of School Support Services)
Nicole Charette (Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning)
Laurie-Ann Lielkalns (Secondary Principal)
Coleen Eberlein (Elementary Principal)
Sheila James (Secondary Vice-Principal)
Katrina Nadeau (Elementary Vice-Principal)
Meredith Coulas (Elementary Teacher)

6. Meeting dates for 2023-2024

Senior Administrator Mantle reviewed the schedule of PIC meetings for 2023-2024, noting that the topics of meetings may be subject to change:

October 17, 2023:	The Power of Connection: Helping our Students Thrive Through Challenging Times
December 12, 2023:	Social Media and Cyber Safety
January 30, 2024:	Parents Reaching Out Grants - School Success Stories
February 27, 2024:	Student Census (tentative)
April 9, 2024:	Parent Portal (tentative)
May 7, 2024:	Planning for the 2024-2025 school year

Senior Administrator Mantle thanked everyone for attending the Annual General Meeting.

Participants were invited to join speaker Dr. Jean Clinton in the Auditorium at Sudbury Secondary School.
Topic: The Power of Connection: Helping our Students Thrive Through Challenging Times

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, December 12, 2023 - 7 pm
In Person in the Boardroom at 408 Wembley Drive in Sudbury and Via Google Meet
Topic: Parents Reaching Out Grants - School Success Stories

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

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Chantal Cardinal

Julie Contini

Lisa Corbiere-Addison

Natasha Delaney

Wendy Larouche

Alex McCauley

Jennifer Way

March of Dimes Canada

Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury

Trustee

Member at Large

Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

Trustee

March of Dimes Canada

Staff:

Carole Burke

Gillian Cacciotti

Danielle Williamson

Kathy Wachnuk

Special Education Coordinator

Special Education Coordinator

Principal of Special Education Programs and Services

Superintendent of Special Education Programs and Services

Other:

Regrets:

Doreen Dewar

Sara Kitlar-Pothier

Stephanie Roussy

Robert Silvestri

Trustee

Ontario Autism Coalition

Children's Community Network

Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre

Absent:

Christina Williams

N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W. Larouche welcomed all members to the virtual meeting. Members introduced themselves to the committee. Superintendent Wachnuk welcomed new Trustee McCauley to the SEAC committee.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

G. Cacciotti read the mission statement aloud.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: A. McCauley

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of December 6, 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: N. Delaney

Seconded by: W. Larouche

That the amended minutes of the SEAC meeting of October 4, 2023 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

No business arising.

8.0 New Business

Principal Williamson shared the Special Education EQAO results from the 2022-2023 school year. These include students who are exceptional students under the categories of Learning Disability, Autism, Language Impairment, Physical Disability, Mild Intellectual Disability, Developmental Disability and Behaviour. The results do not include students who are identified as Gifted. The Rainbow District School Board had the top results in Primary reading (50% vs the Provincial 47% at level 3), Primary writing (3% away from the Provincial average) and Primary math (4% away from the Provincial average). At the Junior level, the students' scores improved in reading by 4% from the previous year and outperformed the province by 6%. The reading interventions that are being implemented in the Rainbow Board include Empower, Levelled Literacy Intervention (LLI), Remediation+ and Spell Read. In writing, 57% of the Junior special education students achieved level 3 while 21% achieved level 3 in mathematics, resulting in a 10% increase from last year.

At the Secondary level, there were 262 students with special education needs who participated in the OSSLT. 56% of the Rainbow District School Board students achieved the provincial standard. Students are supported through transition meetings from grade 8 to grade 9, LLI, Empower and Spell Read. They also receive assistance in the classroom, resource room as well as with Educational Assistant support.

Grade 9 special education students achieved a 20% success rate in math versus 27% at the provincial level.

J. Contini asked if EQAO standards are different for students with special needs. Superintendent Wachnuk responded that all students who follow the Ontario Curriculum have the opportunity to write EQAO. The students' accommodations are provided to them based on what is in their IEP.

W. Larouche commented on how Rainbow is above the average of the coterminous boards.

9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

S. Kitlar-Pothier, S. Roussy, and R. Silvestri requested a leave of absence from the December 6, 2023 SEAC meeting.

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: J. Contini

10.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wachnuk shared the provincial revisions that were made in regards to diagnosing children with autism. They have expanded the health professionals (nurse practitioners, doctors, pediatricians, psychometrists, etc.) that can diagnose autism. Boards are now expected to receive more students with the diagnosis of autism prior to entering school. We have not heard whether boards will receive additional funding to support this new change.

Superintendent Wachnuk recommended that SEAC wait until the spring before writing a letter to the Ministry to voice concerns and request an increase in funding that will correlate with the influx of students being diagnosed with autism who attend RDSB schools.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared an update regarding SIP (Student Incident Portion). SIP funding comes from the Ministry of Education on an annual basis, to support the students who have the most significant needs. The past practice has been that school boards complete annual applications to be considered for additional funding. The boards need to show that the students require two on one support. The two categories that are considered for the SIP funding are medical needs and safety needs. Students with behavioural challenges fall under the safety needs category. The Rainbow District School Board has always done a great job with the application process and consistently generated great funding to support our students with higher needs. In August 2023, RDSB received over 8 million dollars through SIP funding.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the Ministry changed the SIP process when COVID arrived. The school boards received a 6% increase instead of having to submit the applications. In April of 2023, the school boards received a memo to inform them that they would be receiving the 5% + 1% for administrative fees moving forward. This is concerning for Rainbow because RDSB typically receives 20% annually while the average school boards receive 11% annually.

Superintendent Wachnuk explained that the initial message was that the school boards would be given the choice to either accept the 6% increase or continue with the SIP application process. This, however, is not the case. Superintendent Wachnuk spoke openly and publicly at the Ontario Council for Special Education

regarding her concerns around the changes to the funding to special education and how detrimental this would be for RDSB students.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that RDSB is being audited for SIP and SEA this school year. The Ministry will be visiting Jean Hanson Public School and Churchill Public School as part of the audit. February 1st, 2024 will be the first audit meeting with the Ministry. It will be held virtually. February 23rd, 2024 the Ministry will be present at the two schools and February 28th, 2024 will be the final audit meeting, held virtually. Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the audit will give RDSB the opportunity to advocate for their preference for the SIP application process.

Trustee McCauley asked if the SIP application is done on an individual basis to which Superintendent Wachnuk explained that we have to select the best student candidates for the funding. The Ministry then decides on the amount that is provided, \$28 000 being the maximum. This amount does not cover the cost of a half time Educational Assistant. Trustee McCauley expressed that this is a labour intensive process and that it is easier for the Ministry to simply allocate a base amount. Trustee McCauley highlighted that the government is saving 14% of the dollar figure. He also inquired if this percentage can be translated into dollar amounts in order to have a better understanding of how detrimental this is for the Rainbow District School Board.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that she and Principal Williamson are looking at numbers. They have determined that the change of funding would mean a loss of approximately five Educational Assistants. This means that there will be 10 students underfunded in the Rainbow board. This is significant and devastating for our students.

Superintendent Wachnuk explained that the accountability factor would go out the window with the new funding as up until now, the dollars came attached to a student's name. Through the application process, boards needed to make sure that the dollars were spent for the needs of those individual students for which the board applied for. If a student moved, that support would go with that student because of the old SIP process.

Trustee Corbiere-Addison expressed that she would be happy to join her fellow Trustees during the Ministry's audit in order to advocate for the Rainbow District School Board.

On November 24th and 25th, Superintendent Wachnuk and Principal Williamson attended the CEC in Toronto. They attended sessions which included topics on ABA, inclusion in school boards and pediatrician involvement in schools. Superintendent Wachnuk expressed that in comparison to other school boards, the Rainbow District School Board is leaps and bounds ahead.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared information regarding Project Search. RDSB has a partnership with March of Dimes and HSN to give students an opportunity to complete their school year at HSN as part of the internship program. March of Dimes provides support workers to ensure that the students are supported and successful. All of the students in the program last year are now employed in the community. Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the students from Project Search have so much to contribute to the work world. Their sense of belonging and their sense of being productive citizens have been affected in a positive way due to this program. Superintendent Wachnuk also shared a letter from an HSN employee regarding his experience working with a student from Project Search. This opportunity gave as much to the employee at HSN as it did to the student. RDBS is very grateful for the partnerships with HSN and March of Dimes. Trustee Corbiere-Addison expressed interest in having the program extended to Manitoulin Island.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that this is G. Cacciotti's last SEAC meeting. C. Burke will fill in for the position of secretary for SEAC in her absence.

11.0 Special Education Staff Report

All relevant information was shared as part of New Business.

12.0 Board Report

Trustee McCauley provided a Board Report from the latest Board Meetings. Trustee McCauley joined his first Board Meeting as Trustee on November 21, 2023. Dave Farrow assumed the Chair position replacing Bob Clement who stepped down as Chair. Director Bourget presented the Board's Annual Report at the December 5, 2023 Board Meeting. The audited financial statements were also presented and approved by the Board at the December 5, 2023 meeting. Lastly, congratulations were expressed by the Board to the coach and players of the Lasalle Volleyball Club who are OFSAA champions once again.

13.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W. Larouche welcomed Carole Burke to SEAC and congratulated everyone involved with Project Search.

14.0 Association Reports

Julie Contini: Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury

The Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury recently hosted their annual Christmas party. They are currently planning for World Down Syndrome Day coming up in March 2024.

Natasha Delaney: Member at Large

The Sudbury Wolves will be hosting a sensory friendly game on December 10, 2023. Families are encouraged to search for additional upcoming events through the Autism Ontario North website at autismontarionorth.com.

Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

LDAS is currently hosting their Cookies for Christmas fundraising event. The event closes on December 9, 2023. Individuals are encouraged to check the LDAS website at ldasudbury.ca or their Facebook page for more information. Jamie West recently acknowledged the role of LDAS in the Sudbury Community. This information was also shared via the LDAS Facebook page.

15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

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

16.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

J. Contini requested a discussion at a future meeting regarding how we assess children participating in the alternative curriculum, more specifically how we measure or evaluate the success of students participating in the alternative curriculum. K. Wachnuk reminded SEAC of the spring 2023 presentation on reporting and the alternative curriculum. The information presented will be shared with J. Contini and the presentation can be provided to all of SEAC again if that is preferred.

W. Larouche requested the October report regarding the total numbers of identified students in the board be shared at a future meeting.

17.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on January 10, 2024 at noon.

18.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:14 PM.

OFFICIAL



REDWOOD ACRES PUBLIC SCHOOL

SITE REDEVELOPMENT – PHASE 2

TENDER # 2024-04

PROJECT AND DETAILS:

Supply all labour, materials and equipment necessary to complete Site Redevelopment – Phase 2 at Redwood Acres Public School

BIDDERS

1650939 Ontario LTD. o/a Dominion Construction
Capreol, Ontario

Ed Seguin & Sons
Sturgeon Falls, Ontario

GIP Interpaving Ltd.
Sudbury, Ontario

R.M. Bélanger Limited
Chelmsford, Ontario

Teranorth Construction & Engineering Limited
Sudbury, Ontario

AWARDED TO:

TOTAL (EXCLUDING HST)

RATIONALE

Ed Seguin & Sons

\$ 1,097,000.00

Lowest bid