

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

to be held in person and electronically via Google Meet
Sudbury Secondary School, Room #123
154 College Street, Sudbury
on Tuesday, May 14, 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 Wahnapiatae Nations.
We would like to acknowledge that we are situated within the Robinson - Huron Treaty of 1850 and want to recognize the inherent rights of the Anishinaabek that maintained these lands from time immemorial.*

Roll Call

- A. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** *Chair
- Motion:
That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of May 14, 2024 be approved.
- B. **PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** *Chair
- C. **PRESENTATIONS** NIL *Chair
- D. **REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD** *Director
- E. **OLD BUSINESS** *Chair
1. **Previous Minutes** *Chair
- Motion:
That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 be approved.
2. **Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees** *Chair
- Special Education Plan 2024-2025** *Director
- Motion:
That the Special Education Plan 2024-2025 as recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) be approved.

F. **NEW BUSINESS** *Chair

1. **Budget Structure Changes Overview** *SBO

2. **Director Performance Appraisal Ad Hoc Committee** *Chair

As per Ontario Regulation 83/24, item 3. (1) “ No later than May 15 in each year, each board shall establish a committee responsible for conducting a performance appraisal of the director of education for the board, composed of not fewer than three and not more than seven board members...”

Motion:

That Trustees Clement, Corbiere-Addison, Debassige, Dewar, Farrow, Gibson and Hunda establish the ad hoc committee responsible for conducting the performance appraisal of the Director of Education.

3. **Governance By-Laws Ad Hoc Committee** *Chair

Motion:

That an Ad Hoc Committee be struck to recommend changes to the Rainbow District School Board Governance By-Laws and that it present its recommendations to the Board at the August Regular Board Meeting.

4. **Notice of Absence** *Chair

5. **Director’s Remarks** *Director

6. **Other Items** *Chair

OPSBA Director
Student Trustee

7. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions** *Chair

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

8. **Chairperson’s Remarks** *Chair

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** *Chair

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Audit Committee minutes December 4, 2023
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes April 3, 2024 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes April 9, 2024 (official)

2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**

Tender 2024-10 Monetville Public School
Tender 2024-11 Assiginack Public School
Tender 2024-12 Manitoulin Secondary School

3. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

*Chair

Equity & Inclusion Committee May 16, 2024 4:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee May 22, 2024 3:30 pm
Student Senate Meeting June 3, 2024 5:30 pm
Board Meeting June 4, 2024 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee June 5, 2024 12:00
Equity & Inclusion Committee June 13, 2024 4:00 pm
Board Meeting June 17, 2024 3:30 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
on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 5:06 p.m.

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

Absent: Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink

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

Staff: S. Ackroyd, A. Barry, M. Bertrand, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette,
K. Farrell-Menard, T. Hayes, N. Mousseau, L. Mantle,
M. McKelvey, D. Peristeridis, C. Whitson

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-R54, A.McCauley/D.Dewar

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of April 16, 2024 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. PRESENTATIONS

Literacy & Thinking Classrooms

Superintendent McNamara introduced Principal of Student Success, Melanie Bertrand who provided a presentation on Literacy initiatives and Thinking Classrooms. Principal Bertrand welcomed two members of the Program team that joined the presentation, Amanda Barry and Kara Ferrell-Menard.

The presentation discussed the connections between literacy and student success and outlined how the Program department sets directions for professional learning, reviewed information about the OSSLT and illustrated some best practices with a focus on building Thinking Classrooms.

The team shared how literacy is tied to student success from the early years where first students learn to read, then they read to learn. As students' progress through the grades, literacy skills are required to achieve success in all content areas including the Ontario Secondary Schools Literacy Test requirement in Grade 10.

There have been many professional learning opportunities for staff including in school supports, which include individual teacher and school team learning, Subject Council Meetings, Bite-Sized PD, a professional activity day dedicated to literacy and a Book Study on "The Writing Revolution".

The Thinking Classroom has become a more widely used approach in support of literacy and is a very effective way to teach literacy and language skills that can be applied to a variety of subjects. It is a group effort with students that encourages collaboration, engagement, sharing of ideas and teacher feedback to help develop their ideas, creating more confident readers and writers.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No motions arose from the Closed meeting, nothing to report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 24-R55, L.Debassige/D.Dewar

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 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

2. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

NIL

3. 2023-2024 School Year Update

Director Bourget provided an update of events taking place across Rainbow Schools, such as the recent Sudbury Regional Science Fair which had seven projects from Lo-Ellen Park selected to move on to the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Ottawa in May as well as upcoming

events like the Free to Be Me symposium on April 18th, the Math, Science and Tech Olympics on April 24th at Science North and Destination Readiness which will take place on April 30th. He shared that Rainbow Schools will celebrate Education Week from May 6th to 10th with the spotlight on Literacy and Numeracy and that the Board is sending a proud contingent of 26 students to the Provincial Tech Skills Competition on May 6th and 7th at the Toronto Congress Centre.

Rainbow launched the Family Portal today for two pilot schools, Larchwood Public School and Lively District Secondary School. The portal gives parents and guardians access to data about their children including attendance, report cards and unofficial transcripts.

Truth and Reconciliation was the focus of the Professional Activity Day on April 8th, where we welcomed 2 speakers Jo Chrona and Kevin Lamoureux as part of the System-wide presentation.

Director Bourget reminded that Kindergarten Orientation sessions will take place in all Rainbow Schools in May.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Ontario Public School Board Association Annual General Meeting

Motion: 24-R56, J.Kosmerly/A.McCauley

That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2024 Canadian School Boards Association Congress and National Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education in Toronto on July 3-5, 2024.

(Trustee Clement, Trustee Corbiere-Addison, Trustee Debassige, Trustee Farrow, Trustee Gibson, Trustee Hunda, Trustee Kosmerly)

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

2. Ontario Student Trustee Association – Annual General Meeting

Motion: 24-R57, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Greene, Student Trustee Jacko-Cywick and the 2 incoming Student Trustees at the 2024 OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting May 23-26, 2024 in Toronto.

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

3. **Notice of Absence**

Chair Farrow stated the Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink was absent.

4. **Director's Remarks**

Board Awards

Rainbow District School Board will pay tribute to its dedicated employees and community partners with the presentation of Board Awards on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. The ceremony will begin at 6:30 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium at Sudbury Secondary School.

Retirement Dinner

The Board's Retirement Dinner will take place on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at the Caruso Club. We look forward to the opportunity to celebrate our retirees.

Budget

We have not yet received the Grants for Student Needs and budget information from the Ministry of Education. In the days and weeks ahead we will unpack the information and continue with our planning for the 2024-25 school year. More information to come in future meetings.

Graduations

Graduations are not far away. Please check your calendars for availability and let us know which graduations you can attend.

Administrative Transfers and Appointments

At an upcoming meeting I will provide details on administrative transfers and appointments for the 2024-2025 school year.

Staffing for next year has started. Principals are working to create schedules and staff their schools for the fall.

Happy Birthday to both Cindy Whitson and Adam.

5. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly attended the Northern Region Council meeting on April 6th and reminded trustees that registration is open for the upcoming AGM and it is an election year for all positions on the Executive and Committees. The deadline for nominations is June 4th. In follow up to the policy resolution that was shared with all trustees, she asked for any feedback or comments in advance of the AGM in case a vote is required. Rainy River District School Board recently sent a letter to the Ministry of Education citing the serious concerns northern boards are experiencing as a result of teacher shortages. The Northern Council Chair plans to write a similar letter and have all northern boards sign and sent to the Minister. The next Board of Director's meeting will be on April 26/27, 2024 in Toronto.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Greene shared that the Student Senate are completing the final details for the upcoming Stand Up Speak Out Conference which will be held on May

9th at College Boreal from 9am to 2pm, all trustees are invited to attend. They are expecting approximately 100 students to attend from secondary schools across the board.

6. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Kosmerly attended the April 4th Tech Day at Confederation Secondary School and shared the clock she made at the event.

Trustee Debassige participated in the April 8th PA Day which focused on Indigenous Education board-wide. She expressed her gratitude to Nicole Nicolas-Bayer, Principal of Indigenous Education for all of her efforts in such a wonderful, inspiring event. All trustees will be receiving a copy of the book Wahi Wah by Jo Chrona.

Trustee McCauley shared he is honoured to sit at the board table with Trustee Debassige and Trustee Corbiere-Addison who serve our Indigenous students well and is proud to be a part of it.

7. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Chair Farrow thanked Trustees for accommodating the change to the June Board meeting from June 25th to June 17th at 3:30, allowing for better Trustee attendance at graduation ceremonies. He also reminded Trustees of the upcoming webinars for the Director Performance Appraisal training. Any Trustees interested in serving on the Performance Appraisal committee are to advise the Chair.

The Director talked about staffing for the new school year. Knowing how many students to expect helps with the planning process. That's why I like to remind parents/guardians that registrations are ongoing in Rainbow elementary and secondary schools. To register, please contact your area Rainbow school. If you have already registered, thank you. We look forward to welcoming your child into Rainbow Schools this fall.

As we heard earlier this evening, seven students from Rainbow Schools will move on to the **Canada-Wide Science Fair** in Ottawa next month. Huge congratulations to all participants for their hard work in developing their projects. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend well wishes to students as they compete against the best young scientists from across the country. And I congratulate Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School. I know they share our pride in their young scientists.

Schools will honour our planet for **Earth Day** on April 22nd. This year's theme is "Planet vs. Plastics" which aims to: highlight the ongoing health risk of plastics, expedite the phasing out of single use plastics, and strengthen our efforts to create a worldwide treaty for the prevention of plastic pollution.

Rainbow District School Board will host **Destination Readiness: Pathways for Students with Special Needs** on April 30th from 4 pm to 7 pm at the Local 6500 Hospitality, Conference & Education Centre (formerly the United Steelworkers Hall). The free, annual event aims to help students with needs and exceptionalities plan for their future.

Throughout the month of May, Rainbow elementary schools will offer **Kindergarten Orientation** for students starting school this fall as well as their parents/guardians. Families will have an opportunity to connect with Kindergarten teachers, early childhood educators

and school personnel. They will also meet other children starting school. A list of dates and times will be available on the board website.

Compost Awareness Week will take place from May 5th to May 11th. This international movement is the largest and most comprehensive educational initiative of the organics recycling industry - which recognizes the importance of composting organics and using compost to create healthier soil.

Education Week is on the horizon. Between May 6th and May 10th, schools will have a variety of activities focusing on the theme "Spotlight on Literacy and Numeracy." Education Week also coincides with **Music Monday**, which takes place on Monday, May 6th.

The next **Parent Involvement Committee** meeting is set for Tuesday, May 7th at 7 pm. Committee members will be planning the topics of meetings for the 2024-2025 school year.

This is **Volunteer Appreciation Week** and I would like to thank parents/guardians and community members who contribute to our schools in so many ways. Our volunteers bring positive energy to our schools and we are truly grateful.

And just a reminder Trustees... to let the Director's Office know which graduations you will be attending. We look forward to joining our school communities to celebrate student success.

And that concludes my remarks for this evening.

Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Parent Involvement Committee minutes January 30, 2024 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes February 27, 2024 (official)
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes March 6, 2024 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**
Graduation Ceremony Dates – Elementary, Secondary & Stepping Up

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Equity & Inclusion Committee April 18, 2024 4:00 pm
Strategic Planning Committee April 30, 2024 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee May 1, 2024 12:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting May 6, 2024 5:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee May 7, 2024 7:00 pm
Board Meeting May 14, 2024 5:00 pm (@ Sudbury Secondary School – Library)
Board Awards May 14, 2024 6:30 pm (@ Sheridan Auditorium)

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 24-R58, B.Clement/J.Hunda
That we do now adjourn at 6:40 p.m. – **Carried**

Title:	Special Education Plan 2024-2025
Contact:	Kathy Wachnuk
Date Submitted:	May 14, 2024
Mandate	Under the <i>Education Act</i> , Regulation 306 requires the Board submit a Special Education Plan for the school year 2024/2025. As part of this process, a Special Education budget must be developed.
Background	<p>A review of special education programs and services is conducted on an annual basis.</p> <p>The Special Education Advisory Committee, principals, special education staff, and parents (134 responses) were invited to participate in the annual review. Their input is reflected in the Special Education Budget 2024-2025.</p> <p>In anticipation of the submission of the Special Education Plan by July 31, the Special Education Budget for 2024-2025 has been prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Education policy document <i>Standards for School Board Plans for Special Education</i>.</p> <p>The Special Education Budget 2024-2025 reflects programs and services for 1339 elementary and 1062 secondary exceptional students.</p> <p>The Special Education Budget 2024-2025 amendments (see following page) are reflected in the Special Education Plan 2024-2025 which is available on the board website.</p>
Recommendation	That the Special Education Plan 2024-2025 as recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) be approved.

Rainbow District School Board
Special Education Budget 2024-2025
Report to the Board
May 2024

Amendments

A total of 215 (Full Time Equivalent) special education teachers have been allocated for 2023-2024. This represents an increase from 2023-2024. This includes 99 Resource Teachers, 82 Intensive Support Program Teachers (this includes Section 23 teachers), and 12 Itinerant Teachers.

The number of (Full Time Equivalent) Educational Assistants increased to 228. This number includes Educational Assistants in Section 23 Programs.

Please note:

These allocations include section 23 teachers and educational assistants.

Further details to staffing for special education in elementary and secondary schools are included in the “Special Education Programs and Services”, Section 8 and 11 of the Special Education Plan (available on the board website).

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, December 4, 2023 at 2:30 p.m.

Present:

Trustees: J. Hunda (Chair), L. Corbiere-Addison, J. Kosmerly

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)
D. Farrow, Chair (guest)
Y. de la Morandiere, Assistant Manager of Finance
A. Conaty, Financial Analyst
C. Whitson, recording secretary

Introductions were made by those present in the room and via Google Meet.

1. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: J.Kosmerly/F.Cinotti

That the agenda for the Audit Committee meeting of December 4, 2023 be approved.
- **carried**

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

3. **Previous Minutes**

Motion: F.Cinotti/L.Corbiere-Addison

That the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting of September 25, 2023 be approved.
- **carried**

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

Concern was raised for a 2nd external member due to attendance.

Motion: F.Cinotti/J.Kosmerly

To look for a replacement external member. – **carried**

It was suggested to add a note to the questionnaire regarding the turnover of members over the past year.

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

Members shared that the internal team has done a great job, and it was suggested to add a mention of how well the internal team and staff have worked together.

6. **Evaluation of External Auditors Performance**

Committee members discussed.

7. **2022/2023 Financial Statements**

D. D'Angelo provided a detailed review of the financial statements.

Board staff members and guests left the room while the Audit Committee members stayed on the google meet to allow for questions of the external auditor.

Board staff members then returned to the room and google meet to continue the meeting.

Motion: F.Cinotti/J.Kosmerly

That the 2022/2023 Financial Statements be recommended to the Board for approval.

– **carried**

8. **2022/2023 Audit Committee Report**

Motion: J.Kosmerly/F.Cinotti

That the 2022/2023 Audit Committee Report be approved. – **carried**

9. **Future Meetings**

Call of the Chair.

10. **Adjournment**

Motion: J.Kosmerly/L.Corbieri-Addison

That we now adjourn (4:29) p.m. – **carried**

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

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Lisa Corbiere-Addison	Trustee
Natasha Delaney	Member at Large
Sara Kitlar-Pothier	Ontario Autism Coalition
Wendy Larouche	Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
Alex McCauley	Trustee
Stephanie Roussy	Children's Community Network
Robert Silvestri	Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre
Jennifer Way	March of Dimes Canada

Staff:

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

Regrets:

Chantal Cardinal	March of Dimes Canada
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Absent:

Christina Williams	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
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1.0 Welcome and Introductions

R. Silvestri welcomed all members to the virtual meeting.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

C. Burke read the mission statement aloud.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: Trustee McCauley

Seconded by: N. Delaney

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of April 3, 2024 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: L. Corbiere-Addison

Seconded by: N. Delaney

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of March 6, 2024 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

S. Kitlar-Pothier shared that the symbols and attributes that are being used to represent the autism community, specifically the colour blue, the puzzle pieces and the organization “Autism Speaks” are not widely accepted by all members of the Autism community. S. Kitlar-Pothier shared that the neurodiversity symbol is best and is accepted by all. S. Kitlar-Pothier noted that the RDSB had posted a link to the *Autism Speaks* organization on social media and explained that this organization is controversial. The link had been removed at the time of the SEAC meeting. A screenshot picture of the post was shared with Superintendent Wachnuk. Superintendent Wachnuk encouraged members to reach out if statements published are at odds with individuals. She also shared that she will investigate the source of the post.

S. Kitlar-Pothier explained that Autism Canada or Autism Ontario would be acceptable links to share.

N. Delaney expressed that the Rainbow District School Board usually promotes “Raise the Flag” on World Autism Day.

N. Delaney shared that some groups do not wish to be seen as a puzzle or pieces to be fixed. Furthermore, the colour blue or red may have different meanings that we do not want connected to people with autism. S. Kitlar-Pothier added the puzzle pieces insinuate that there is a piece missing.

Superintendent Wachnuk stated that she will need to do more research in regards to this matter as she does not want to offend or misrepresent other parties. Superintendent Wachnuk thanked S. Kitlar-Pothier for bringing this to our attention.

S. Roussy asked if the Ministry provided information to the schools regarding FASD Awareness Day. Superintendent Wachnuk responded by saying that the majority of the information comes from the organizations themselves. She also added that schools along with the school councils typically decide which events they want to participate in based on the population that they serve. Superintendent Wachnuk invited S. Roussy to share with her the information that she would like to be included under the Board’s *Days of Significance*.

8.0 New Business

No new business.

9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

No requests for leave of absence.

10.0 Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Wachnuk shared the results from the 2023-2024 Special Education Invitation for input. Overall there were a total of 134 forms returned. Last year there were 143 forms returned.

There were 7 forms that required follow up based on questions or concerns that

were raised. All of the questions/concerns were addressed by Principal Williamson with the school principals.

Common themes included requests for additional EA support in schools, how to help their child at home, and programs accessed outside of school hours.

There was a lot of positive feedback from parents in regards to the specialized programs their children are participating in and the impact these programs are having on their children's progress. Our speech and language services were mentioned frequently and how the speech and language interventions have increased student achievement. Our Applied Behaviour Analysis supports were also highlighted in the feedback as having made a positive impact.

Superintendent Wachnuk wanted to recognize the staff and students at Jean Hanson Public School for the work they did to organize and celebrate World Autism Day. The staff at Jean Hanson invited the school community to a barbecue and shared a slideshow where all of the students were well represented. Numerous representatives of the Rainbow Board including Director Bourget and Board Chair Farrow attended the celebration. It was a joyous occasion for all. Superintendent Wachnuk thanked N. Delaney for attending the event.

Superintendent Wachnuk communicated that the ABA team is now settled into Westmount Public School. They have recently moved from their prior Ruth MacMillan Centre location. The Board received communication that Wordplay will now be occupying RMC.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that staffing for the 2024-2025 school year has been completed. The proposed staffing will be brought to SEAC for a motion and for a vote during the May 1st meeting. This plan will also be presented to the Board on May 14th which is the same day as the Board's award ceremony. Superintendent Wachnuk explained that they have had to create additional Intensive Support Programs due to the number of students who have registered and require a greater level of support. It is not yet confirmed that the two ABA programs will remain at Westmount Avenue next school year.

11.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal Williamson shared that Destination Readiness will be held on April 30th at the Steelworkers Hall from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. This event is for all Rainbow students with special needs. The session focuses on providing information to students and their caregivers regarding the transition from school to community. Numerous agency representatives will be on hand to answer questions regarding vocational and job support options, post-secondary learning opportunities, community and independent living, and financial support and management. Principal Williamson also shared that schools have already received the information and to be on the lookout for the social media campaign regarding this event.

Principal Williamson shared that on June 5th, MacLeod Public School will be hosting its second annual MacLeod Mustang All-Star Softball Tournament. All students in an ISP classroom are invited to participate. This event will take place at the Terry Fox Sports Complex. Principal Williamson is proposing that the SEAC members join in on the fun and attend the tournament in lieu of the regular scheduled SEAC meeting. W. Larouche expressed that this is a great idea as in the past, SEAC members have had the opportunity to visit classrooms. Principal Williamson will send a message out to SEAC members to find out everyone's availability and/or if members want to simply be spectators and cheer the students on.

12.0 Board Report

Trustee Corbiere-Addison shared that the Strategic Planning Committee met on April 2, 2024. The Board was presented with more information and initiatives that are happening throughout the schools in regards to the Math Action Plan. The presenters also offered information regarding the use of diagnostic tools. L. Corbiere-Addison also shared that presenters Sarah Clarke and Matthew Cootes prepared information regarding mental health and wellbeing.

On March 28th, Rainbow District School Board hosted a half-day Free to Be Me symposium at Lockerby Composite School. This annual event aimed at enhancing supports for students in Grades 7 and 8 who identify as 2SLGBTQI+. This event also included poverty, race, culture and disabilities awareness. A half-day symposium will be held for students in Grades 9 to 12 on April 18th.

13.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W. Larouche thanked everyone for the information that was shared.

14.0 Association Reports

Children's Community Network - S. Roussy

S. Roussy will be sending a letter/memo to SEAC. She is a member of the specialized committee. They are looking for more people to join the committee.

Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury - J. Contini

J. Contini shared that World Downs Syndrome Day was 2 weeks ago. Numerous schools participated and shared photos. The DSA is now planning for the annual walk in October.

Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury - W. Larouche

W. Larouche shared that the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury awards ceremony will be held on April 18th. Lise Orsini, Educational Assistant at R.H. Murray, will be the recipient of the Outstanding Educators Award. W. Larouche also reminded the committee of the parent conference in May. In June, the LDAS will put out a call for new committee members.

Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre - R. Silvestri

R. Silvestri shared that NOARC is preparing for the conference in May. The conference will include multiple perspectives on diversity such as medical, constructivist and indigenous perspectives.

Ontario Autism Coalition - S. Kitlar-Pothier

S. Kitlar-Pothier shared that April 24th will be a lobbying day at Queen's Park. The focus is on the lack of special education funding support, gaps in the services throughout Northern Ontario, the increasing long waitlists for diagnosis and services for autism. S. Kitlar-Pothier also shared that she was interviewed by CBC for World Autism Awareness on April 2, 2024.

15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

No correspondence at this time.

16.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

S. Kitlar-Pothier inquired about the letter to the Ministry regarding the changes to the claims based process.

Superintendent Wachnuk responded that SEAC made the recommendation to the Board to write a letter that reflected their concerns about the funding moving away from a claims based process and what this means for the students with exceptionalities in the Rainbow Board. Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the Board did write the letter and that the Ministry responded that they would be looking further into this matter. The Ministry will be auditing all school boards in the course of four years to determine if they will implement the funding formula or allow school boards to choose to continue with the claims based process. RDSB made it very clear to the Ministry of Education that they would like to return to a claims-based process.

17.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on May 1, 2024 at 12:00 PM.

18.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:19 PM.

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 7 pm
In Person at 408 Wembley Drive and Via Google Meet

Attendance

Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Ashley Vickman, Parent, Walden Public School; Angelina Kasunich, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Rebecca Coughlin, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Steffany Bourque, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Alisha Basarabe, Parent, Algonquin Road Public School; Yvette and Jean Yves Tessier, Parents, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Racheal Aryee, Parent, MacLeod Public School/Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Trustee Alex McCauley; Leslie Mantle, Senior Administrator of School Support Services; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Coleen Eberlein, Elementary Principal representative; Katrina Nadeau, Elementary Vice-Principal representative; Susan Cousineau, Principal, C.R. Judd Public School; Laurie-Ann Lielkans, Secondary Principal representative, Lesley Fisher, Superintendent, and Dan Koziar, Principal of Programs (K to 6), Rainbow District School Board

Regrets:

Tiija Luttrell, Parent, Larchwood Public School; Shannon Ketchabaw, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School; Jennifer Dalton, Parent, Adamsdale Public School; Heidi Ferguson, Parent, Little Current Public School; Sheila James, Secondary Vice-Principal representative; Meredith Coulas, Elementary Teacher representative

Call to Order: 7 pm

1. Welcome

Chair Melissa Gladu welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Self-Introductions

In person and online participants introduced themselves.

3. Presentation: Supporting Students in Mathematics Dan Koziar, Principal of Program (K to 6)

Principal Dan Koziar indicated that the Board is working with teachers, students and families to ensure coherent and consistent approaches to math instruction in all of our

schools. From kindergarten to Grade 12, students have access to a variety of meaningful learning experiences that enhance their understanding of mathematics, and their ability to use math in real world situations.

The Ministry of Education has defined three priority actions for mathematics education. These include: ensuring fidelity of curriculum implementation and use of instruction and assessment practices with a proven track record of enhancing student achievement; engaging in ongoing learning to strengthen mathematics content knowledge for teaching; knowing the mathematics learner, and ensuring mathematical tasks, interventions and supports are relevant and responsive.

In order to address these priorities, and enhance outcomes for all learners, staff carefully consider and plan mathematics instruction to ensure that students are provided with meaningful, impactful instruction that addresses the need to develop foundational math skills while also having opportunities to use these skills in a variety of contexts to develop their ability to think and problem solve mathematically.

The Ministry of Education updated the elementary mathematics curriculum in 2020. With an updated focus on foundational math skills, as well as helping students to see themselves as confident math learners, the curriculum has six strands: Social-Emotional Learning, Number, Algebra, Data, Spatial Sense and Financial Literacy.

Dr. Peter Liljedahl's work on thinking classrooms is the focus for problem solving. The best practices outlined in this model start with demanding tasks that invite students into doing the thinking and reasoning.

A number of resources are available to support families and students as they engage in math learning. While strong instruction is provided daily at every school, the support of families is invaluable in not only building student proficiency in math, but also in helping them to see themselves as mathematicians and enjoy engaging in math learning.

Math games – math puzzles, or card and board games can show that math is fun. They also require trial and error thinking, enhance numeracy and logical thinking, and promote discussion.

Math at the grocery store – talk to your child about how to weigh items on a scale or how to estimate the total bill as you fill your cart.

Math with money – create a budget together or save to make a special purchase to help your child manage money. You could go shopping together and ask your child to estimate the amount of a purchase, calculate tax and check their change.

Math in the kitchen – bake, cook and prepare food with your child. There are many great math opportunities in the kitchen, such as measuring ingredients.

TVO provides a variety of resources to support math instruction. Developed in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, these resources are intended to strengthen and support student math learning.

TVO Learn offers lessons that parents can use to supplement learning at home. While developed for educators, they provide activities and resources that families can also use to support math at home.

TVO mPower is an online platform that houses a variety of math games. These games are organized by grade, theme and topic and are a great way to engage children in having fun with math. Parents can set up an account for free to access activities with their child.

TVO Mathify provides FREE online math help for Ontario students in Grades 4-12. Students can get one on one math tutoring at no cost through their digital device. Tutors are Ontario certified teachers and are available online Monday to Friday from 9 am to 9 pm, and Saturday to Sunday from 3 pm to 9 pm.

The EQAO website offers sample tests for the Primary, Junior and Grade 9 assessments. For elementary, these combine elements of both the literacy and numeracy sections. For grade nine, it is purely math focused. These can be a great resource to practice at home.

There are also a number of resources on the board website under the 'Parents' tab to support families to engage in learning at home.

4. Approval of Agenda

"That the agenda for the meeting on April 9, 2024 be approved."

Moved by: Steffany Bourque, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Seconded by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Carried

5. Approval of Minutes

“That the minutes of the meeting held on February 27, 2024 be approved.”

Moved by: Rebecca Coughlin, Lansdowne Public School

Seconded by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Carried

6. Communications Report

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

C.C. McLean, with 176 students, had an outpouring of support from the community for their Jump Day for **Jump Rope for Heart** on March 28th, 2024. They raised \$13,712 dollars for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

Students from 13 Rainbow Schools will participate in the 4th annual **Elementary Chess Tournament** on Thursday, April 11, 2024. The full-day event will bring together some 240 students from Grades 1 to 8 to play chess at the Local 6500 Hospitality, Conference & Education Centre in Sudbury (formerly United Steelworkers Hall).

The **Environmental Education Committee**'s efforts to encourage sustainable practices continues during Earth Month and Earth Day (April 22, 2024). The Earth Day theme is Planet vs Plastics and promotes further phasing out of all single use plastics.

Rainbow District School Board will present **Embrace Diversity: Free to Be Me**, a symposium with workshops for students in Grades 9 to 12 on April 18th. The educational conference is the ongoing work of the Equity and Inclusive Education Committee which includes community partners.

Close to 180 Grade 7 and 8 students from 12 Rainbow Schools will compete at the **Math, Science and Technology Olympics** at Science North on Wednesday, April 24th. For the full-day event, a team of dedicated teachers have prepared challenging questions and activities related to Science North exhibits and the curriculum. An awards ceremony will take place at 2:30 pm in the Vale Cavern. Parents/guardians and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Destination Readiness will take place on Tuesday, April 30th, from 4 pm to 7 pm at the Local 6500 Hospitality, Conference & Education Centre on Brady Street. Destination Readiness is a special event that connects students with special education needs, their families, and teachers directly with community agencies that provide programming and support.

A number of students from Rainbow Schools will participate in the **Skills Ontario Competition** on May 6th and 7th in Toronto. They will be part of Team Sudbury along with Cambrian College. More than 2,400 students will compete provincially in 70 different events. Team Sudbury features more than 130 competitors and 54 coaches in 41 events. We have 26 elementary students attending and a number of secondary students.

The **Sudbury Regional Science Fair** was held at Laurentian University on April 6th and 7th. Seven projects from Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, including six elementary and one secondary, were the only projects selected to move on to the **Canada-Wide Science Fair** in Ottawa from May 25th to June 1st, 2024.

Rainbow Schools will celebrate **Education Week** from May 6 to 10, 2024. This year's theme for Education Week in Rainbow Schools will be Spotlight on Literacy and Numeracy. In the coming weeks, we will share a list of Education Week activities on the board website.

Lansdowne Public School will host an informal music concert for parents and family members on **Music Monday** May 6, from 2 to 3 pm. Watch for more on Music Monday.

7. School Announcements

Yvette Tessier of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School highlighted the ASD Grade 12 Co-op opportunity in the cafeteria and the warm beverage club.

Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School highlighted fundraising as well as the Sudbury Music Festival, Viking athletics, and university readiness. She said the school newsletter and Facebook page continue to be an excellent source of information.

Alisha Basarabe of Algonquin Road Public School said the school will host its Spring Fair on Saturday, May 4, 2024.

Ashley Vickman of Walden Public School said Walden earned a Certificate from the Ministry of Agriculture as one of the top 10 schools in Canada for selling fresh produce. With its PRO Grant, Walden will host a Pasta Dinner and Numeracy Night during Education Week. She also highlighted Welcome to Kindergarten Orientation, the Coding Club, Dare to Care, and the Spring Craft Show on Saturday, April 27, 2024.

Ashley Vickman asked about the Family Portal. Nicole Charette indicated that the Rainbow District School Board is piloting the Family Portal at an elementary school and a secondary school this spring. The Family Portal gives parents/guardians access to information about their child's education from Aspen, the school board's Student Information System. The purpose of the pilot is to obtain feedback on the print resources and videos that have been created to help parents/guardians navigate the website. Parents/guardians at the pilot schools will be invited to complete a survey in May. Once we complete the pilot, we will assess the feedback to determine next steps.

Natasha Delaney of Jean Hanson Public School said the school raised the flag for autism. She also highlighted a fundraiser and indicated preparations were underway for the graduation in June.

Steffany Bourque of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School indicated the school will host a Family Math Night on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. She also highlighted fundraising for a Grade 8 trip as well as a trip to Europe in March 2025, sports opportunities for students, and the Grade 8 graduation.

Rebecca Coughlin of Lansdowne Public School said the Math Games afternoon was well attended. Parents spent time with their children in classrooms. A Literacy Day will be held in May. Grade 8 students are preparing for graduation and visited Sudbury Secondary School as part of transition planning. She also highlighted French Immersion Day, fundraising, visits to the Lancer Dome, intramural sports, the Chess Tournament and Music Monday.

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said the school continues to foster a school community with picnics, feasts and other activities. She said it was nice to see board staff serve food at the spring feast. This creates a good connection with students and further enhances the family feel. She highlighted sports, the concert at Sudbury Secondary School to promote French music and culture, a spring picnic with reading for Education Week, and Grade 8 fundraising for a camping trip in June.

Chair Melissa Gladu reviewed the final meeting date and topic. She thanked all parents/guardians and staff for joining us and reminded them to bring their ideas for the 2024-2025 School Year to the PIC planning meeting in May.

Adjournment at 8:35 pm

"That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Seconded by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Carried

Next meeting:

Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7 pm

In Person at 408 Wembley Drive and Via Google Meet

Topic: Brainstorming for 2024-2025 School Year



MONETVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOL

BOILER & ELECTRICAL SERVICES UPGRADES

TENDER # 2024-10

PROJECT AND DETAILS:

Supply all labour, materials and equipment to complete the Boiler & Electrical Services Upgrades at Monetville Public School.

BIDDERS (IN ALPABETICAL ORDER)

Bernard Rochefort Limited, Astorville ON

CTRL HVAC, Lively ON

DMC Electric Limited, Alban ON

Greater City Mechanical, Val Caron

Patrick Mechanical Ltd., Lively ON

AWARDED TO:

Greater City Mechanical

TOTAL (EXCLUDING HST)

\$195,522.00

RATIONALE

Lowest bid



ASSIGINACK PUBLIC SCHOOL

WASHROOM AND LOCKER UPGRADES

TENDER # 2024-11

PROJECT AND DETAILS:

Supply all labour, materials and equipment to complete the washroom and locker upgrades at Assiginack Public School.

BIDDERS (IN ALPABETICAL ORDER)

Ainsworth Inc., Sudbury ON

Sheppard Custom Building, Mindemoya ON

AWARDED TO:

Ainsworth Inc.

TOTAL (EXCLUDING HST)

\$ 208,333.00

RATIONALE

Lowest bid



MANITOULIN SECONDARY SCHOOL

AUTO SHOP UPGRADES

TENDER # 2024-12

PROJECT AND DETAILS:

Supply all labour, materials and equipment to complete the Auto Shop Upgrades at Manitoulin Secondary School.

BIDDERS (IN ALPABETICAL ORDER)

Metal-Air Mechanical Systems Ltd., Val Caron ON

Patrick Mechanical Ltd., Lively ON

Sheppard Custom Building, Mindemoya ON

AWARDED TO:

Metal-Air Mechanical
Systems Ltd.

TOTAL (EXCLUDING HST)

\$154,703.00

RATIONALE

Lowest bid