

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 21, 2025 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 January 21, 2025 be approved.

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

*Chair

C. PRESENTATIONS

*Chair

Board Mental Health Plan – Sarah Clarke

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, December 10, 2024 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.

- F. NEW BUSINESS** *Chair
1. **Revised Estimates 2024-2025** *SBO
 2. **OSTA/AECO – Education Action Conference** *Chair

Motion:
That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Nootchtai and Student Trustee Wilson-Zegil at the OSTA/AECO Education Action Conference in Ottawa on February 13-16, 2025.
 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**
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes November 6, 2024 (official)
 2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
 3. **Non-Staff Communications**
- H. FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair
- Parent Involvement Committee January 28, 2025 7:00 pm
 Student Senate Meeting February 3, 2025 5:30 pm
 Strategic Planning Committee February 4, 2025 5:00 pm
 Special Education Advisory Committee February 5, 2025 12:00 pm
 Equity & Inclusion Committee February 13, 2025 3:30 pm
 Board Meeting February 18, 2025 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
on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

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

Absent: L. Debassige

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

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

Other: D. D'Angelo (KPMG) (via Google Meet)

Chair Farrow called the meeting to order.

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

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 25-R24, J.Kosmerly/A.Gibson

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of December 10, 2024 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 NIL

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

a) Motion: 25-R25, B.Clement/J.Hunda

That the minutes of the Organizational Board Meeting held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 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: 25-R26, J.Kosmerly/L.Corbiere-Addison

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, November 19, 2024 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) Strategic Planning Committee (By-Law Review)

i.) Motion: 25-R27, J.Kosmerly/A.McCauley

That the changes to *Governance By-Law 3: Inaugural and Annual Organizational Meeting*, as attached, be approved.

Amendment: A25-R01, A.Gibson/J.Kosmerly

To amend Governance By-Law 3 title to read “*Inaugural & Annual Organizational Meetings and Representation at Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA)*” and amend the representation section to remove “*or appoint*”.

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

Motion: 25-R28, J.Kosmerly/A.McCauley

That the changes to *Governance By-Law 3: Inaugural and Annual Organizational Meeting*, as attached, be approved, as amended.

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

ii.) Motion: 25-R29, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That the changes to *Governance By-Law 6: Duties of Chair and Vice-Chair*, as attached, 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

iii.) Motion: 25-R30, A.McCauley/A.Gibson

That the changes to the *Governance By-Law Committee Information* page, as attached, be approved.

Amendment: A25-R02, J.Kosmerly/A.Gibson

To amend the membership to “6 Trustees and Director of Education”.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: Absent
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

Motion: 25-R31, A.McCauley/A.Gibson

That the changes to the *Governance By-Law Committee Information* page, as attached, be approved, as amended.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: Absent
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) **Audit Committee**

i) **Audit Committee Annual Report**

Trustee Hunda, Chair of the Audit Committee, provided information from the 2023/2024 Audit Committee report, which was shared with trustees.

ii) **2023/2024 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, 2024.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Motion: 25-R32, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That the 2023/2024 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: In-favour
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 2023-2024 Annual Report, that will be posted on the Board's website in the coming weeks in accessible format.

Trustees were given the opportunity to comment and ask questions.

2. **Insurance Renewal**

Motion: 25-R33, A.McCauley/D.Dewar

That the 2025 Renewal of Insurance for liability, property, crime and fleet automobile with the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange for \$435,298.08 be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: Absent
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-R34, A.Gibson/J.Hunda

That the 2025-26 Budget Development Process be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour

Lisa Corbiere-Addison: Absent

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 has indicated her absence."

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.

I would also like to express my gratitude to 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. It was an amazing evening and the Telethon raised \$416,000.

And I would like to acknowledge Principal Susan Kett for co-ordinating the distribution of some 400 turkeys to families of students in Rainbow Schools. The turkeys are being donated by Matt's Plumbing and a host of contributing companies. Thank you.

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 days 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 2024 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 on November 29-30, 2024 in Toronto and shared highlights of the meeting with trustees via email. She shared two items of importance from the meeting were that OPSBA will be sending a template to trustees regarding the formal and informal code of conduct enforcement processes for consideration, and that OPSBA is encouraging all trustees to read the Leading Practice

document that was shared on November 1st regarding changes to electronic meetings and meeting attendance. She also shared a resolution that the Near North DSB has requested support for that states that OPSBA work with the Ministry of Education and Ontario Mining Association to promote educational student success programs related to mining, which the Board supported.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Wilson-Zegil provided an update on the Stand Up Speak Out conference which has been re-scheduled to April 24, 2025, due to some scheduling conflicts. There have been some venue booking issues that Student Senate are working through. Student Trustee Nootchtai shared that Student Senate has come up with some great ideas for breakout room sessions surrounding intelligence and are still searching for a keynote speaker. She also expressed her gratitude for having an Indigenous Student Trustee position in our board. In her role as the Chair of the Indigenous Student Trustees Council, working with student trustees across the province, there have been challenges in trying to get Indigenous Student Trustee positions implemented in their boards. They both wished everyone the best for the holidays.

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee McCauley thanked the Parent Involvement Committee along with Leslie Mantle and team for getting PIC off the ground. It has been great to see parents coming out and taking part in the events with staff. He also wished everyone a peaceful holiday.

Trustee Clement shared that he is looking forward to attending the Espanola High School awards ceremony on Wednesday, and he recently attended a Future North workshop for grade 9 students around 'words matter' as part of the Equity Committee. He also wished everyone a merry and peaceful Christmas.

Trustee Kosmerly encouraged fellow trustees to get out and get involved in the fairs, festivals, and luncheons as it is the most wonderful time of the year. She wished everyone the best over the holidays.

Trustee Hunda wished everyone a very safe, happy holiday; especially to the staff, take some time to rest.

Student Trustee Nootchtai invited all trustees to the next Student Senate meeting on Monday, January 6th.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks**

As we embark on the festive season, an incredibly joyous time of year in Rainbow Schools, staff and students are spreading excitement and kindness in a variety of ways. A list of **festive events** will be available on the board website.

Rainbow District School Board is once again participating in the **Edgar Burton Kids Helping Kids Food Drive**. Staff and students have been working together to collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations to assist area food banks. I would like to thank Vice-Principals Brad Smith and Andrew Kendall for leading this campaign on behalf of the Rainbow District School Board.

Manitoulin Secondary School will host its annual awards night on Thursday, December 19th at 7 pm. Close to \$70,000 in awards will be presented to students. We commend the community of Manitoulin for its continued generosity and support.

Do you have a child starting school next fall? Elementary schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island will host **Kindergarten Information Nights** for families on Wednesday, January 15th at 5:30 pm for the English program, and Thursday, January 16th at 5:30 pm for schools offering French Immersion and schools offering both English and French Immersion. All parents/guardians and children are welcome.

A friendly reminder to Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians that **Information Nights for secondary schools** will continue into the new year. **Sudbury Secondary School's** will take place tomorrow - Wednesday, December 11th at 6 pm.

In January, we have the following information nights:

Chelmsford Valley District Composite School on Wednesday, January 15th at 6 pm;
Lo-Ellen Park also on Wednesday, January 15th at 6 pm for Grade 6 and 7 pm for Grade 8;
and **Lockerby Composite School** on Thursday, January 16th at 6:45 pm.
Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

A friendly reminder that the **winter break** will soon be upon us.
Schools will be closed from December 23rd to January 3rd.
Schools will reopen on Monday, January 6, 2025.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I extend well wishes to staff, students, families and community partners.

Have a safe, happy and healthy holiday season.

We look forward to seeing you and working together in 2025.

Thank you!

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Accessibility Planning Committee minutes December 1, 2023 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes May 7, 2024 (official)
Audit Committee minutes September 23, 2024 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes October 15, 2024 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Student Senate Meeting January 6, 2025 5:30 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee January 8, 2025 12:00 pm
Board Meeting January 21, 2025 5:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee January 28, 2025 7:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 25-R35, J.Kosmerly/A.Gibson
That we do now adjourn at 7:04 p.m. – **Carried**



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 → Our Values → Our Commitment to 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 Committee 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 and Manitoulin Island.

Nine trustees govern Rainbow District School Board, including a trustee who represents 10 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 29 elementary schools and 9 secondary schools. The Board also operates other educational programs – Child and Adolescent Mental Health Program, Cecil Facer Secondary School, N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre, Children's Treatment Centre, O'Connor Park, Applied Behaviour Analysis Program, Restart, Simulated Healthy Independent Living Opportunities (SHILO) Program, Attendance Centre and Mishko-Deh-Wendam, Norther Support Initiative, Frank Flowers School and Barrydowne College operating at Cambrian College.

Rainbow District School Board had 14,487 students on October 31, 2024, with a staff of approximately 1,795. The approved budget for 2024-2025 was \$249.3 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

* <i>Humility</i>	* <i>Respect</i>
* <i>Bravery</i>	* <i>Love</i>
* <i>Honesty</i>	* <i>Resilience</i>
* <i>Wisdom</i>	* <i>Equity</i>
* <i>Truth</i>	* <i>Community</i>

Seven Grandfather Teachings

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
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Kathy Wachnuk	Administration	Phone (705) 674-3171 X 7235 e-mail wachnuk@rainbowschools.ca
Melissa Gladu	PIC Representative	Phone e-mail gladum@rainbowschools.ca

(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	Employees 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/about-us/our-values/accessibility

Appendices

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A-14 Wheelchair Accessibility Report

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Wheelchair Accessibility of Facilities Updated September 2024

As of September 1, 2024

Elementary School	Wheelchair Accessible	Washrooms Wheelchair Accessible	Elevator	Exterior Ramps	Interior Ramps	Auto Door Openers	Fountain	Playground	Shops	Stage	Bleachers	Science Labs	Tactile Indicators *****	Lockdown Alarms & Signals	Parking with Signs
A.B. ELLIS (New)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes
ADAMSDALE	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
ALEXANDER	Yes	Yes	Yes **	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes**	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes
ALGONQUIN	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
ASSIGNACK	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
C. R. JUDD	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
CENTRAL MANITOULIN	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
C. C. MCLEAN	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
CHELMSFORD SENIOR- closed	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
CHURCHILL	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes
COPPER CLIFF	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
JEAN HANSON	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
LANDSDOWNE	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
LARCHWOOD	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
LASALLE ELEMENTARY	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
LEVACK	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
LITTLE CURRENT	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	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	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
MONETVILLE	Yes	Yes	No**	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
NORTHEASTERN ELEM	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes**	N/A	Yes*	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
PRINCESS ANNE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes
QUEEN ELIZABETH	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	No	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
R.H. MURRAY	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
R.L. BEATTIE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes
REDWOOD ACRES	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
S. GEIGER	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes
VALLEY VIEW	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes
WALDEN PUBLIC	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
WESTMOUNT	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes*	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes

Secondary School	Wheelchair Accessible	Washrooms Wheelchair Accessible	Elevator	Exterior Ramps	Interior Ramps	Auto Door Openers	Fountain	Playground	Shops	Stage	Bleachers	Science Labs	Tactile Indicators *****	Lockdown Alarms & Signals	Parking with Signs
CECIL FACER	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes***	Yes	N/A	Yes	No	No	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes
CHELMSFORD VALLEY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes**	N/A	Yes	Yes
CONFEDERATION	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ESPANOLA	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LASALLE	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
LIVELY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes*	N/A	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes
LOCKERBY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes
LO-ELLEN PARK	Yes	Yes	Yes**	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
MANITOULIN	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes*	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes
SUDBURY SECONDARY	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Centre for Education	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes

Notes

N/A - Not Applicable

* A Portable Wheelchair Lift Is Available To All Schools To Access School Stage

** The majority of the property is accessible

*** Hand Held Remote To Open Door

**** Installed as requested for Staff/Students with low vision

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.					
Central Manitoulin P.S.					
C.C. McLean P.S.					
Churchill P.S.	2022-2023				
Copper Cliff P.S.					
Jean Hansen					
Lasalle Elementary	2023-2024				
Lansdowne P.S.					
Larchwood P.S.					
Levack P.S.					
Little Current P.S.		2024-2025			
MacLeod P.S.	2023-2024				
Markstay P.S.					
Monetville P.S.					
Northeastern E.S.	2020-2021				
Princess Anne P.S.					
Queen Elizabeth P.S.					
R.H. Murray P.S.					
R.L. Beattie P.S.		2025-2026			
Redwood Acres P.S.					
S. Geiger P.S.					
Valley View P.S.	2018-2019				
Walden P.S.	2017-2018				
Westmount P.S.					
SECONDARY					
Chelmsford V. D.C.S.	2021-2022				
Confederation S.S.	2017-2018				
Espanola H.S. (ABE)	2021-2022				
Lasalle S.S.	2020-2021				
Lively District S.S.	2020-2021				
Lockerby C.S.	2020-2021				
Lo-Ellen Park S.S.	2015-2016				
Manitoulin S.S.	2018-2019				
Sudbury S.S.	2017-2018				
Administration					
Centre for Education	2016-2017				

[Find my tickets](#)[Log In](#)[Sign Up](#)

Thursday, February 13



OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference 2025

OSTA-AECO's 2025 Education Action Conference is a professional development conference for student trustees in the province of Ontario.



By OSTA-AECO 42 followers

Lots of repeat customers

42 followers

Follow

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Date and time

Thu, Feb 13, 2025 6:00 PM - Sun, Feb 16, 2025 12:00 PM EST

Location



The Westin Ottawa

11 Colonel By Drive Ottawa, ON K1N 9H4

[Show map](#)

Refund Policy

Refunds up to **14 days** before event
Eventbrite's fee is nonrefundable.

About this event



Event lasts 2 days 18 hours



Paid venue parking

Welcome to the **OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference 2025**! Join us for a weekend filled with insightful discussions, engaging workshops, and networking opportunities. This in-person event will be held at **The Westin Ottawa**, a prestigious venue in the heart of the city. This is a must-attend event for all Ontario student trustees! Connect with like-minded individuals passionate about student voice and make a difference in our education system.

Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to collaborate, learn, and grow! Mark your calendars and be part of the 2025 OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference. We can't wait to see you there.



Accommodations

School boards are responsible for reserving hotel rooms for your attendees through this Eventbrite by selecting the Hotel Room Add-On and selecting the number of hotel rooms you will need for the weekend. OSTA-AECO has secured a group rate for our conference attendees.

If you purchased the annual conference registration package in October: You are still responsible for reserving rooms in advance of each conference. We will provide a discount code to remove the associated fees but require registration to be completed via Eventbrite.

For supervision purposes, conference attendees are strongly encouraged to stay at the conference hotel. We only reserve a limited number of rooms per conference. Please be aware that room bookings are first come, first served, and we recommend that school boards coordinate with one another to arrange room-sharing for attendees where possible.

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

The deadline to reserve hotel rooms for FGM is January 24, 2025.

Conference code of conduct

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

The quick version

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

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

The less-quick version

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Well-being at conferences

Supervision

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

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

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

School boards are welcome to send chaperones if they choose. If you would like to chaperone your attendees, please ensure to add a **Chaperone** ticket to your order. If a room is required for a chaperone, the same procedure for reserving rooms can be completed in the Add-On Section. Attendees who are accompanied by a chaperone will not be expected to check in with conference organizers each night.

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

Mental well-being

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

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

Spiritual well-being for Indigenous attendees

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

Conference Schedule

We have released [our conference agenda](#)! Check it out on Sched, our conference scheduling platform.



Still have questions?

Curious about what happens at OSTA-AECO conferences? Have questions about supervision and hotel room bookings?

Please use the conference email inbox:

Frequently asked questions

OSTA.ConferenceRegistration@osta-aeco.org. Our volunteer team of Directors will be monitoring this inbox regularly leading up to conferences.

What is included in my conference registration fee?



What is your refund policy?



Why isn't OSTA booking hotel rooms anymore?



What happened to Member Board Pricing?



Organized by



OSTA-AECO

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We're the Ontario Student Trustees' Association: the largest official student stakeholder group in Ontario, advocating for over 2 million. For over twenty years, OSTA-AECO has been a strong, effective, and positive voice for students. Our organization strives to empower students and work to improve public education across the province.

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OSTA-AECO Education Action Conference 2025

B BoD **P** Plenary

FEBRUARY 13 • THURSDAY			
6:00pm – 8:00pm	B	Conference Registration <i>Speakers: BoD</i>	Lobby
8:00pm – 8:15pm	P	BoD intro and Conference Rules <i>Speakers: BoD</i>	
8:15pm – 8:30pm	P	Welcome To EAC 2025! <i>Speakers: Leadership Team</i>	
8:30pm – 9:00pm	P	Icebreakers <i>Speakers: Leadership Team</i>	
10:00pm – 12:00am	B	Nightly Check-in <i>Speakers: BoD</i>	Lobby

FEBRUARY 14 • FRIDAY

8:00am – 8:45am	F	Breakfast	TBA
8:45am – 9:15am	P	Opening Ceremonies <i>Speakers: Matteo Leone, Nanak Sidhu, Siobhan Marie, EJ Kelvin, Tia Nootchtai</i>	TBA
9:15am – 10:30am	P	OSTA Vision Presentation & My Student Trustee Handbook <i>Speakers: Nanak Sidhu, Tia Nootchtai, Jeffrey Zhang, Monica Galstyan, Alexandra Gauthier</i>	TBA
10:30am – 11:30am	R	Catholic Education Interest Group Breakouts <i>Speakers: Monica Galstyan</i>	TBA
10:30am – 11:30am	R	Indigenous Student Trustee's Council Breakouts <i>Speakers: Tia Nootchtai</i>	TBA
10:30am – 11:30am	R	Public Education Interest Group Breakouts <i>Speakers: Alexandra Gauthier</i>	TBA
11:30am – 11:45am	F	Travel Time	TBA
11:45am – 12:45pm	P	Minister Jill Dunlop Keynote <i>Speakers: Jill Dunlop</i>	TBA
12:45pm – 1:30pm	F	Lunch	TBA
1:30pm – 2:00pm	P	Mid Day Check In <i>Speakers: Matteo Leone</i>	TBA
2:00pm – 3:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Curriculum & School Community <i>Speakers: Jacklyn Saddler</i>	
2:00pm – 3:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion <i>Speakers: Audrey Akharoh</i>	
2:00pm – 3:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Student Well-Being <i>Speakers: Sharanya Sivasathiyathan</i>	
2:00pm – 3:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Truth & Reconciliation <i>Speakers: Carter Peios</i>	
3:00pm – 3:15pm	F	Travel Time	
3:15pm – 4:15pm	P	OSTA Talks <i>Speakers: Nanak Sidhu, Alexandra Gauthier</i>	TBA
4:30pm – 5:30pm	R	Catholic Education Interest Group Breakouts <i>Speakers: Monica Galstyan</i>	TBA
4:30pm – 5:30pm	R	Indigenous Student Trustee's Council Breakouts <i>Speakers: Tia Nootchtai</i>	TBA
4:30pm – 5:30pm	R	Public Education Interest Group Breakouts <i>Speakers: Alexandra Gauthier</i>	TBA
5:30pm – 5:45pm	P	Closing Ceramones <i>Speakers: Matteo Leone, Nanak Sidhu, Tia Nootchtai, Monica Galstyan, Alexandra Gauthier</i>	TBA
5:45pm – 8:30pm	F	Free Time	TBA
8:30pm – 10:00pm	P	Nighttime Activity <i>Speakers: Matteo Leone</i>	TBA
10:00pm – 12:00am	B	Nightly Check-in <i>Speakers: BoD</i>	Lobby

FEBRUARY 15 • SATURDAY

8:00am – 8:45am	F	Breakfast
8:45am – 9:15am	P	Opening Ceremonies <i>Speakers: Matteo Leone, Nanak Sidhu, EJ Kelvin</i>
9:15am – 10:15am	P	OSTA Alumni Pannel
10:15am – 11:15am	R	Advocacy Marketplace
11:15am – 11:30am	F	Travel Time
11:30am – 12:45pm	P	OPC-CPCO Session <i>Speakers: Monica Galstyan, Alexandra Gauthier</i>
12:45pm – 1:30pm	F	Lunch
1:30pm – 2:30pm	R	Concurrent Workshop 1 <i>Speakers: Audrey Akharoh, Sharanya Sivasathiyathan</i>
1:30pm – 2:30pm	R	Concurrent Workshop 2 <i>Speakers: Tia Nootchtai, Monica Galstyan</i>
1:30pm – 2:30pm	R	Concurrent Workshop 3 <i>Speakers: Grace Ding, Aanya Singh</i>
2:30pm – 2:45pm	F	Travel Time
2:45pm – 4:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Curriculum & School Community <i>Speakers: Jacklyn Saddler</i>
2:45pm – 4:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion <i>Speakers: Audrey Akharoh</i>
2:45pm – 4:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Student Well-Being <i>Speakers: Sharanya Sivasathiyathan</i>
2:45pm – 4:00pm	R	Advocacy Interest Group Breakouts: Truth & Reconciliation <i>Speakers: Carter Peios</i>
4:00pm – 5:00pm	R	Catholic Education Interest Group Breakout <i>Speakers: Monica Galstyan</i>
4:00pm – 5:00pm	R	Public Education Interest Group Breakout <i>Speakers: Alexandra Gauthier</i>
5:00pm – 5:15pm	P	Closing Ceramonies <i>Speakers: Matteo Leone, Nanak Sidhu</i>
5:15pm – 8:00pm	F	Free Time
8:30pm – 10:00pm	P	Nighttime Activity <i>Speakers: Matteo Leone</i>

FEBRUARY 16 • SUNDAY

9:00am – 11:00amBCheckout

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

Wednesday, November 6, 2024

Time: 12:00 PM

Meeting held via Google Meet

Present:

SEAC Members:

Chantal Cardinal
Julie Contini
Natasha Delaney
Doreen Dewar
Alex McCauley
Stephanie Roussy

March of Dimes (Alternate Member)
Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Member at Large
Trustee (Alternate Member)
Trustee
Children's Community Network

Staff:

David Squarzolo
Kathy Wachnuk
Danielle Williamson

Vice-Principal of Special Education
Superintendent of Schools
Principal of Special Education Programs and Services

Regrets:

Sara Kitlar-Pothier
Robert Silvestri (Acting Chair)
Jennifer Way

Ontario Autism Coalition
NOARC
March of Dimes

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Trustee McCauley assumed the chair for the meeting.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

Superintendent Wachnuk read aloud the mission statement.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: Trustee Dewar

Seconded by: N. Delaney

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of November 6, 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: S. Roussy

Seconded by: Trustee Dewar

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of October 2, 2024 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

None

8.0 New Business

Requests for Leaves of Absence

Motion 3:

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: Trustee Dewar

That the SEAC approve the absences of Sara Kitlar-Pothier, Robert Silvestri, and Jennifer Way from the November 6, 2024 SEAC meeting.

Motion carried.

9.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wachnuk reported that November 1 was a PA Day. Professional development for all educational assistants in the Board focused on suicide response training, what are the signs, and what are the questions to ask of a student. The training was provided by the mental health team using a program from School Mental Health Ontario. Feedback from staff has been positive.

The Ministry has reserved the March PA Day for all school boards to focus on equity. The Board will put together topics of professional development for staff with a special education focus. Input is also being requested from the various union locals about what topics their members could benefit from the most.

Superintendent Wachnuk will be attending two conferences. The first is on School Board Management offered by Hicks Morley in Toronto. Topics include Managing Complaints of Unsafe Work in Schools, and Gender Identity and Gender Expression in Schools. The second conference is through the Council for Exceptional Children to be held in Toronto. Relevant information from both conferences will be shared with the SEAC at a future meeting.

10.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal Williamson shared a presentation on EQAO results and Student Achievement 2023-2024. The achievement trends for students with exceptionalities (excluding Giftedness) was shared. Students following the Ontario Curriculum write the EQAO test. Those who follow an alternative curriculum do not write it.

Principal Williamson shared a presentation on Westmount Avenue Public School and the upward enrolment trends of students with special needs from preschool.

Westmount Avenue PS was reopened September 2024 and has 54 students in primary and junior grades attending Intensive Support Programs (ISP). There are also 10 students attending the Northern Support Initiation program and the Applied Behaviour Analysis program that were relocated to the school following the closure of the Ruth MacMillan Centre. Students attending an ISP at the school were invited based on need, age, and their home address in proximity to the school. Dr. Tara Baron, pediatrician, conducts regular pediatric clinics at the school for students and their families. The school underwent renovations in

preparation for reopening and is equipped with adaptive features including sensory rooms to assist with student calming. School staff have received professional development around alternative curriculum and programming for students and managing student behaviour. Positive feedback about the school and its staff has been received from parents.

11.0 Board Report

Trustee McCauley expressed his appreciation to staff for the work done toward student achievement and the success of Westmount Avenue PS.

Trustee Dewar shared that the Board received a presentation on trustee honorariums.

12.0 Chairperson's Report

No additional remarks.

13.0 Association Reports

None

14.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

None

15.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- TBD

16.0 Next Meeting Date

December 4, 2024 from 12:00 until 1:30 PM via Google Meet.

17.0 Adjournment

Motion 4:

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: Trustee Dewar

To adjourn the November 6, 2024 meeting.

Trustee McCauley adjourned the meeting at 1:11 PM.