

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, March 25, 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 Wahnapiitae Nations.

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

Roll Call

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

*Chair

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of March 25, 2025 be approved.

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

*Chair

C. PRESENTATIONS

*Chair

1. Lockerby Composite School – OFSAA – Cross Country Skiing

2. Math Achievement Action Plan – Superintendent Koziar

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, February 18, 2025 be approved.

2. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

*Chair

- F. NEW BUSINESS** *Chair
1. **Ontario Public School Board Association Education Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium 2025** *Chair
- Motion:
That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2025 Education Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium in Toronto on May 1-2, 2025.
2. **Notice of Absence** *Chair
3. **Director's Remarks** *Director
4. **Other Items** *Chair
OPSBA Director
Student Trustee
5. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** *Chair
Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.
6. **Chairperson's Remarks** *Chair
- G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** *Chair
1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Parent Involvement Committee minutes January 28, 2025 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**
Graduation Ceremony Dates – Elementary, Secondary & Stepping Up
- H. FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair
- Special Education Advisory Committee April 2, 2025 12:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting April 7, 2025 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee April 8, 2025 5:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee April 9, 2025 3:30 pm
Equity and Inclusive Education Committee April 10, 2025 3:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee April 15, 2025 7:00 pm
Board Meeting April 22, 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, February 18, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.

Present:	Trustees:	D. Farrow (Chair), B. Clement (via Google Meet), L. Corbiere-Addison (via Google Meet), D. Dewar (via Google Meet), A. Gibson (via Google Meet), J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, Student Trustee Wilson-Zegil (via Google Meet)
	Absent:	L. Debassige, A. McCauley, Student Trustee Nootchtai
	Officials:	B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board A. Guilbault – Superintendent of Business D. Koziar, L. Mantle, M. McNamara, K. Wachnuk – Superintendents
	Staff:	S. Ackroyd, E. Bacon, M. Bertrand, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, L. Davidson, P. Hopkin, S. James, D. Kitching, D. Peristeridis, C. Richter, S. Theriault, C. Whitson
	Other:	The CVDCS Robotic Flyers and parents/guardians, H. Ulrichson

Chair Farrow called the meeting to order and 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: 25-R41, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of February 18, 2025 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: Absent
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Alex McCauley: Absent*

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Lego Robotics Team - Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Superintendent Mantle welcomed the Chelmsford Valley District Composite School's first ever robotics team, "The Robotics Flyers 68973" and their coaches Cassidy Richter and Lynsey Davidson.

Coach Richter, Coach Davidson and members of the team shared a presentation of their journey to the FIRST Lego League Provincial Championships.

The First Robotics program has many curriculum connections such as math, literacy, science and art. Competitions engage students in the field of STEM and inspire youth to experiment and grow their critical thinking, coding and design skills. Students were tasked to design and build autonomous Lego robots to complete tasks by manipulating objects, activating mechanisms or moving items on a competition table.

At the regional qualifier, The Robotics Flyers took home the Engineering Excellence Award and were selected as one of six teams to advance to the provincial championships. There, they garnered the Rising All-Star award, which celebrates a team that the judges notice and expect great things from in the future. Congratulations Flyers!

Team members invited Trustees to join in an interactive demonstration of the robots in action. Trustees were very impressed by the students professionalism and knowledge and appreciated the experience.

Capital Projects Update

Superintendent of Business, Adam Guilbault, provided an update on the planned capital projects for the current school year and extending through this summer. There are 39 planned and scheduled projects across 34 of our facilities, in addition to the daily maintenance and repair work undertaken by our facilities and maintenance staff throughout the year.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions and expressed their gratitude for keeping our facilities maintained.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 25-R42, J.Hunda/L.Corbiere-Addison

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 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: Absent*

- Carried

2. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

NIL

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Governance Policy & By-Law Review Committee

Motion: 25-R43, J.Hunda/A.Gibson

That trustees (McCauley, Farrow, Hunda, Clement, Gibson and Kosmerly) be named the members of the Governance Policy & By-Law Review Committee.

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: Absent*

- Carried

2. 2025-2026 School Year Structure

Motion: 25-R44, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That the Board approve the 2025-2026 School Year Structure for elementary and secondary schools.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: technical difficulties (no response)
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Alex McCauley: Absent*

- Carried

3. Notice of Absence

Chair Farrow shared that Trustee McCauley, Trustee Debassige and Student Trustee Nootchtai were absent.

4. Director's Remarks

I hope that all students and staff had a wonderful Family Day long weekend.

As you know, Rainbow District School Board experienced a cyber incident on Friday, February 7, 2025.

We have provided regular updates to staff, parents, guardians and members of the media as information becomes available.

We will continue to provide updates when we have more information to share. Updates will be posted on rainbowschools.ca.

With that being said, for the media who are with us this evening, I will be addressing the cyber incident in my remarks momentarily.

I will not be taking individual questions after the meeting. I will share what I can with everyone here tonight, including viewers who may be watching remotely.

As we have more information to share, based on established facts, we will continue to provide written updates in a timely manner.

When the work day began on Friday, February 7, 2025, technical difficulties emerged. Our Information Services staff took immediate measures to protect the Board's network while they investigated.

In an abundance of caution, we advised our staff, students and parents/guardians that we would be turning off Internet access to all schools and the board office by mid-morning. Our first line of defence in the event of a possible cyber incident - containment - was achieved by shutting down the network.

We advised that all schools would remain open, classes and programs would continue, and updates would be posted on rainbowschools.ca.

By mid-afternoon, we established and confirmed publicly that we were dealing with a cyber incident.

We also engaged the services of cyber security experts to assist us. To this day, our network continues to be monitored for unauthorized access 24/7.

Over the weekend of February 8th, staff worked diligently to get school phone lines back up and running so parents could call in absences and schools could call home as part of our Safe Arrival program.

Again, we posted an update on rainbowschools.ca and shared the message with the media so parents/guardians would know what to expect on Monday morning.

Following phones, our Information Services staff developed a plan to safely restore Internet access as soon as possible.

They brought one school online, ran a successful security test, and were able to bring all schools online by mid-afternoon on Wednesday, February 12, 2025. We resumed electronic attendance on Thursday morning. Attendance done on paper was subsequently entered into our student information system.

With staff complete, we focused on Internet access for students. Students have been back online since Friday morning. As you know, some of our students require assistive technology for learning.

We are very grateful for the hard work and determination of Superintendent Adam Guilbault and our Information Services staff who got us all back up and running within a week.

As you can appreciate, our network of schools and offices is complex, our computer network, therefore, is equally as complex. It's not as simple as turning the lights on. Restoring services is thoughtful, methodical, intricate work. Our technical team was solutions oriented and conducted security checks and balances as they moved forward.

I would like to thank our students, parents/guardians, and staff for their patience and understanding. Our staff have proven, once again, that they have the ability to adapt when

required to do so. Our educators had to adjust their lessons while we worked to restore connectivity and we thank them for their adaptability and patience.

Our Superintendents were in schools throughout the week, and we had regular contact with our administrators, and I can tell you the level of engagement, interaction and dialogue was high. That's also a credit to our students who have shown that they too can be flexible and adaptable when required to do so. These are all good skills to have.

All of this work was occurring as we held many conversations with third party cyber security experts to assess the impact. Assessing the impact includes determining whether any sensitive data may have been compromised. This analysis takes time, but it is progressing well and we will certainly share more information with our staff, students, parents/guardians, the media and the community in the coming days.

Organizations becoming victims of cyber incidents have become more prevalent. I am grateful that we have been able to resume operations as quickly as possible.

We will continue to provide updates when we have more information to share. Updates will be shared with staff, students, parents/guardians, the media and posted on rainbowschools.ca.

This is the information that we can share with the media at this time and, with great respect, for this reason, I will not be answering individual media questions after the meeting.

As we have more information to share, based on established facts, we will continue to provide written updates in a timely manner to all of our stakeholders, including the media.

Again, we thank everyone for their ongoing patience and their understanding.

Predicted Enrolment

Elementary school enrolment predictions are due the week before the March break. Secondary school predictions are due the week after the March break. These predictions, as you know, inform our staffing levels for the next school year.

More information regarding enrolment predictions and staffing will come later this spring.

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 20, 2025. The ceremony will begin at 6:30 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium at Sudbury Secondary School.

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

Retirement Dinner

The Board's Retirement Dinner will take place on Tuesday, June 3, 2025. Please mark your calendars. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate our retirees.

I am going to end with a quote I shared last year that came from a sign that greeted visitors to Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School.... The signage at the entrance read:

“If you can be anything, be kind.”

Kindness, as you know, is at the heart of Dare to Care.

We continue to see wonderful examples of empathy and kindness and compassion and caring in all Rainbow Schools.

Thank you.

5. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly provided an update of OPSBA’s Public Education Symposium which was a great event that included an Awards Gala to honour this year’s OPSBA award winners, one of which was Trustee Clement. The next OPSBA event is the Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium on May 1st and 2nd in Toronto, followed by the Annual General Meeting on June 12th in Niagara-On-The-Lake. The Canadian School Board Association Congress and National Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education will be held in Winnipeg, Manitoba on July 3rd to 5th and the next Board of Directors meeting is on February 22nd and 23rd.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Wilson-Zegil shared that Student Senate continue the preparations for the Stand Up Speak Out conference that will be held in April. She also provided an update on the OSTA Education Action Conference that took place in Ottawa on February 13th to 15th that Trustee Nootchtaï and herself attended. She shared it was an incredible experience with wonderful workshops.

6. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions** NIL

7. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

Hello everyone: I hope you all had an enjoyable Family Day yesterday.

On behalf of Trustees, I would like to begin by extending a sincere thank you to Director Bourget, Superintendent Guilbault, and our entire tech team for restoring Internet access to schools and the board office as quickly as possible. Through their collective efforts, staff and students were able to resume use of technology for teaching and learning last week. I know you have all been working very hard to respond to the cyber incident and we appreciate your efforts.

Elementary student Aivah St. Amour of A.B. Ellis Public School will host the **“Hopping for Hunger” Food Drive** alongside the Espanola and Area Family Health Team. Non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the Family Health Team office now through March 31st. Aivah can also arrange for pick-up. We thank Aivah for leading this initiative, as well as the community for their generosity.

The **Parent Involvement Committee** will meet next Tuesday, February 25th at 7 pm. The topic will be **Mental Health Part I**. Parents/guardians can join in person or online via Google Meet. The link is on the agenda which will be available on the board website this week.

On February 26th, some 150 Rainbow Schools students from Grades 9 to 12 will test their skills in the skilled trades during the board’s 18th annual **Technological Skills Competition**. This

year's elementary competition has doubled in size, with over 350 students set to compete in seven categories. Competitions will take place at Cambrian College and the Carpenter's Union training hall in Azilda. Best of luck to all.

The board's **Elementary Science Fair** will take place on Tuesday, March 4th. Some 55 projects from students in Grades 7 to 12 will be on display in the Lockerby Composite School gym. The public is welcome to view the projects from 12 pm to 1 pm. An awards ceremony will follow. Good luck to all participants.

A reminder that Friday, March 7th is the deadline for parents/guardians of students with exceptionalities to provide input into the **2025-2026 Special Education Plan**. The survey link is available on the board's website.

This month, staff and students were challenged **to use less electricity**. Next month, schools will explore **fisheries, conservation and water awareness**.

A friendly reminder that the **Mid-Winter Break** begins on Friday, March 7th. There will be no school for students from March 7th to and including March 14th.

And that concludes my remarks for this evening. Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Parent Involvement Committee minutes December 3, 2024 (official)
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes January 8, 2025 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Environmental Education Committee February 19, 2025 3:30 pm
First Nations Advisory Committee February 20, 2025 10:00 am
Parent Involvement Committee February 25, 2025 7:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting March 3, 2025 5:30 pm
Board Meeting March 25, 2025 5:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 25-R45, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly
That we do now adjourn at 6:19 p.m. – **Carried**



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Education Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium

Welcome to the Ontario Public School Boards' Association's registration site for the 2025 Education Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium.

The Symposium, *Positive Workplaces: HR and Labour Relations Practices that Support Employee Wellness and Success*, will be held in Toronto at the Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel on May 1 and 2, 2025. The program features expert keynote speakers, panels and workshops on relevant topics you're facing in school boards today. Check out our program page for more information on our scheduled sessions and speakers.

Trustees, Labour Relations Practitioners, Human Resources Practitioners, Supervisory Officers and Directors of Education are warmly encouraged to attend. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information, please contact the OPSBA PD Events team at pdevents@opsba.org

Program at a Glance

For more details about our program, please visit our "Program" page, from the header above.

Thursday, May 1, 2025

Registration

12:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Opening Plenary

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Coffee Break

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Concurrent Workshops

3:00 p.m. - 3:50 p.m.

4:00 p.m. - 4:50 p.m.

Networking Reception

Sponsored by Hicks Morley

5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

Friday, May 2, 2025

Breakfast

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Concurrent Workshops

8:30 a.m. - 9:20 a.m.

9:30 a.m. - 10:20 a.m.

Coffee Break

10:20 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.

Concurrent Workshops

10:40 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Lunch - Sponsored by BLG

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Plenary

12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 28, 2025 at 7 pm
In Person at 408 Wembley Drive and Via Google Meet

Attendance

Steffany Bourque, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Rebecca Coughlin, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Ashley Vickman, Parent, Walden Public School; Julie Cuss, Parent, R.H. Murray Public School; Ashley Hurley, Parent, Alexander Public School; Jennifer Dalton, Parent, Adamsdale Public School; Kylee MacCormack, Parent, C.R. Judd Public School; Coleen Eberlein, Elementary Principal representative/Principal of Jean Hanson Public School; Meredith Coulas, ETFO representative; Laurie-Ann Lielkans, Secondary Principal representative; Sarah Clarke, Mental Health Lead, Rainbow District School Board; Leslie Mantle, Senior Administrator of School Support Services; and Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Regrets: Trustee Alex McCauley, Kelly Rodriguez, OSSTF representative; Deana Hardy, Parent, Charles C. McLean Public School; and Stacy Paajanen, Parent, Lively District Secondary School

Call to Order: 7 pm

1. Welcome

Chair Melissa Gladu welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Self-Introductions

Online and in person participants introduced themselves.

3. Approval of Agenda

"That the agenda for the meeting on January 28, 2025 be approved."

Moved by: Steffany Bourque, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Seconded by: Rebecca Coughlin, Lansdowne Public School

Carried

Chair Gladu noted that the following parents/guardians were acclaimed to the Parent Involvement Committee at the Annual General Meeting held on October 15, 2024 and constitute the voting members for the 2024-2025 school year.

She asked if there was a parent/guardian from Espanola who may be interested in joining PIC. With no parent present, the position remains vacant.

Melissa Gladu	Northeastern Elementary School
Ashley Hurley	Alexander Public School
Ashley Vickman	Walden Public School
Natasha Delaney	Jean Hanson Public School
Stacy Paajanen	Lively District Secondary School
Kylee MacCormack	C.R. Judd Public School
Rebecca Coughlin	Lansdowne Public School
Steffany Bourque	Chelmsford Valley District Composite School
Deanna Hardy	Charles C. McLean Public School (Manitoulin Representative)
	(Espanola Representative)

4. Approval of Minutes

“That the minutes of the meeting held on December 3, 2024 be approved.”

Moved by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Seconded by: Kylee MacCormick, C.R. Judd Public School

Carried

5. Presentation: Safe Schools
Mental Health Lead Sarah Clarke
Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle

The presentation provided a summary of the book *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt as well as an overview of Policy and Program Memorandum (PPM) 128, and the Rainbow District School Board's revised Code of Conduct. Parents/guardians received links and/or copies of the resources referenced.

Haidt's central claim in the book is that the overprotection of children in the real world and the underprotection of children in the virtual world are the major reasons why children born after 1995 became the anxious generation. Between 2010 and 2015, the social lives of teens moved largely onto smartphones with continuous access to social media, online video games, and other internet-based activities.

Jonathan Haidt refers to this as the Great Rewiring of Childhood and believes that this is the single largest reason for the increase in adolescent mental illness that began in the early 2010s. Play-based childhoods were replaced by phone-based childhoods as children and adolescents moved their social lives and free time onto internet-connected devices.

The author said free play is as essential for developing social skills, like conflict resolution, as it is for developing physical skills. Children learn through play to connect and take turns and make connections with family and community. Children require exposure to setbacks, failures, shocks, and stumbles in order to develop strength and self-reliance. Overprotection interferes with this development and renders young people more likely to be fragile and fearful as adults.

According to Jonathan Haidt, foundational harms of a phone-based childhood include: social deprivation, sleep deprivation, attention fragmentation and addiction.

At the end, the presenters asked parents "What can we do?" as an invitation for collective action for a healthier childhood. Copies of *The Anxious Generation* were offered to parents/guardians on loan. Parents/guardians were invited to consider information on page 254 about the Let Grow Project for discussion at the next PIC meeting. Parents/guardians were asked to return the book to the Centre for Education so it may be loaned to other parents/guardians.

Senior Administrator Leslie Mantle thanked parents/guardians for supporting the implementation of PPM 128 and the revised Code of Conduct which have resulted in more focus in the classroom.

Discussion based on presentation

Parents/guardians were invited to ask questions and/or provide feedback. Parents agreed that removing phones from the classroom was positive as it eliminates distractions. They cautioned, however, not to overgeneralize the cause and effect of phone use or to frame it as a moral issue. (ie. Phone use is bad, therefore, if you give your child a phone, you are a bad parent.)

Mental Health Lead Sarah Clarke said we can take from the book what we feel is important. There is a lot of evidence that smartphones and social media play a role in what is happening in child and youth mental health. She added that helping children stay safe online while using technology is critical. She said finding balance is the key.

Chair Gladu said the goal of the presentation was to gather information to use as a springboard for upcoming discussions on mental health and what we can do to support children as they grow and develop.

6. Communications Report

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

Rainbow District School Board's Multi-Year Accessibility Plan has been updated and is posted on the Board website. Melissa Gladu attended the accessibility planning meeting on behalf of the Parent Involvement Committee. The plan includes two important summaries - A Wheelchair Accessibility Report and a Lockdown Tracking Report.

The Wheelchair Accessibility Report provides data on the accessibility of all buildings, including elevators and internal/external ramps, washrooms, automatic door openers, shops, the stage area, bleachers, science labs, tactile indicators, parking with signage and lockdown alarms and signals. The Lockdown Tracking Report indicates where lockdown systems have been installed or are being installed. These reports are updated annually as work is completed. The data is presented in a table format.

We invite you to share this information with parents/guardians and school visitors. Our Commitment to Accessibility is under the "Values" section of the board website - [rainbowschools.ca](https://www.rainbowschools.ca) - at the following link:
<https://www.rainbowschools.ca/about-us/our-values/accessibility/>

Many families visited our elementary schools for the Kindergarten Information Nights on January 15th and 16th, 2025. Parents/guardians who were unable to attend and have a child starting school this fall, can still register by contacting their area Rainbow school. Schools will be hosting a Welcome to Kindergarten session later this spring. Registering as soon as possible helps the board to plan its staffing levels for the new school year.

Secondary School Information Nights continue in the coming weeks... Information Nights will take place on Wednesday, February 12th at Manitoulin Secondary School at 6:30 pm and Thursday, February 13th at Espanola High School at 6 pm. For those Information Nights that have already taken place, there is still time to register.

On January 19th, a group of elementary students from Chelmsford Valley District Composite School's first ever robotics team competed at the FIRST LEGO League Provincial Championships at Durham College. For their efforts, students were awarded the Rising All-Star Award. They earned their spot at the provincials by competing at the qualifying tournament in North Bay in December. Of the 21 teams at the qualifier, they were selected as one of six to advance to the championships and garnered an Engineering Excellence Award. Huge congratulations to students and coaches. The Rising All-Star Award celebrates a team that the judges notice and expect great things from in the future.

Rainbow Schools will participate in Bundle Up Day on February 4, 2025 as part of this month's Environmental Challenge. The heat will be turned down a few degrees in all facilities. We invite students, staff and visitors to wear a warm sweater, hoodie, poncho or alternative for students who have sensory needs. Let's bundle up and save energy as we continue our efforts to reduce our environmental footprint.

Parents/guardians of students with special needs in Rainbow District School Board are invited to provide input for the 2025-2026 Special Education Plan. The deadline to complete the survey is Friday, March 7th. The survey link is currently available on the board website.

Secondary exams continue until Thursday, January 30th, 2025.

There will be no school for students on Friday, January 31st for our fifth Professional Activity Day of the 2024-2025 school year. Information about the PA Day is posted in the Parents Section on the Board website.

There will also be no school for students and staff on Monday, February 17th for Family Day.

7. School Announcements

Ashley Hurley of Alexander Public School said the school was excited to have a breakfast and snack program. She also said the holiday concert in December was a success.

Ashley Vickman of Walden Public School highlighted intramural sports, public speaking and new clubs. A black night glow in the dark dance party was held to thank students and families for their successful food drive and kindness project. The school is participating in the Soles4Souls campaign. Work has begun on the Spring Craft Show.

Julie Cuss of R.H. Murray Public School highlighted math manipulatives and the school's overall focus on math, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing with Spirit North, and a Grade 7 and 8 ski trip. She also said students will have an opportunity to attend the Tim Hortons Camp later this spring.

Kylee MacCormick of C.R. Judd Public School said events held in December were a tremendous success in support of the Capreol Food Bank. Cereal dominoes also proved to be a fun fundraiser. The breakfast program has been expanded from two days to five days, giving students an opportunity to try a variety of food.

Rebecca Coughlin of Lansdowne Public School said staff and the community did an amazing job producing food hampers and baskets for some of their families, which were greatly appreciated throughout the winter break.

Steffany Bourque of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School congratulated the school's first robotics team for their success at the provincial level, noting the school was super proud. She applauded teachers for their creativity in engaging students in their learning. She highlighted festive events, including the school-wide dinner, as well as fundraisers, including the food drive. Grade 8 students will participate in a ski trip.

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said the school hosted a successful feast for families, with a community feel. Fundraising has been underway to support the Grade 7 and 8 ski trip. She also highlighted changes in administration. A long-time Vice-Principal has been promoted to Principal and Northeastern will welcome a new VP.

Chair Gladu reviewed the upcoming meeting dates and topics.

February 25, 2025:	Mental Health (Part 1)
April 15, 2025:	Mental Health (Part 2)
May 13, 2025:	Planning for the 2025-2026 school year

She thanked all parents/guardians and staff for attending the meeting.

Adjournment at 8:23 pm

"That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Kylee MacCormick, C.R. Judd Public School

Seconded by: Ashley Vickman, Walden Public School

Carried

Next meeting:

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 7 pm

In Person at 408 Wembley Drive and Via Google Meet

Topic: Mental Health (Part 1)

ELEMENTARY GRADUATION DATES 2025

TRUSTEES	SCHOOLS	GRADUATION (DATE/TIME)
Anita Gibson (Area 2)	CVDCS (Grade 8)	Thursday, June 19 @ 6:00 PM
	Lansdowne	Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:00 PM @ SSS Auditorium
	Levack	Tuesday, June 17 @ 6:00 PM
Bob Clement (Area 8)	A.B. Ellis	Thursday, June 26 @ 6:00 PM
	S. Geiger	Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:00 PM
Doreen Dewar (Area 5)	Alexander	Thursday, June 19 @ 6:00 PM @ Sudbury Secondary
	Algonquin	Monday, June 23 @ 6:00 PM
	Lo-Ellen (Grade 8)	Thursday, June 26 @ 6:30 PM
	MacLeod	Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:00 PM
Linda Debassige	First Nations system wide	
Judy Hunda (Area 6)		
Lisa Addison-Corbiere (Area 7)	Assiginack	Thursday, June 26 @ 6:00 PM
	Central Manitoulin	Thursday, June 19 @ 6:30 PM
	Little Current	Monday, June 23 @ 6:00 PM @ NEMI Complex
	CC McLean	Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:30 PM
Judy Kosmerly (Area 3)	Confederation (Grade 8)	Thursday, June 19 @ 6:00 PM
	Valley View	Wednesday, June 18 @ 6:00 PM
Alex McCauley (Area 4)	CR Judd	Tuesday, June 26 @ 7:00 PM
	Lasalle (Grade 8)	Wednesday, June 18 @ 6:00 PM @ Lasalle Elem Gym
	Markstay	Monday, June 16 @ 6:00 PM
	Monetville	Wednesday, June 25 @ 7:00 PM
	Northeastern Elem	Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:00 PM
David Farrow (Area 1)	Copper Cliff	Thursday, June 26 @ 6:00 PM
	Jean Hanson	Wednesday, June 18 @ 11:30 AM
	RH Murray	Wednesday, June 18 @ 5:30 PM
	Princess Anne	Monday, June 23 @ 6:00 PM @ SSS auditorium
	Lively (Elem)	Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:30 PM

Stepping up:

Adamsdale

Wednesday, June 25 @ 9:30 am

Churchill

Monday, June 23 @ 6:00 pm

Larchwood

Monday, June 23 @ 6:00 pm

Lasalle Elementary

Tuesday, June 17 @ 6:00 pm

Queen Elizabeth

Wednesday, June 25 @ 12:00 pm

Redwood Acres

Wednesday, June 25 @ 9:30 am

R.L. Beattie

Thursday, June 26 @ 1:00 pm @ Lo-Ellen Park

Walden

Tuesday, June 17 at 6:00 pm

GRADUATION DATES 2025

SECONDARY	DATE & TIME
BARRYDOWNE COLLEGE	Wednesday, June 25 at 6:00 pm Cambrian Student Life Centre
CHELMSFORD VDCCS	Wednesday, June 18 at 6:00 pm in the Gym
CONFEDERATION	Thursday, June 12 at 6:00 pm in the Gym
ESPANOLA	Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 pm in the Gym
LASALLE	Thursday, June 19 at 6:00 pm Cambrian College
LIVELY	Thursday, June 12 at 6:00 pm in the Gym
LOCKERBY	Monday, June 16 at 6:00 pm Cambrian College
LO-ELLEN PARK	Tuesday, June 17 at 6:30 pm Cambrian College
MANITOULIN	Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 pm in the Gym
SUDBURY SECONDARY ADULT DAY SCHOOL N'SWAKAMOK	Thursday, June 12 at 6:30 pm @ Sheridan Auditorium Tuesday, June 10 at 12:00 pm @ SSS Courtyard Thursday, June 12 at 10:30 am @ N'Swakamok