

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, April 28, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

<p>AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS</p>
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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 April 28, 2026 be approved.
- B. **PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST** *Chair
- C. **PRESENTATIONS** *Chair
 - 1. **Enrolment and On-the-Ground Capacity**
 - 2. **Capital Projects**
- D. **REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD** *Director
 - 1. **Property Matter**
Motion:
That motion #26-W09 RE: Property matter, be approved.

E. OLD BUSINESS *Chair

1. **Previous Minutes** *Chair

Motion:

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, March 24, 2026 be approved.

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

F. NEW BUSINESS *Chair

1. **OPSBA (Ontario Public School Board's Association)** *Chair
- Representative and Alternate

a) **OPSBA Representative**

Call for nominations.

- i) Motion:
That nominations be closed.

A vote by secret ballot will be conducted.

- ii) Motion:
That _____ be declared elected Rainbow District School Board's voting representative to the Ontario Public School Board's Association.

b) **OPSBA Alternate**

Call for nominations.

- i) Motion:
That nominations be closed.

A vote by secret ballot will be conducted.

- ii) Motion:
That _____ be declared elected Rainbow District School Board's voting alternate to the Ontario Public School Board's Association.

2. **Ballots** *Chair

Motion:

That the ballots for all positions be destroyed.

3. **Ontario Public School Board Association Annual General Meeting** *Chair

Motion:

That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2026 Annual General Meeting in Ottawa on June 4-6, 2026.

4. **Notice of Absence** *Chair
5. **Director's Remarks** *Director
6. **Other Items** *Chair
 OPSBA Representative
 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**
 Special Education Advisory Committee minutes January 7, 2026 (official)
 Special Education Advisory Committee minutes February 4, 2026 (official)
 Special Education Advisory Committee minutes March 4, 2026 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
 Tender 2026-01 – Lockerby Composite School
 Tender 2026-04 – Espanola High School
3. **Non-Staff Communications**
- H. **FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair
- Student Senate Meeting May 4, 2026 5:30 pm
 Special Education Advisory Committee May 6, 2026 12:00 pm
 Board Meeting May 12, 2026 at 5:00 pm (Sudbury Secondary School – Library)
 Board Awards May 12, 2026 at 6:30 pm (Sudbury Secondary School – Auditorium)
- 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, March 24, 2026 at 5:00 pm

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

Absent: NIL

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

Staff: G. Bastien, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, S. Dewit, T. Dewit, T. Hayes,
P. Hopkin, R. Jones, N. Mousseau, D. Peristeridis, C. Whitson,
C. Wilson

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: 26-R47, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of March 24, 2026 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

Math Achievement Action Plan – Superintendent Koziar

Superintendent Dan Koziar, Principal of Program Kate MacKenzie, Math Coach Sarah Dewit, Principal Patrick Hopkin and Principal Carrie Wilson provided an update on the progress of the Board's Math Achievement Action Plan for 2025-2026.

As part of the MAAP framework, all schools are required to develop a Math Action Plan that outlines both school and classroom level strategies, along with measurable outcomes aligned to the Ministry of Education's three priority areas for improving mathematics instruction. Additionally, the Ministry requires the board to collect data on the implementation of the strategies and measure their impact. The board uses a number of metrics including report card data, EQAO achievement and attendance rates to determine whether our actions are having the desired effect.

Math Coach Sarah Dewit highlighted initiatives and practices that she is sharing with educators across the board, with a specific focus on the fact fluency program. This program consists of intentional deliberate practice that is impactful, engaging and motivational.

Principal Patrick Hopkin shared how Chelmsford Valley District Composite School creates weekly math challenges that are posted outside of the main office. The questions have four different levels of difficulty creating a fun and engaging activity designed to get students thinking creatively and critically about math outside of the classroom.

Valleyview Public School Principal Carrie Wilson shared they have introduced engaging "math days" to encourage positive math talk with fun school activities like Math Undercover day and the Math Amazing Race. These whole school events pull together our learning, provide a fun way to apply skills and promote a positive growth mindset.

Along with engaging staff and students, part of the Board's work in math is to engage families in math learning. Through surveys, the Board can collect feedback and information from parents and guardians on their satisfaction with resources provided, the math programs being used and what other resources or activities could help to support their child in math, to ensure every student becomes a successful and confident math learner.

Trustees thanked the team for the wonderful presentation and had the opportunity ask questions.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 26-R48, A.McCauley/D.Dewar

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 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**

Governance Policy & By-Law Review Committee

a) **Motion: 26-R49, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda**

That the revised Terms of Reference, as attached, for the Governance Policy and By-Law Review Committee, be approved.

Amendment A26-R01, A.Gibson/A.McCauley

That motion 26-R49 be amended by the removal of "revised".

Poll vote

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

- Carried

Motion: 26-R49, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the Terms of Reference, as attached, for the Governance Policy and By-Law Review Committee, 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) **Motion: 26-R50, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda**

That the changes to Governance By-Law 14.12, as attached, 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

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Municipal Election 2026**

- a) Motion: 26-R51, A.McCauley/J.Kosmerly
That in accordance with Section 4 (1) (b) Ontario Regulation 412/00 the Board does not designate any municipality within its jurisdiction as a low population municipality.

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) Motion: 26-R52, B.Clement/J.Hunda
That in accordance with Ontario Regulation 412/00 that Appendix A shall form the report of the Determination and Distribution of trustees as required under Section 9 of the regulation and further, that, the municipality with the largest population in each Area and the school board election clerk as referred to in Section 8.1 being identified as follows:

Area 1 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 2 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 3 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 4 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 5 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 6 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 7 – Clerk of The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands
Area 8 – Clerk of The Town of Espanola

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

- c) Motion: 26-R53, J.Hunda/L.Corbiere-Addison
That the vote by integrated internet and telephone services bylaw 2026-01 as attached be deemed to have been read three times and 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. **Notice of Absence**

Chair Farrow stated that Trustee Gibson, Trustee Dewar, Trustee Corbiere-Addison and Trustee Debassige requested to participate electronically, with their requests meeting the criteria in by-law 14.

3. **Director's Remarks**

I hope that all students and staff enjoyed a well-deserved March Break.

I appreciate the opportunity to share some information with you.

As for our predicted enrolment, this year we have 9324 elementary students. This year, we are predicting 9176 elementary students for this coming fall which is consistent with what we predicted last year. As you know, we take a cautious approach to predicted enrolment in an effort to not over-predict. Secondary predicted enrolment is being finalized later this week.

As discussed in a previous meeting we will have a more detailed report about attendance and pupil spaces at our next meeting in April.

Elementary and secondary staffing is underway for the 2026-2027 school year. These predictions, as you know, inform our staffing levels.

We remind parents/guardians that there is still time to register. Registering now helps us plan for the fall.

We hosted our Career Fair on Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 9 am to 3 pm at Lockerby Composite School. It was a very successful day. Thank you to Tiffany Hayes, our Human Resources department and everyone who assisted with interviews that day. We remind everyone who is interested in working for Rainbow District School Board as a teacher or support staff, please visit rainbowschools.ca to learn more about the great employment opportunities that we provide.

Rainbow District School Board has been working with its insurer and the assigned claims adjustor to develop a plan to restore the Lancer Dome. We have received authorization from the insurer and adjustor on the proposed plan, and have coordinated the necessary resources to begin site work on Thursday morning. Snow and ice needs to be cleared before the restoration process can occur. This work is weather-dependent.

At this early stage of the process, there is no estimate of costs or timelines.

In terms of transportation, as you know, school transportation was paused in Sudbury due to road conditions. Today some bus routes were activated and more will be as work continues to clear stops and widen roads.

Daily meetings are taking place with the Mayor, City staff, the Consortium and school board staff.

The City staff is working with the Consortium to remove snow in identified areas to facilitate passage of buses along routes. We are grateful for the collaboration and support of all parties.

We continue to provide updates to Principals. The Consortium provides daily updates to parents and guardians.

At our meeting today it was confirmed that more routes are in process of verification for start-up. 23 more routes and an additional 45 bus runs are being notified today of start up for tomorrow.

We would like to thank the City and the Consortium for their continued efforts to re-establish bus routes.

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 12, 2026. 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 2, 2026 at the Caruso Club. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate our retirees for their many years of dedicated service to the Board.

EQAO and OSSLT

Preparations continue for the upcoming EQAO and OSSLT assessments. Our staff and students are hard at work preparing for both. As you know, successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (or course) is a requirement for graduation.

Athletics

Our winter sport season has concluded, with tremendous successes, and our dedicated coaches and athletes are looking forward to spring sports. We would like to extend our congratulations to all participants and thank our dedicated coaches and supervisors who go above and beyond for our student athletes.

Graduations

Plans are well underway for graduation ceremonies. We have provided you with a list of dates and will reach out to trustees to plan. As always, we want to ensure we have a trustee and/or a representative from the senior team at each graduation. This is an incredible time of the year as we watch students proudly come forward to accept the diploma they worked so hard to achieve.

Thank you

I would like to thank our students, staff, parents and guardians for their patience and resilience. By staying positive and working together we will overcome the challenge that recent weather has provided us.

4. **Other Items**

OPSBA Representative – Trustee Kosmerly shared that on March 12th, the OPSBA Board of Directors approved changes to its general bylaw, reducing the size of the board from 52 to 19 members, which will allow OPSBA to respond more quickly to issues while continuing to be a strong voice for English schools boards. For our Board, we no longer have a seat at the provincial table but will continue to have voting rights at the Northeast Regional Council table and at the OPSBA Annual meeting. Trustees can run for positions on OPSBA's working groups, special councils and for executive positions on the regional council. The next Northern Regional meeting is currently scheduled for April 11th virtually, and, as this was planned before the changes, it is not known if this meeting will include trustees from both the Northeast and Northwest regions or not, regardless, all Trustees and Student Trustees are welcome to attend. Registration is now open for the OPSBA Annual Meeting on June 4-6 in Ottawa, and registration remains open for the Education, Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium being held in Toronto on April 23-24, 2026.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Guenette is planning a visit to Espanola High School to promote Student Senate with hopes to recruit as they have not had representation for the past couple of years. At the upcoming Senate meeting, Student Trustee elections will take place with many senators expressing interest. Student Senate is also planning a promotional video of the upcoming conference and planning process and are excited to share once it is finalized. Student sign up for the Stand Up Speak Out conference will be sent to schools at the end of this month.

Student Trustee Cyr shared that Senators had an opportunity for professional development at the last senate meeting by working on public speaking skills through impromptu speeches with feedback from fellow student senators. Student Senate are completing the itinerary and breakout room speakers for the upcoming conference and once registrations are complete they can finalize accommodations, catering and student groups for activities.

5. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Hunda proposed the following motion regarding the upcoming OSTA-AECO Annual General meeting due to the conflict of the deadline to register and our next Board meeting.

Motion: 26-R54, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Cyr, Student Trustee Guenette and the 2 incoming Student Trustees at the 2026 OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting being held on May 21-24, 2026 in Toronto.

Motion: 26-R55, J.Hunda/A.McCauley

To waive the notice of motion requirements.

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

Motion: 26-R54, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Cyr, Student Trustee Guenette and the 2 incoming Student Trustees at the 2026 OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting being held on May 21-24, 2026 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

Trustee Corbiere-Addison expressed her gratitude to Trustee Kosmerly for her dedication, professionalism and devotion as the Board's OPSBA rep.

Trustee Clement thanked the Student Trustees for taking the initiative in promoting the Student Senate at Espanola High School.

6. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Hello everyone:

Registrations are ongoing in Rainbow elementary and secondary schools. If you have already registered, thank you. If you have yet to register your child for Kindergarten or Grade 9 for the upcoming school year, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. We look forward to welcoming your child into Rainbow Schools this fall.

The Board held its 19th annual **Technological Skills Competition** on March 4th. The event brought together 165 secondary and 340 elementary students to test their skills in various trades. Students were vying for the opportunity to compete at the Skills Ontario Competition this May in Toronto. On behalf of the Board, I extend sincere congratulations to all participants, and wish them continued success.

This month, schools have been exploring Fisheries, Conservation and Water Awareness in the lead up to **Canada Water Week** - a national celebration of water that takes place from March 21st to 27th and coincides with **World Water Day** which took place on March 22nd. This initiative is part of the Environmental Education Committee's efforts to encourage sustainable practices and increase awareness about water use.

Staff, students and families in Rainbow Schools are encouraged to "switch off" for **Earth Hour** on Saturday, March 28th at 8:30 pm. Hundreds of millions of people around the world will turn their lights off for one hour in a demonstration of support for global action on climate change. Rainbow District School Board will turn off all non-essential interior and exterior lights in its schools and at the Centre for Education.

The Board's **Science Fair** took place on March 10th. A total of 33 projects from students in Grades 7 to 12 were selected to compete at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair set to take place at Laurentian University on April 11th and 12th. Students will vie for the opportunity to

attend the Canada Wide Science Fair in Edmonton in May. Congratulations to all students for letting your instinctive curiosity guide you. Best of luck to all.

In keeping with science, some 200 students in Grade 7 and 8 from Rainbow Schools will participate in the board's annual **Math, Science and Technology Olympics** on April 15th at Science North. Our team of dedicated teachers has prepared challenging questions and activities related to Science North exhibits and the curriculum. Students can expect a fun day of learning in the spirit of friendly competition.

Students in Grades 1 to 8 from 18 Rainbow Schools will gather for the 6th annual **Elementary Chess Tournament**. The full-day event will take place on April 16th at the Caruso Club. Chess offers students many benefits, including the opportunity to build on analytical, strategic and concentration skills. Chess also improves self-regulation, patience, logic, creativity, memory and self-confidence. We wish all students the best as they make their strategic moves.

A friendly reminder that schools will be closed on April 3rd for **Good Friday** and April 6th for **Easter Monday**.

The **Parent Involvement Committee Meeting** will meet on Tuesday, April 21st at 7 pm. The topic will be Safe and Caring Schools. 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.

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

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
First Nations Advisory Committee minutes November 20, 2025 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes January 27, 2026 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**
Graduation Ceremony Dates – Elementary, Secondary & Stepping Up
Letter from Paul Calandra, Minister of Education

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Special Education Advisory Committee April 1, 2026 12:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting April 13, 2026 5:30 pm
Governance Policy & By-Law Review Committee April 14, 2026 12:00 pm
Equity and Inclusive Education Committee April 16, 2026 3:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee April 21, 2026 7:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee April 22, 2026 3:30 pm
Board Meeting April 28, 2026 5:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 26-R56, A.McCauley
That we do now adjourn at 6:37 p.m. – **Carried**

2026 Annual Meeting and Program (AM)



OPSBA's 2026
Annual Meeting and
Program
June 4-6, Ottawa

"Governing for the Public Good in an Era of Uncertainty"

Join OPSBA during this pivotal moment for public education governance in Ontario. Come together at the **2026 Annual Meeting and Program** to align, prepare, and govern for the public good. Whether a moment of renewal or transition, we will gather to network, learn, and strengthen our leadership for what's next.

June 4 to 6, 2026

Brookstreet Hotel, Ottawa

Registration fee: \$680 +HST

Registration is now open! Visit the **[event website](#)** for program information and to register.

If you have any questions about AM 2026, please reach out to our Professional Development Team at pdevents@opsba.org.

We hope to see you in June!

Nominations for OPSBA Elected Positions 2026

Elections for the following Ontario Public School Boards' Association positions will be held at the OPSBA Annual Meeting (AM) and Program on June 5, 2026, and Regional Council Elections on June 6, 2026.

- President
- Vice-President
- Regional Chair
- Regional Vice-Chair
- Two regional representatives and one alternate on the Education Program Work Group
- Two regional representatives and one alternate on the Policy Development Work Group

The selection of positions on the First Nations, Inuit and Métis Trustees' Council and the Black Trustees' Caucus will take place separately within each group (at or around the time of the Annual Meeting and Program).

Trustees who are interested in running for any of these positions are asked to submit their nomination using the following electronic forms:

[President, Vice-President, and Regional Council Positions Nomination Form 2026](#)

[FNIMTC and BTC Positions Nomination Form 2026](#)

Nomination Deadline: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 @ 4:30 p.m. ET

Details about OPSBA positions and the elections are included in the **[Guide to OPSBA Roles and Responsibilities](#)** and **[Guide to OPSBA Elections and Campaigning](#)**. All trustees, candidates, and Delegates are encouraged to familiarize themselves with these documents prior to submitting nominations and/or voting.

The list of nominees will regularly be updated and posted **[HERE](#)**.



439 University
Avenue,
Suite 1850
Toronto, Ontario
M5G 1Y8 Canada
(416) 340-2540

[Register Now](#)



Program

We are in the process of designing a program to align with current context and trustee needs. Please check back soon for full program details.

All Dates 06-04/06-06	Thursday 06-04	Friday 06-05	Saturday 06-06
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June 4, 2026

4:00 p.m. ET

Registration

6:00 p.m. ET

Welcome Reception sponsored by Hicks Morley

June 5, 2026

8:00 a.m. ET

Breakfast

Smudge Ceremony

9:00 a.m. ET

Opening Remarks and Keynote

10:30 a.m. ET

Networking Break sponsored by Shibley Righton

11:00 a.m. ET

Panel Discussion

12:00 p.m. ET

Lunch sponsored by Borden Ladner Gervais (BLG)

1:00 p.m. ET

Professional Development Workshops

2:00 p.m. ET

OPSBA Annual Meeting

6:30 p.m. ET

Networking Reception

7:00 p.m. ET

President's Dinner

June 6, 2026

8:00 a.m. ET

Smudge Ceremony

8:30 a.m. ET

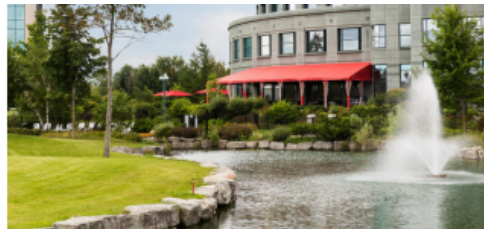
Regional Elections Working Breakfasts

10:00 a.m. ET

Networking Break sponsored by Shibley Righton

10:30 a.m. ET

Closing and Keynote



**OPSBA's 2026
Annual Meeting and
Program**
June 4-6, Ottawa

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

Wednesday, January 7, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM

RDSB, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury, Ontario

Present:

SEAC Members:

Lauri Christison	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury (Alternate)
Krista Cotie	Compass
Natasha Delaney	Member at Large
Alex McCauley	Trustee
Robert Silvestri (Acting Chair)	Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre (NOARC)
Jennifer Way	March of Dimes

Staff:

Coleen Eberlein	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
David Squarzolo	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Danielle Williamson	Superintendent of Schools

Regrets:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Stephanie Goudreault	Children’s Community Network
Sara Kitlar-Pothier	Member at Large

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

R. Silvestri chaired the meeting. Superintendent Williamson introduced Principal Coleen Eberlein and Principal David Squarzolo as the new Principals of Special Education Programs and Services.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

R. Silvestri read aloud the mission statement.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: L. Christison

Seconded by: N. Delaney

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of January 7, 2026 be approved.

Motion carried.

5.0 Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were noted.

6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Motion 2:

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: J. Way

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of November 5, 2025 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

None

8.0 New Business

Requests for Leaves of Absence

Motion 3:

Moved by: J. Way

Seconded by: K. Cotie

That the SEAC approve the absences of Julie Contini, Stephanie Goudreault, and Sara Kitlar-Pothier from the January 7, 2026 SEAC meeting.

Motion carried.

9.0 Superintendent’s Report

Superintendent Williamson shared that Principal Shannon Lafrance is the new Principal of Jean Hanson Public School and is excited to take on the position.

Superintendent Williamson and Principals Eberlein and Squarzolo are meeting tomorrow with Robert Silvestri to review the data from the Educational Assistants Survey and discuss plans for professional development.

The January 30 Professional Activity day is reserved for teachers to complete assessment and evaluation. Educational assistants will attend virtual workshops on a variety of topics. On the February 27 Professional Activity day, all education staff will attend half day training on Indigenous education. For the second half of the day, all educational assistants, special education resource teachers, Intensive Support Program teachers, and special education program leaders will attend professional development focused on meeting the needs of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder. It is in development by Board staff and will be delivered by Board Certified Behavior Analysts Brien Managhan and Ashley Kindrat, along with Special Education Coordinators Carole Burke and Pina St. George.

Educational Assistants Appreciation Day in the Board is scheduled for Monday, January 19. The Board is grateful for all the work they do to support our highest needs students.

10.0 Special Education Staff Report

The report is deferred until the next SEAC meeting.

11.0 Board Report

Trustee McCauley reported that the Board is conducting a detailed by-law and policy review in compliance with Ministry of Education direction.

12.0 Chairperson’s Report

R. Silvestri shared that NOARC is experiencing an increased number of students who are self-referring for a psychological assessment from NOARC due to concerns they have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). NOARC is responding by ensuring that psychologists that are knowledgeable or who specialize in ASD conduct the assessments for these students. NOARC is finetuning assessment practices and reporting of results to ensure that symptoms of ASD are unmasked, and diagnoses are clearly ruled in or out in reports. Many students are being influenced through social media that they have ASD without formal assessment or previous diagnosis. Some students are obtaining a doctor’s script diagnosis without an assessment. Some students are also re-referring themselves to NOARC stating they have ASD after a previous NOARC assessment ruled out a learning disability. NOARC is working with its academic advisors to educate them around proper screening and use of protocols to determine if a student meets criteria for further psychological assessment.

Dr. Julie Shilhan, Psychologist, is the new manager for NOARC.

13.0 Association Reports

Krista Cotie (Compass)

The Sudbury Youth Wellness Hub located in the YMCA in Sudbury is moving to 65 Larch Street in Sudbury. The Hub offers multiple services in a welcoming space for individuals ages 12 to 25. More information about the Hub can be shared with the SEAC at a future meeting.

Lauri Christison (Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury)

International Down Syndrome Awareness Day is March 21 and more information will be shared with SEAC at the next meeting.

Robert Silvestri (NOARC)

The Ministry of Colleges, Universities, Research Excellence and Security has directed NOARC to provide academic support for Indigenous students in Indigenous institutes including Kenjgewin Teg in M'Chigeeng, Anishinabek Educational Institute in North Bay, and Shingwauk in Sault Ste. Marie. NOARC is also reaching out to Fort Francis and Thunder Bay.

14.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

None

15.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

Special Education Advisory Committee

- Sudbury Youth Wellness Hub presentation – March 2026
- Staff PD Summary on Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders – Brien Managhan
- Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test assessment results – Paula Corradini

16.0 Next Meeting Date

March 4, 2026 from 12:00 until 1:30 PM.

17.0 Adjournment

R. Silvestri adjourned the meeting at 12:37 PM.

OFFICIAL

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

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM

RDSB, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury, Ontario

Present:

SEAC Members:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Stephanie Goudreault	Children’s Community Network
Sara Kitlar-Pothier	Member at Large
Alex McCauley	Trustee
Robert Silvestri (Acting Chair)	Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre (NOARC)
Jennifer Way	March of Dimes

Staff:

Coleen Eberlein	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
David Squarzolo	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Danielle Williamson	Superintendent of Schools

Regrets:

Lisa Corbiere-Addison	Trustee
Krista Cotie	Compass
Natasha Delaney	Member at Large

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

R. Silvestri chaired the meeting.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was not established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

R. Silvestri read aloud the mission statement.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

It was agreed to proceed with the agenda as shared.

5.0 Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were noted.

6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Tabled

7.0 Business Arising

None

8.0 New Business

Student Achievement Presentation

Superintendent Williamson suggested deferring the presentation until the next SEAC meeting.

Requests for Leaves of Absence

Regrets were received from Trustee Corbiere-Addison, Krista Cotie, and Natasha Delaney.

9.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Williamson shared that the Board will begin reviewing system needs in preparation for 2026-2027 staffing and the provision of the best services possible.

Principal Squarzolo is chairing preschool transition meetings with parents, school

staff, and community partners involved in their care. Meetings are held annually for students beginning school in September to learn about and plan for their specific special needs.

The call for Board Award nominations has been issued. The Barbara Konarek Memorial Award is presented yearly to a deserving educator or member of the support staff of the Board who has made a significant humanitarian contribution to the life of a student or group of students. Barbara Konarek was a long-time teacher and special education coordinator with the Board.

Superintendent Williamson shared that SEAC will resume the practice of meeting monthly to allow for the sharing of information and to answer questions in a timely fashion.

10.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal Eberlein reported that the Project SEARCH Open House took place January 14 at the Board Office. Presenters and Project SEARCH teachers Alexandria Asunmaa and Melissa Shaw, along with a current student, a Project SEARCH graduate, and the parent of a Project SEARCH graduate also gave presentations. The annual Skills Day will take place at Lockerby Composite School on March 31 to meet and review future students and determine who will attend the program next school year.

Matthew Cootes, Student Success Coordinator, has organized a soccer tournament at the Lasalle Soccer Dome for students attending Intensive Support Programs. The tournament takes place on February 26.

Special Education Resource Teachers attending professional development on Individual Education Plans, effective math interventions, and other topics. A session was held on January 20 on Manitoulin Island, and January 21 in Sudbury.

The January 30 Professional Activity Day was an assessment and evaluation day for teachers. Educational Assistants attended professional development on Personal Protective Equipment, and engaged in discussions and brainstorming about the results of their survey.

11.0 Board Report

Trustee McCauley reported that the Board continues to conduct a detailed by-law and policy review in compliance with Ministry of Education direction. A large meeting was held yesterday.

12.0 Chairperson's Report

No report.

13.0 Association Reports

Julie Contini (Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury)

International Down Syndrome Awareness Day is March 21 and events are planned. DSAS will encourage participation by schools and information can be shared with the SEAC and the Board for consideration.

Sara Kitlar-Pothier (Member at Large)

S. Kitlar-Pothier shared that she has stepped down from the Ontario Autism Coalition Board of Directors, but continues to serve as Northern Chair for the Coalition and is continuing in several working groups. She expressed her appreciation for the work done by the RDSB and inquired into how the Board is managing the decline in the number of Educational Assistants funded through Jordan's Principle and responding to the needs of students.

Superintendent Williamson responded that funding for student supports is always a concern. Funding through Jordan's Principle is outside of the Ministry of Education. School principals can reach out to the Board for additional support when needed. Each request is reviewed through the lens of how to support the needs of students and the school while remaining fiscally responsible. There are no immediate plans to appeal or request additional funding from the government.

Jennifer Way (March of Dimes)

The Building Inclusive Workplaces in Greater Sudbury Leadership Breakfast takes place on April 15 at College Boreal. The breakfast is organized in partnership between March of Dimes Canada, Health Sciences North, Pioneer Manor, and the City of Greater Sudbury. Mayor Paul Lefebvre will give the keynote address.

Robert Silvestri (NOARC)

In response to increasing numbers of students attending colleges and universities with Autism Spectrum Disorder, NOARC invited Dr. Daniel Wendler, an autistic clinical psychologist, speaker, and author to present to students, staff, and employers in three sessions that went well. He described what it is like being autistic and his main message is to make what is invisible, visible. Staff were given ideas on how they can help students achieve their true potential and to focus on strengths, not deficits. Employers were given insights into the types of jobs and responsibilities that match well for some individuals with ASD. The sessions could not be recorded, but if the Board or an organization is looking for a good presenter, Dr. Wendler is recommended for consideration.

14.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

None

15.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- Student Achievement presentation – Danielle Williamson, March 2026
- Sudbury Youth Wellness Hub presentation – 2026
- Staff PD Summary on Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders – Brien Managhan
- Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test assessment results – Paula Corradini

16.0 Next Meeting Date

March 4, 2026 from 12:00 until 1:30 PM.

17.0 Adjournment

R. Silvestri adjourned the meeting at 12:40 PM.

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

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

Time: 12:00 PM

RDSB, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury, Ontario

Present:

SEAC Members:

Julie Contini
Stephanie Goudreault
Sara Kitlar-Pothier
Judy Kosmerly
Alex McCauley

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

Staff:

Coleen Eberlein
David Squarzolo
Danielle Williamson

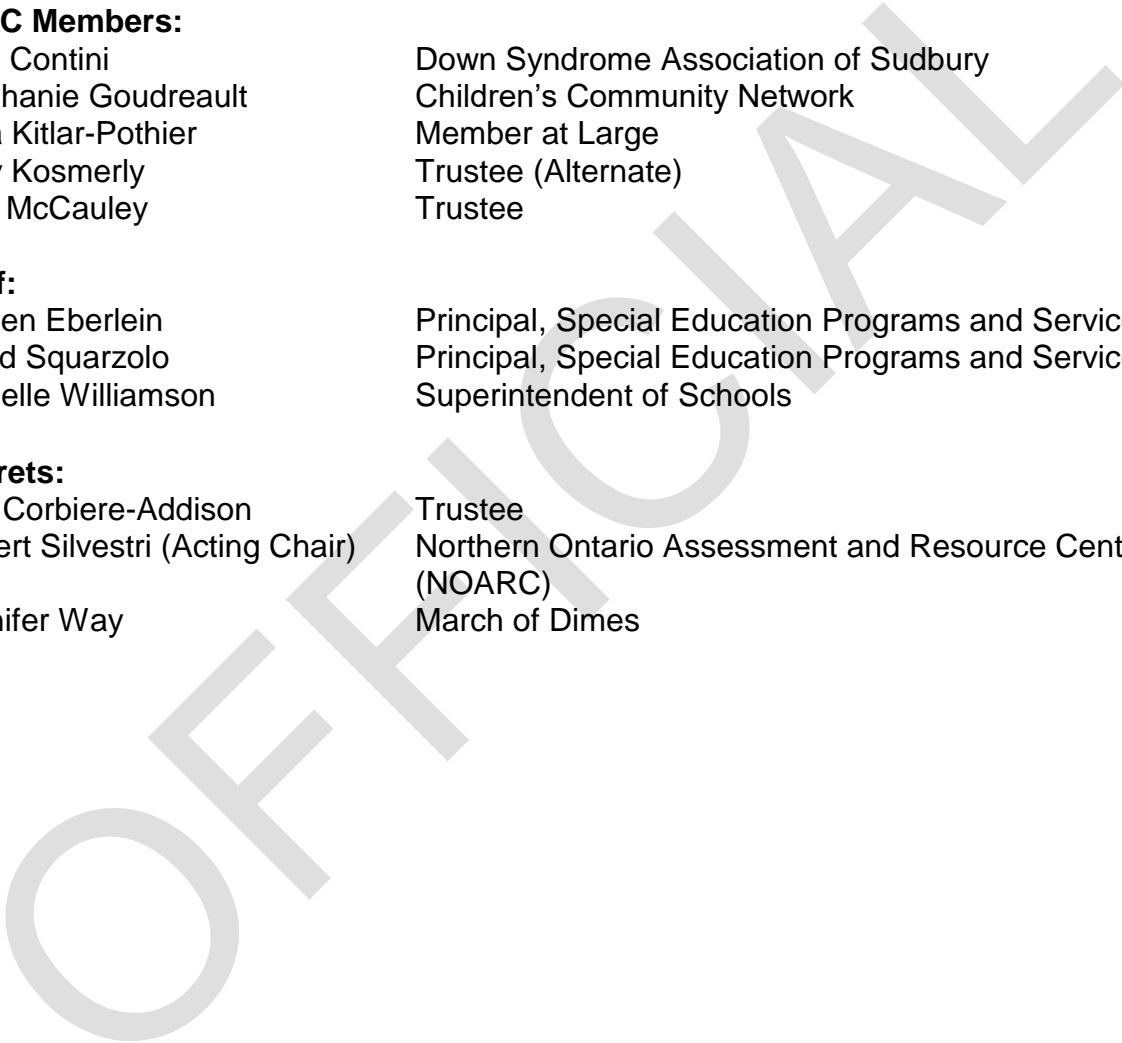
Principal, Special Education Programs and Services
Principal, Special Education Programs and Services
Superintendent of Schools

Regrets:

Lisa Corbiere-Addison
Robert Silvestri (Acting Chair)

Jennifer Way

Trustee
Northern Ontario Assessment and Resource Centre
(NOARC)
March of Dimes



1.0 Welcome and Introductions

Principal Squarzolo chaired the meeting.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was not established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

Principal Squarzolo read aloud the mission statement.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: S. Kitlar-Pothier

Seconded by: J. Contini

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of March 4, 2026 be approved.

5.0 Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were noted.

6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meetings

Motion 2:

Moved by: S. Goudreault

Seconded by: Trustee McCauley

That the minutes of the SEAC meetings of January 7 and February 4, 2026 be approved.

7.0 Business Arising

None

8.0 New Business

Student Achievement Presentation

Superintendent Williamson shared a presentation on the Board achievement results for students with exceptionalities. EQAO assessment results from the 2024-2025 school year indicate that gains were made in several areas when compared to the results from the previous year. Empower, Remediation+, and SpellRead are reading interventions being used to improve student literacy skills. Professional learning opportunities in mathematics for teachers have been provided and are ongoing through the collaboration between the Board's special

education and program staff. The goal is to identify best practices and strategies that meet the diverse needs of students in math to improve student achievement in math.

Overall, our results from last year had many highlights. Students in the Rainbow DSB are outperforming the results of students in other northern school boards.

Superintendent Williamson confirmed there are no provincial assessments for students following alternative curriculum in an Intensive Support Program (ISP). In response to an inquiry from J. Contini, Superintendent Williamson stated she would inquire into the number of students attending an ISP in the Board who participated in the EQAO assessments last year.

Motion 3:

Moved by: Trustee McCauley

Seconded by: J. Contini

That the SEAC approve the absences of Lisa Corbiere-Addison, Robert Silvestri, and Jennifer Way from the March 4, 2026 SEAC meeting.

9.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Williamson shared that the Board's All-Star Tournament will take place on May 28. SEAC members are invited to attend.

Preschool transition meetings have been scheduled with parents, school staff, Special Education Coordinators, and community partners for preschoolers with special needs starting school in September. To date, 63 individual meetings have been held. With parent consent, preschoolers who require additional planning and support in school are referred by a community partner to Principal Squarzolo who organizes and chairs the meetings. At the meeting, the student's profile is discussed in detail for staff to learn about them, and to provide information to families about the special education programs and services offered in the Board. Not all students referred require placement in an Intensive Support Program. Increased enrollment trends for 2026-2027 have been noted at Northeastern Elementary School, Princess Anne Public School, and Redwood Acres Public School. Superintendent Williamson thanked Principal Squarzolo for his coordination of this process.

10.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal Eberlein shared that the February 27 Professional Activity Day was a wonderful opportunity for all special education staff to deepen their knowledge and ability to meet the needs of students with special needs. Approximately 450 ISP teachers, Special Education Resource Teachers (SERT), Special Education Program Leaders, and Educational Assistants gathered at the Radisson Hotel in Sudbury, and at Manitoulin Secondary School for a full day of professional

development. There was a great deal of positive feedback received. Presentations for the day began with a keynote speaker named Kelly Crawford. Elementary staff then received training on trauma informed approaches with students. Secondary teachers were divided into two groups. One group consisting of GLE course teachers and SERTs reviewed the instructional expectations connected to GLE courses. The second group, which were ISP teachers, worked with the Board's speech-language pathologists on effective programming for students in their classes on communication skills including augmentative communication. Training on the use of AFLS and ABLLS was also provided.

In the afternoon, the groups were brought together to focus on topics such as intentional practices in ISP classes, the use of technology in special education, the use of positive reinforcement with students, and focusing on the teacher in the class as the most important resource for students.

Principal Eberlein and Principal Squarzolo attended a presentation from Developmental Services Ontario to ensure that appropriate and accurate information is provided to families about the services available and how they are accessed. Also in attendance was Heather Moise, the Board's transition navigator, and Paula Corradini, Chief Psychological Associate.

Destination Readiness will take place on April 16 on Brady Street in Sudbury. Students and their families can visit to connect and receive information from 30 different organizations and agencies in the area about the services they provide

The Board's Spring IPRC schedule for students transitioning to secondary in September or transitioning from a Kindergarten to Grade 6 school to Grade 7 has been developed. The IPRC meetings will take place in the months of May and June.

11.0 Board Report

Trustee McCauley reported that work is ongoing in the review of the Board's policies and by-laws.

Trustee Kosmerly shared that the Board's Strategic Planning Committee was dissolved. A letter written by the Chair of the Toronto District School Board's SEAC was posted online which outlined concerns about school boards being taken over by the Minister of Education. The SEAC chairperson stated that the takeovers will have a negative impact on students with special needs and the voice of the SEAC in those boards would no longer be heard. Parents are no longer made aware of changes made to the provision of special education programs and services.

Trustee McCauley and Trustee Kosmerly thanked the SEAC for their ongoing

support for the work being done for RDSB students.

12.0 Chairperson's Report

No report.

13.0 Association Reports

Julie Contini (Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury)

J. Contini shared a reminder that International Down Syndrome Awareness Day is March 21 and events are planned before the March Break.

Sara Kitlar-Pothier (Member at Large)

S. Kitlar-Pothier asked that the TDSB letter discussed earlier in the meeting be shared to allow the SEAC to review it. According to the Minister of Education, EQAO results for all school boards throughout Ontario were not good. There was no other data provided.

14.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

None

15.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- Approval of unofficial meeting minutes from January and February and passing of motions made during those meetings
- Sudbury Youth Wellness Hub presentation – 2026
- Staff PD Summary on Supporting Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders – Brien Managhan
- Canadian Cognitive Abilities Test assessment results – Paula Corradini

16.0 Next Meeting Date

April 1, 2026 from 12:00 until 1:30 PM.

17.0 Adjournment

Principal Squarzolo adjourned the meeting at 1:00 PM.



LOCKERBY COMPOSITE SCHOOL

LIBRARY RTU UPGRADE

TENDER # 2026-01

PROJECT AND DETAILS:

Supply all labour, materials and equipment necessary to complete Library RTU Upgrade at Lockerby composite School.

BIDDERS (IN ALPABETICAL ORDER)

Bisschops Industries

DMC Electric Limited

Greater City Mechanical

Metal-Air Mechanical Systems Ltd.

Ny-Style Construction Co. (1988) Limited

AWARDED TO:	TOTAL (EXCLUDING HST)	RATIONALE
DMC Electric Limited	\$558,000.00	Lowest bid



ESPANOLA HIGH SCHOOL

GYM RTU REPLACEMENT

TENDER # 2026-04

PROJECT AND DETAILS:

Supply all labour, materials and equipment necessary to complete Gym RTU Replacements at Espanola High School.

BIDDERS (IN ALPABETICAL ORDER)

DMC Electric Limited

Lignum Builders Limited

Metal-Air Mechanical Systems Ltd.

Nu-Style Construction Co. (1988) Limited

Taylor Sheet Metal Ltd

AWARDED TO:	TOTAL (EXCLUDING HST)	RATIONALE
DMC Electric Limited	\$1,272,048.08	Lowest bid