



EDUCATION CENTRE

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Heather Campbell, Director of Education

Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 3, 2011
North Star Community School, Atikokan

AGENDA

PUBLIC SESSION
7:00 p.m. – Sunshine Room

1 Call to Order

2 Approval of Agenda

- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve the agenda for May 3, 2011, Regular Board Meeting.*

3 Committee of the Whole – In Camera Session – 6:00–6:45 p.m.

- *That the Rainy River District School Board meet, in camera, in Committee of the Whole Board to consider the following:*
 - *Confirmation of Committee of the Whole – In-Camera Minutes, Regular Board Meeting No. 5, April 5, 2011*
 - *Lien Matter**and that this meeting shall not be open to the public pursuant to Section 207(2) of the Education Act.*
- *That the Rainy River District School Board rise and report to the regular meeting with the following recommendation therein:*

“That the Rainy River District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole – In-Camera Session Minutes of Regular Board Meeting No. 5, April 5, 2011”.

4 Silent Reflection

5 Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

6 Recognition of Excellence

6.1 Employee Recognition – 25 years of service Diane Ross

6.2 Early Learning Program – North Star Community School Sylvia Parker
Pages 5-6

7 Confirmation of Minutes *Pages 7-19*

- *That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting April 5, 2011 (Session 5) having been typed and distributed, be approved.*

8 Business Arising From Minutes

9 Presentation

9.1 System - Program/Curriculum Success

- ✓ Schools in the Middle Sylvia Parker
Pages 20-22

10 Board Reports

10.1 Special Education Advisory Committee – April 13 Michael Lewis
Pages 23-30

10.2 Finance Committee – April 13 David Kircher
Pages 31-34

10.3 Policy Committee – April 18 Dan Belluz
Pages 35-51

- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies:*
 - 4.17 Playground Safety*
 - 4.60 Aboriginal Student Voluntary Self Identification*
 - 6.11 Smoking Prevention*
- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies for stakeholder consultation:*
 - 1.20 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee*
 - 2.70 School Food and Beverage*
 - 8.48 Student Fees*

10.4 Ontario Public School Boards' Association Ralph Hill

11 Student Trustee Report

12 Chairman Report

12.1 Comments by Trustees

13 Administrative Reports

13.1 Director's Update
Provincial / Regional / Board.....Heather Campbell

13.2 Personnel..... Diane Ross
Pages 52-53

- *That the Rainy River District School Board receive the Personnel Report dated May, 2011.*

13.3 Early Learning Kindergarten Program – Years 4 and 5Heather Campbell
Sylvia Parker
Pages 54-55

- *That the Rainy River District School Board identify J.W. Walker School, Donald Young School and Sturgeon Creek School for Year 4 implementation of the Early Learning Program in 2013/2014.*

13.4 Education Week.....Heather Campbell
Pages 56-59

13.5 Our Language is our Culture Conference Brent Tookenay
Pages 60-61

14 Correspondence.....*Pages 62-63*

15 Future Meetings

15.1 **Rainy River District School Board** *Tuesday, June 7, 2011 - 7:00 pm*
Education Centre – Fort Frances

15.2 **Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee** – May 16, 2011, 4:15 p.m.,
Education Centre

15.3 **Special Education Advisory Committee** – May 17, 2011, 12:00 p.m.,
Education Centre

15.4 **Finance Committee** – May 24, 2011, 4:00 p.m., Education Centre

15.5 **Audit Committee** – May 25, 2011, 7:00 p.m., Education Centre

15.6 **Policy Committee** – May 30, 2011, 9:30 a.m., Education Centre

15.7 **Occupational Health and Safety Committee** – June 9, 2011,
9:00 a.m., Education Centre

15.8 **Community Visits**

May 5, 2011 – Mine Centre School, 3:15 p.m. (tentative)

May 12, 2011 – Rainy River High School, Rainy River, 6:30 p.m.

May 17, 2011 – Fort Frances High School, Fort Frances, 6:30 p.m.

May 26, 2011 – North Star Community School, Atikokan, 6:30 p.m.

16 **WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES / CONVENTIONS**

16.1 2010-11 Calendar of Events – Ontario Public School Boards' Association
Annual General Meeting, July 7-10, 2011, Ottawa

17 **Adjournment**

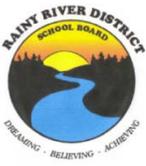
- *That the Rainy River District School Board adjourn at _____ p.m.*



REPORT

Recognition of Excellence

***Early Learning Program
North Star Community School***



RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Early Learning Kindergarten Program
North Star Community School

The Early Learning Kindergarten Program brings together 4 and 5 year olds in a learning environment that has play-based learning as its primary focus. Students are supported in their learning by a classroom teacher and an early childhood educator who deliver the program as a team. We are very fortunate to have a school that has ample space for children to utilize as they explore, investigate and discover their way through their first two years of school. More importantly, the children benefit from having a highly trained and dedicated staff with lots of positive energy to guide them through these years. It has been an incredible year of learning and discovery for the students and the staff.

The partnership and relationship between the teacher and the Early Childhood Educator has been of vital importance. The respect for the experience each brings to the learning environment and the sharing of knowledge about child development and learning, has benefitted students and made this program an incredible success. The draft Full-Day Early Learning - Kindergarten Program curriculum document has provided a strong curriculum continuum and supportive information for staff in their delivery of the program.

Play is a main vehicle for children's learning. This is a time when children are at their most creative and receptive. All aspects of the child as a learner are expanded upon and strengthened while they explore their environment and the world around them. Staff design the play centres with purpose-- children's interests are at the heart of the design. Staff choose items that will engage the students and further their development in curriculum areas. They observe the students and ask questions of them, helping students to make stronger connections and further their thinking and problem-solving.

One of the most engaging centres this year was the dramatic play centre. The children were very interested in outer space. They spent time sharing all that they knew about space and what they liked about it. It was decided that it would be a really good idea to build their own rocket ship. Large cardboard boxes were received from a local electrician; duct tape, and silver and gold wrapping paper was brought in from home; and hand drawn, stars, moons, windows and decals were produced. White paper coveralls, old white snowmobile helmets and goggles showed up to make the experience that much more authentic for the children as they made their journey into space. These 4 and 5 year olds not only built a large rocket to use on their flights into outer space, but they also had to do many rebuilds and mechanical repairs while in space (just like real astronauts do!!) The centre expanded as books were added to the area about all things in space, clipboards were provided for children to log their experiences, the distance they travelled and record the sights. This is learning at its best.....when you follow the children's lead and interests, you never know where it will take you with all of the expectations being covered along the way.

We all know that the strongest learning is the learning that is real and that we can connect to. Learning through play experiences that are purposeful and authentic create a classroom that children want to come to everyday. The Early Learning Kindergarten program for 4 and 5 year olds is giving these children the strongest base possible from which to start their education. We are very proud to have been a part of this first year of discovery.

RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Session #5

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the 2010-2014 Rainy River District School Board on Tuesday, April 5, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the Education Centre, Fort Frances.

Board Members Present Michael Lewis, Dianne McCormack, Dan Belluz, Ralph Hill, David Kircher, Earl Klyne (teleconference)

Regrets Marg Heyens

Student Trustee Tamara DeGagne

In Attendance Heather Campbell, Casey Slack, Brent Tookenay, Raymond Roy, Diane Ross

RESOLUTIONS

Res. #47 KIRCHER-BELLUZ That the Rainy River District School Board approve the agenda for April 5, 2011, Regular Board meeting. CARRIED

Res. #48 McCORMACK-KIRCHER That the Rainy River District School Board meet, in camera, in Committee of the Whole Board to consider the following:
- Confirmation of Committee of the Whole – In-Camera Minutes, Regular Board Meeting No. 4, March 1, 2011
- Litigation and Negotiation Matters
And that this meeting shall not be open to the public pursuant to Section 207(2) of the *Education Act*. CARRIED

Res. #49 BELLUZ-KIRCHER That the Rainy River District School Board rise and report to the regular meeting with the following recommendation therein: “That the Rainy River District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole – In-Camera Session Minutes of Regular Board Meeting No. 4, March 1, 2011”. CARRIED

Res. #50 HILL-McCORMACK That the Rainy River District School Board approve the Terms and Conditions of Employment with the Non-Union Employees – Rainy River District, for the period April 6, 2011 to August 31, 2012. CARRIED

Res. #51 HILL-BELLUZ That the Rainy River District School Board approve the Terms and Conditions of Employment with the Non-Union Managers – Rainy River District, for the period April 6, 2011 to August 31, 2012. CARRIED

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Michael Lewis called the meeting to order.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There was no disclosure of conflict of interest.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the April 5, 2011 meeting was approved. (resolution #47)

IN-CAMERA SESSION

The Board met In-Camera to review the minutes of March 1, 2011 and to discuss Litigation and Negotiation matters. (resolution #48)

RISE AND REPORT

The Board approved the Committee of the Whole – In Camera Session of the Regular Board meeting (No. 4), March 1, 2011. (resolution #49)

The Board discussed Litigation and Negotiation matters in their entirety.

The Board approved the Terms and Conditions of Employment with the Non-Union Employees – Rainy River District, for the period April 6, 2011 to August 31, 2012. (resolution #50)

The Board approved the Terms and Conditions of Employment with the Non-Union Managers – Rainy River District, for the period April 6, 2011 to August 31, 2012. (resolution #51)

The Board approved the Terms and Conditions of Employment with the Principals and Vice Principals – Rainy River District, for the period April 6, 2011 to August 31, 2012. (resolution #52)

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Classroom Technology – Mine Centre School

Leslie Barr-Kellar, Principal of Mine Centre School, spoke about use of technology by teachers and students at Mine Centre School. All classrooms are equipped with

SMART board technology which is used daily. The kindergarten students have access to a SMART table. Teachers and students are able to use classroom blogs, emailing, researching on the internet, media literacy awareness, and other technology tools to improve student learning. These technology tools have increased the competency and efficiency of teaching in the classroom. Cecilia Stewart, Information Technology Lead, and Suzi Gustafson, Educational Assistant in Assistive Technology at Mine Centre School, were at the Board meeting and provided a visual presentation of activities at Mine Centre School involving classroom technology.

Chair Lewis commended Mine Centre School staff for their support of student learning through their use of classroom technology and presented them with the Board's Recognition of Excellence certificate.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Board approved the minutes of the Regular Board meeting March 1, 2011, (Session 4). (resolution #53)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Board members received correspondence from the Minister of Education, Leona Dombrowsky, dated March 29, 2011, regarding the Board's obligations under section 198 of the *Education Act*. The Minister of Education confirmed that the Board's decision to obtain fidelity insurance through its current providers is consistent with the approach taken by all boards in addressing their obligations under section 198 of the *Education Act*.

BOARD PRESENTATION – Public Presentation

Board members received a presentation by Walter Horban regarding three issues:

- 1) Severance packages approved for two senior administrators
- 2) Theft of money by a former employee of Fort Frances High School
- 3) Lack of transparency by members of the previous Board in Board matters

Walter Horban brought these issues to the Board as a representative of a group of concerned citizens in Fort Frances and surrounding area. Walter Horban expressed concern that the previous Board, at its final meeting of their term of office, approved amendments to two senior administrators' severance packages in the case of their dismissal and that it was done in a closed session of the Board. The second issue was pertaining to the theft by a former employee at the Fort Frances High School. Walter Horban expressed concern that information was never shared with the public on a matter that took place several years ago. The public is asking that the Board acknowledge what has been done to date in this matter and what is being done to

ensure proper financial procedures are followed. The third issue was about the lack of transparency by members of the previous Board.

Board Chairman Michael Lewis thanked Mr. Horban for his presentation and responded on the three concerns that were addressed in the presentation. He stated that the severance issued was discussed in-camera by the current board in January, and again in public session at the February Board meeting. The issue had been aired in public by two local newspapers and on a local radio station. This Board is not able to say anything further about this issue that has not already been said. Board members will hear a motion at this meeting that authorizes the Board Chairman to contact the Board's legal counsel on labour relations, to determine what discussions took place that led to the November 2010 in-camera resolutions.

Chairman Lewis further stated that the Fort Frances High School theft case is currently before the courts. Board members cannot comment further on what is already known to the public until the court case has concluded. He stated that Board Members are as anxious as the citizens of Fort Frances and area to know the complete details of the ongoing case.

Chairman Lewis stated that the current Board is not able to account for any lack of transparency by the previous Board and can only be held accountable for its own actions. He provided a statement of reassurance that the current board will be open and transparent and will also protect the privacy of individuals when it is required to do so under the *Education Act* and/or the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

The Board approved a resolution to give the Chairman authority to contact the Board's legal counsel for Labour Relations to discuss the details of the contract amendments that were made by the Board in November, 2010. (resolution #54)

It was reported by Chairman Lewis that at the last meeting of the Board March 1, 2010, a motion to find a trustee in breach of the Trustee Code of Conduct was passed by a vote of 4 to 2. He further reported that he has not been advised that any Trustee wishes to change that vote; thus, the vote is confirmed.

The Board approved a motion that David Kircher be censured for his breach of the Trustee Code of Conduct and that the Chairman will write a letter to that effect. (resolution #55)

SYSTEM PRESENTATION - Program/Curriculum Success

School College Work Initiative – Dual Credit Program

Board members received a presentation from Shane Bliss, Secondary Curriculum Coordinator, and Anne Renaud, Director, Confederation College – Rainy River District Campus, on the School College Work Initiative, Dual Credit Program. Shane Bliss

spoke about the partnership that the Rainy River District School Board has developed with Confederation College to provide students with opportunities to obtain dual credits. The Dual Credit Program allows students to receive high school and college credits. Due to the proximity of Confederation College to the Fort Frances High School, student can walk from one building to the next to attend courses and have the opportunity of getting a head start on electives.

Anne Renaud, Director of the Rainy River District Campus at Confederation College, provided a profile on Confederation College and the many locations. They offer both post-secondary and non post-secondary courses. The School College Work Initiative is a provincial program that provides opportunities to work together to increase opportunities for student success. They began working through the School College Work Initiative in 2003 by putting together a video and arranging tours. The first dual credit courses were offered in 2007 with forums being held at the Thunder Bay campus. It was noted that the partnership between the Rainy River District School Board and Confederation College provides additional opportunities for students to enhance their educational experience and to provide them with the incentive to graduate high school and pursue a post-secondary education. (*Refer to the SCWI – Dual Credit Program Report p.21 of the agenda*).

Trustee McCormack felt it might be beneficial to provide post-secondary students with an opportunity to visit the Fort Frances campus. Other discussion included the availability of summer camp programs and availability of funding for the dual credit courses. Trustee Belluz spoke about the need for more programs in the various trades.

BOARD REPORTS

School Naming Committee

Board members received the minutes of the School Naming Committee meeting held March 3, 2011. (*Refer to minutes p. 23-24 of the agenda*). Trustee Dan Belluz reported that it was a unanimous decision by educators and the community to keep the name of Mine Centre School for the new elementary school.

The Board approved "Mine Centre School" as the name for the new public school.
(resolution #56)

Special Education Advisory Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held March 22, 2011. (*Refer to minutes p.26-32 of the agenda*). Trustee Michael Lewis provided highlights of the meeting.

There was discussion regarding the increased enrolment of high needs students and a greater need for service. It was noted that this may be due to the fact that there has been greater effort by Boards to identify students with special needs.

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee meeting held March 28, 2011. (*Refer to minutes p.34-35 of the agenda*). Brent Tookenay, Aboriginal Advisory Leader, provided a summary of the meeting.

Policy Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held March 29, 2011 (*Refer to minutes p.37-46 of the agenda*). Trustee Belluz provided highlights of the meeting.

The Board approved the following policies: (resolution #57)

- 3.93 Employee Protection
- 4.55 Student Alcohol and Drug Use Prevention
- 7.10 Transportation

The Board approved the following policies for stakeholder consultation: (resolution #58)

- 4.17 Playground Safety
- 4.60 Aboriginal Student Voluntary Self Identification
- 6.11 Smoking Prevention

Audit Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Inaugural Audit Committee meeting held March 29, 2011. Trustee Kircher provided highlights of the meeting. (*Refer to minutes p. 48-51 of the agenda*).

Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Trustee Ralph Hill spoke about the five priorities of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) for 2011. The number one priority was the "Whole Child" which includes mental health and wellness. He reported that OPSBA has convened meetings with many organizations that work to support children and youth success. They are exploring the possibility of creating a coalition dedicated to supporting the full continuum of services for Children and Youth Mental Health. The newly created coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health believes in fostering the social and emotional health of a child which involves engaging the entire community of caring adults to provide

services that include mental health, literacy, promotion of positive social-emotional development, prevention of mental health problems, intervention services and clear pathways to care.

The Board approved, in principle, the Children and Youth Mental Health Statement of Intent and formally agreed to join the Coalition for Children and Youth Mental Health. (resolution #59)

Trustees Dianne McCormack, David Kircher and Michael Lewis spoke about the OPSBA Labour Relations Symposium held in Toronto March 31 to April 2. Several sessions were offered which were all well received by trustees.

Student Trustee Report

Tamara DeGagne, Student Trustee, provided a reported on activities at the secondary schools.

Fort Frances High School

- An April Fool's Day dance was held by the Fort Frances Mentoring Committee and Student Council. One dollar from each ticket sale went to the Brick-by-Brick project.
- Students at Fort Frances High School have made their course selections for next year.
- The Big Green Club will be hosting a book drive for the upcoming Earth Week, April 17-12.
- The Muskie boys' Curling Team brought home a silver medal in their OFSAA game.

Rainy River

- Mix-it-Up Week is being hosted by the Student Council.
- Entertainment is being provided during a lunch hosted by the Drama Club.
- Bingo and Lucky Locker games are being played during the entire week.
- Students and staff recognized Pink Shirt Day – games and activities were held.

Atikokan

- Atikokan Student Council is planning a spring carnival for students.
- NORWOSSA qualifiers are being held in Atikokan April 6th for badminton players.
- Fort Frances High School and Atikokan High School students are participating in the World Vision's annual 30-hour famine which supports those who suffer from poverty and hunger.

REPORT OF CHAIR

Chair Michael Lewis reported at the March Board meeting about the first half of the Atikokan High School Ahousaht Student Exchange which has been completed. The

banquet hosted students from three high schools including Lac La Croix. Speakers at the banquet were the Grand Chief of Treaty Three Dianne Kelly, and Assembly of First Nations' Chief Shawn Atleo. Three Board administrators were in attendance.

The Board has signed a new Corporate Agreement with Confederation College to continue the practice of cooperation and sharing of both facilities and courses, where possible. At the official signing ceremony, which included the Town of Fort Frances, Director of Education Heather Campbell noted that, to date, the Board has had over 200 students take part in the opportunities that this partnership affords. Confederation College President Pat Lang paid tribute to Heather Campbell for her efforts to extend the shared opportunities from Fort Frances High School to the other high schools in the District.

Trustee Comments

Trustee Dianne McCormack expressed her appreciation to everyone who provided input during the review process for the Board's Transportation Policy. Trustee McCormack recognized the time, energy and sincere efforts of everyone involved to better serve the families in the Rainy River District. A special thanks was conveyed to parents who brought their concerns forward since the beginning of the school year and to those who took the time most recently, to provide feedback regarding the revisions that were made over the last several months.

Trustee McCormack stated that the Board values the input by staff and community members, especially insights shared by two difference school councils – one that supported the position that if requests for changes are not handled carefully, with the appropriate amount of time to make them safely and effectively, that confusion would result in mistakes being made. Trustee McCormack encouraged parents to work with the Transportation Department to establish manageable schedules and provide as much notice as possible for changes to ensure that the changes can be made on the day required. A second school council recognized the effort invested in the policy revisions by acknowledging that the changes were fair considering that in other areas there are no options for changes at all, and that parents are responsible for having backup plans in place to deal with the many unexpected daily inconveniences that may arise.

Trustee McCormack added that there are, on occasion, situations that cannot be addressed by this policy but stated that Board Administrators and Trustees made every effort to provide as much flexibility as possible. Trustee McCormack asked that parents, in turn, consider and respect the demands and constraints placed on the School Board, more specifically in the Transportation Department, to meet the needs of the many students that are being transported on Board busses. Further, Trustee McCormack stated that while working to provide a safe transportation system that meets the needs of student across the district, the Transportation Department strives to keep transit

times as short as possible while remaining cost efficient so that funds do not have to be directed away from student achievement to cover increasing transportation costs.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Director's Update

Director of Education, Heather Campbell, reported some of the highlights for February which included:

Provincial

- Grants for Student Needs were announced on March 31st. As expected, there are constraints and some benefits to Boards;
- While the Board is working through the actual funding levels, some positives included extension of Special Education grant review, continuation of programs such as Schools in the Middle, the Primary Collaborative Inquiry, and Student Success Cross-Panel teams, and increased focus on secondary programming to support locally developed strategies. The Director of Education spoke with leaders within the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat on March 11th to provide feedback on initiatives that the Board found beneficial for students and for teachers which has resulted in the continuation of these and other programs.
- Concerns have been expressed with respect to the frozen funding level for technology which saw the funding that was previously reduced by 50% over two years frozen at current levels, as well as for the First Nation, Inuit, Metis Education supplement which allows Boards to offer course and programs for Aboriginal students, despite limited enrolment. The funding benchmarks for Native Studies and Native Languages, priorities for this Board, have been adjusted from an average class size of 8 to 12 resident pupils which will make it difficult to secure the funding for these programs.
- Directors of Education met at the end of March, with the focus on Labour Relations, Early Learning, with continued concerns regarding the funding of this program and the continued need for flexibility in Extended Day options within small communities.
- Principal and Vice Principal Terms and Conditions were reviewed and revised in light of Policy/Program Memorandum 152.
- The Director and Board Leadership Development Committee participated in a provincial webcast on March 31st which provided strategies to refine the mentoring program for new principals and vice principals, (eg., mentor matching, training for new and experienced principals and vice principals).

Regional

- As lead board, the Rainy River District School Board received \$70,000 for regional board leadership development initiatives. As part of the NOEL Leadership Conference Planning Committee, Directors continue both in boards and part of a

regional focus, to develop aspiring, new, and experienced principals, vice principals, and supervisory officers.

- An Early Learning session was held in Thunder Bay with ADM Jim Grieve and Dr. Charles Pascal that focuses on best practices.

Board

- The Director attended a banquet for exchange students from Ahousaht First Nations on March 2nd in Atikokan, along with the Superintendent of Education and Aboriginal Education Leader. Congratulations and appreciation was extended to Peter Burton, Rachel White and staff for their hard work in making the first part of this exchange a great success.
- The Board signed a corporate agreement with Confederation College on March 7th.
- The Director met with Fort Frances High School staff to learn more about the exciting work in a pilot project involving IPADs and student engagement.
- The Director continues to work with the local Ontario Provincial Police on the planning for the upcoming Risk/Threat Assessment Training in Atikokan and Fort Frances, and west. These sessions are planned for mid-May and bring together board staff, police, community services, and members from across the district to receive training from Kevin Cameron, Centre of Risk Assessment and to develop a protocol for threats/risks for communities/schools.
- Senior administrators continue their ongoing work on the budget, on board improvement planning, on future planning for supports for the Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting, and other initiatives.

Personnel Report

The Board received the Personnel Report as presented for April, 2011. (resolution #60)

The Personnel Report included the following:

Change in Assignment

Nikki Armstrong, 1.0 FTE Transportation Clerk, Education Centre, commencing March 21, 2011

Leave of Absence

Karen Gannon, 1.0 FTE Teacher, AHS, January 30, 2012 to June 22, 2012

Gary Lipinski, 1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS, August 29, 2011 to June 30, 2013

Michelle Cain, 1.0 FTE Teacher, RMS, June 15, 2010 to June 14, 2011

Michelle Cain, 1.0 FTE Teacher, RMS, June 15, 2011 to June 24, 2011

Michelle Cain, 0.5 FTE Teacher, RMS, August 29, 2011 to June 22, 2012

Nicole Evans, 0.5 FTE Teacher, JWS, August 29, 2011 to June 22, 2012

Meghan Cox, 1.0 FTE Accountant, Ed. Centre, June 27, 2011 to March 30, 2012

Confederation College

Trustees received a report on the signing of the corporate agreement by the Board with Confederation College. It was noted that the intent of the agreement is to continue working together to promote student success. Heather Campbell spoke about the guiding principles of the agreement and the focus on building knowledge, skills and attitudes to support individual student success to make the transition from high school to college. (*Refer to report p.55 of the agenda*).

Occupational Health and Safety Committee

Trustees received a report on the Occupational Health and Safety Committee meeting held March 31, 2011. Highlights were shared with trustees:

- The Confined Space Sub-Committee reported that True Grit Consulting Ltd. Has been hired to conduct an assessment of Board facilities to ensure compliance with the *Occupational Health and Safety Act*.
- The Sub-Committee received proposals to update the Board's asbestos management plan.
- The revised Terms of Reference for the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committees will be forwarded to the Ministry of Labour for approval.
- The Committee discussed recommendations regarding a communication plan with further discussion deferred to the next committee meeting.
- The Committee received a presentation on a Health and Safety eLearning program that will be fully implemented in September.
- The Committee reviewed the monthly workplace inspections, the hazard identification summary and the accident year in review with a noted concern in the area of slips, trips and falls.
- The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2011.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Board correspondence.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Next Regular Board Meeting – Tuesday, May 5, 2011, 7:00 p.m., North Star Community School, Atikokan.

Special Education Advisory Committee – April 13, 2011, 12:00 p.m., Education Centre

Finance Committee – April 13, 2011, 4:00 p.m., Education Centre

Policy Committee – April 18, 2011, 9:30 a.m., Education Centre

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee – May 16, 2011, 4:15 p.m., Education Centre

Occupational Health and Safety Committee – June 9, 2011, 9:00 a.m., Education Centre.

WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES / CONVENTIONS

2010-11 Calendar of Events – Ontario Public School Boards' Association
Annual General Meeting, July 7-10, 2011, Ottawa

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 8:48 p.m. (resolution #61)

Director/Secretary

Chair



REPORT

Schools in the Middle



RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Schools in the Middle

The Schools in the Middle initiative supports schools where 50 to 74 per cent of Grades 3 and 6 students are meeting or exceeding the provincial standard on four of the six 2010 Primary and Junior Reading, Writing and Mathematics EQAO assessments. This strategy helps teachers, principals and board leaders implement effective practices to further increase student achievement.

During 2009/10 two Rainy River School Board schools were identified for participation in the initiative; J.W. Walker School in Fort Frances and North Star Community School in Atikokan. Both of these schools showed significant growth in student achievement on the 2009/10 EQAO provincial assessments. J.W. Walker School has been identified as a School in the Middle for 2010/11. North Star Community School and Donald Young School have been invited to join J.W. Walker on this learning journey.

The focus for this year's Schools in the Middle initiative is the 21st Century Learner. The three sessions will focus on the following areas:

- Session One – the system
 - networks for professional learning, implementation plans, theories of action
- Session Two – the classroom
 - the instructional core – the task, curriculum expectations, student work
- Session Three – the school
 - assessment for learning – student, classroom, school

The goal is to move schools from being “good to great”, through purposeful planning that incorporates curriculum expectations and achievement standards; tasks that cause thinking and make thinking visible; success criteria and feedback; assessment for/as learning; learning skills; alignment of initiatives across the system; board and school achievement planning.

To facilitate our learning across the system, professional development for leaders and teachers will support the development of the following skills:

- Observing, describing , and analyzing student thinking
- Setting precise goals and targets for student learning
- Deconstructing curriculum expectations – determining learning goals and success criteria
- Building relevant and robust tasks
- Planning and implementing differentiated teaching strategies

- Aligning resources to meet achievement goals
- Assessing student achievement and adjusting strategies as needed
- Providing effective feedback and coaching to students
- Learning from student work; designing next steps

“An information- and technology-based society requires individuals who are able to think critically about complex issues, people who can analyze and think logically about new situations, devise unspecified solution procedures, and communicate their solution clearly and convincingly to others.”

(Baroody, 1998)



REPORT

Special Education Advisory Committee

- *Minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting April 13, 2011.*



Special Education Advisory Committee Minutes
Education Centre
April 13, 2011– 12:00 pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Knutsen-*Special Education Coordinator*, Casey Slack -*Superintendent of Education*, Brent Tookenay, *Aboriginal Education Leader (Alternate)*, Allene Perruse-*Community Living Fort Frances & District*, Debra Bruyere -*Family & Children's Services*, Sherri McKelvie-*Parent Delegate*, Michael Lewis –*Chair*, Lorraine Gauthier-*Stromberg-Family & Children's Services-Atikokan*(video conference)

STAFF: Teryl McFarland (recording secretary)

REGRETS: Donna Dittaro-*RRDSSAB*, Earl Klyne-*Trustee, First Nations Representative*, Christie Gushulak-*Community Living-Atikokan*

GUESTS: Janet Maxwell, Reading Recovery Teacher Leader, Rainy River District School Board

1. **Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m.

2. **Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

There was no conflict of interest declared.

3. **Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved.

4. **Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes were approved as circulated.

5. **Business Arising from Minutes**

6. **Presentation – attached sheets**

Janet - Reading Recovery began in New Zealand in 1998, goal is to reduce the number of students requiring special education services

- Objective assessment
- Focus on lowest achieving students, who is not achieving
- All schools, except, NFS and MCT have a Reading Recovery Teacher
- It is specific to every child
- Address weaknesses
- 76 children last year (2.8 teachers)
- As a Teacher Leader, Janet makes school visits, observes teachers, provides intensive PD once a month, has her own students that she teaches
- Takes 1 yr to train in Toronto
- Goal is to increase Literacy gain, bring students up to their cohort's literacy level
- Students are in program for a maximum of 20 weeks
- What more can we do to help the students that are not meeting the benchmarks

- They collect evidence from child's lessons every day
- Examined Janet's data as per attached sheets
- Gains were impressive
- Brent suggested that on Janet's data sheets, she use the title "First Nation Student" instead of "Aboriginal", as aboriginal would include Metis, and Janet has a separate section for Metis because they seem to get same level as non-aboriginal students therefore would affect the data.
- Reading Recovery is capped- grade one students, what happens to the students that still do not meet the benchmark, and move on to grade two. They will need intensive support. Kevin and Janet have been piloting an intervention program for grade two students at two schools.
- Michael Lewis asked Janet if all schools had RR teachers, Janet explained that every school but NFS & MCT have trained RR teachers
- Allene Perusse asked how parents can help, Janet explained that books are sent home every day with students plus a small writing activity, degree of participation varies.
- Parents are invited to view a lesson
- Janet invited anyone interested in observing a lesson to contact her.
- Casey asked if there was any tracking done to determine how the students that were involved in RR during elementary school achieved when they were in grade 9 and 10
- Janet replied that there wasn't anything yet
- Casey suggested Janet speak to Chris, give him the names, OEN numbers to determine credit accumulation. RR could be a variable
- May – Ann Anderson will present on Early Learning

7. **New Business**

- SEAC Learning website updated, Ministry would like to pull SEAC members together via video to do PD
- Lorraine asked about social media, teachers are not to engage in social media with their students. ETFO has put out a guideline, controversial. OSSTF—this is a budding issue. Three or four years ago we had a very restrictive boundary for use of electronic technology. This issue is hard to keep up with. Re-inforce proper use and safe use of technology and social media with students is now the focus.

8. **Correspondence**

- a) Crown Wards Championship Team Memorandum (as per attached) – not a lot of information available until after a May 5th Symposium.
- b) Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education "Update" (as per attached) – Kevin addressed a couple of the items, Learning for All K-12, Early Learning Kindergarten program.
- c) Durham District School Board (SEAC) – Funding Concerns (as per attached) Special Education program will have some reductions.
- d) Special Education Additional Qualifications Course Feed Back (as per attached) – Kevin completed a review and provided feedback to the Ontario College of Teachers.
- e) Trullium Lakelands District School Board (SEAC) – Safety Vests(as per attached) – Several boards have written letters regarding this issue. This is a significant safety consideration for many students within all school boards. At this time, the Ministry of Transportation had ruled that safety harnesses not be used on school buses.

9. **Reports**

- Special Education Plan Part IV Amendments – Kevin Knutsen(as per attached) -- #62 an addition of Local Protocols –PPM 149, protocols on Website, not too many changes.

- Special Education Coordinator's Report – Kevin Knutsen (as per attached) – Kevin touched on a few of the items. Riverview has a new Student Success Room, kids are using it, and helps cut down on referrals to the office. Students are directly involved. Nuala Edie came and made a presentation to the SERTS. MISA lead, Chris Denby, Kevin and NWCSB developing IEP program that pertains to our students. Large project, but will benefit students, staff and have a longer term financial benefit.

10. Future Meeting

- May 17th, 2011 – 12:00 p.m.

11. Meeting adjourned

- Meeting adjourned – 12:55 p.m.



Special Education Plan Amendments IV- 2010/2011

Pgs. 56- 63

<i>Page #</i>	<i>2009/10Plan</i>	<i>Amendments 2010/11</i>
56	Appendix D – Transitions to School for Students with Special Needs (2008-2009)	Change date to 2010-2011 and include updated version
59	Appendix G- Parents’ Guide to Assistive Technology (2009-2010)	Change date to 2010-2011 and include updated version with new software additions
61	Appendix I- Special Education Staff -2009-2010	Include 2010-2011 Special Education Staff information page
62	N/A	Include Appendix J – “PPM 149- Protocol for Partnerships with External Agencies for Provision of Services”. Template of local protocol is now included.



Special Education Coordinator's Report- April 2011

Riverview Student Success Room :

Riverview School has almost finished the creation of their "Student Success Room" to assist with meeting the needs of all students. The concept of creating an alternative learning environment for students that may benefit from some time out of the regular classroom stems from the Student Success Rooms and programs at the Secondary level. The room has been equipped with helpful technology, alternative style desks, creative paint colours and furniture to help create an inviting atmosphere for learning, as well as provide an alternative environment to the regular classroom. This room has already become a very busy place in the school and the staff has worked hard to ensure students take ownership in the design of the room and continue to see it as a positive space for learning within the school.

Community Living Fort Frances and District Information Session :

On Wednesday, March 23rd, Community Living Fort Frances and District hosted an informational session on its services, intake process, eligibility requirements, person-centered planning process, and the effects on these processes of the recently-implemented Bill 168 - Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with a Developmental Disability Act, 2008. The Coordinator participated in the session and shared information relating to services offered within the school board.

March 24th SERT Meeting:

On Thursday, March 24th, the Coordinator facilitated a Special Education Resource Teacher meeting and Professional Development session for 22 Special Education Resource Teachers and Program Support Team members in the Education Centre Training Room. Nuala Edie, Occupational Therapist from Lake of the Woods Child Development Centre provided an excellent training session on Sensory Regulation and how the absence of adequate sensory feedback to a child's brain can impact learning and behaviour. The session also focused on the importance of considering the emotional and physiological state children may be in while involved in learning in the classroom and some simple techniques a teacher can use to improve that state for learning. A model for fostering independence in students through effective use of Educational Assistants was also reviewed.

Individual Education Plan Program Development:

The MISA Leads and the Special Education Coordinators in both the Rainy River District School Board and Northwest Catholic District School Board have undertaken a joint project to develop an electronic Individual Education Plan (IEP) program and database that will automatically link to all other board databases. Each board is currently using different software products purchased through retailers and have recognized functional limitations as well as large annual fees. This project allows the Special Education Coordinators to

completely design the ideal program and layout for use in each system, while the MISA Lead for the Rainy River District School Board will build the program and develop the application to tie the IEP program into all other board systems.

Multiple Intelligences Profile- Rainbow District School Board :

The Rainbow District School Board has developed a strong interest in the Rainy River District School Board's Multiple Intelligences Inventory and Electronic Student Profile. The two electronic tools were developed by the Rainy River Board through the Learning For All K-12 initiative in 2009. The Director of Education and Special Education Coordinator have presented these tools at Provincial sharing sessions and a number of boards have expressed interest in the tools and immediately recognize their value at the classroom level. Recently the MISA Coordinator and Special Education Coordinator have provided on-line demonstrations of the applications to board level staff at the Rainbow District School Board.

Northwestern Ontario Special Education Coordinators' Meeting:

On Monday, April 4th, the Coordinator chaired a Northwestern Ontario Special Education Coordinators' Meeting in Thunder Bay. The meeting focused on current trends and issues in Special Education and regionally specific impacts on Boards and students in the North. Some of the highlighted agenda items were; The Reduction of Funding to Support Education Assistants, Behaviour Expertise Funding, Special Equipment Amount reserves and board practices for dealing with physically aggressive Early Learning students with undiagnosed needs.

Learning For All K-12 Regional Sharing Session :

On Tuesday, April 5th the Coordinator made a presentation at a Regional Sharing Session highlighting the work to date on the Board's two Learning For All projects. Information was shared outlining the new transition process being followed to assist the transitions of At-Risk students and special education students to secondary school. As well, the Coordinator demonstrated the newly developed "Early Learning and Kindergarten Skills Observation Tool" that was developed in collaboration with the Learning For All project and Kindergarten Inquiry project. Each regional board shared information relating to their Learning For All projects and resources relating to each project were exchanged.

Educational Support Personnel Professional Development Day- June 6, 2011

On Monday, March 28th the Coordinator met with the Education Support Personnel Professional Development Committee in order to discuss and plan for the June 6, 2011 Education Support Personnel Professional Development Day. The full day event will take place at Fort Frances High School with the morning session hosting an Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario (ETFO) workshop on Professional Boundaries For Education Assistants. The afternoon will allow Education Support Personnel the opportunity to select from various breakout sessions provided by members of the Program Support Team, under the theme of "Fostering Student Independence in the Classroom".

Board Leadership Team Meeting:

On Wednesday, March 23rd, the Coordinator made a short presentation to all Principals regarding a potential plan for ensuring the most effective use of Educational Assistant time and for focusing on developing student independence for all students with higher needs. High Needs funding has been decreased each year in the last three years and it is likely that this funding will decline further for 2011-2012 and as a system we are looking

at ways to prepare for this.

Education Support Personnel Professional Development Days 2011-2012:

Starting in 2011-2012 Education Support Personnel will be provided with an additional four Professional Development Days, meaning that they will participate in all six PD days across the system. Education Support Personnel will now attend the first day that teachers attend in the fall, which will allow them the opportunity to discuss their assignments with the Principal and special education staff as well as spend some time planning with the teachers they will be working with that year. In previous years, Education Support Personnel began their first day on the same day the students arrived at school.

Classroom / Student Visits :

Throughout March and early April, the Coordinator has been very active and visible in district schools. A number of classroom and student observations have occurred, parent meetings involving the Coordinator and school staff, and student Behavioural Intervention Plan meetings have occurred.

Gr. 8 Transfer Meetings :

From April 4th to April 8th Grade 8 Transition Meetings will be held across the system. The purpose of the Transition meetings is to provide the opportunity for Special Education Resource Teachers at District High Schools to meet with grade 8 teachers, Principals and parents of grade 8 students with special education needs in order to gather information and ensure programs and services are in place for the student's first day in September. This year, a Student Success teacher will also attend many of these meetings in order to discuss programs and services that are available through Student Success which may also be beneficial to transitioning students.

Third Wave Literacy Intervention Session :

On Thursday, April 7th, the Coordinator, Reading Recovery Leader and two Literacy teachers attended Mine Centre School in order to observe and participate in a "Third Wave" reading intervention session. The "Third Wave" intervention is being piloted in two elementary schools and is designed to support students older than grade one that did not meet Reading Recovery benchmarks by the end of grade one. This one-to-one intervention focuses on ensuring students are engaged in the material they are using for reading and writing. The program began in late November and at this time, the students involved are now receiving assistance and monitoring from the Third Wave teacher back in the regular classroom as they have progressed to a level to where the student should be able to achieve success in the classroom.

Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) and Assistive Technology :

On March 31st, students at the District's high schools participated in writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT), which is a graduation requirement for achieving a Secondary School Diploma. A total of 16 secondary students accessed the Assistive Technology accommodation, as outlined in their Individual Education Plan, in order to complete the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT). This is an increase from 2009-10, when only 6 secondary students accessed this accommodation. There has been a definite focus on technology and providing additional support and training to students that may benefit from Assistive Software, such as our new Premier Literacy Software which has proven to be very effective and user friendly in accommodating students for the OSSLT.



REPORT

<i>Finance Committee</i>

- *Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting April 13, 2011.*

Resolution:

- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve the Reinvestment in Student Achievement Year 3 with a commitment to withdraw from the Reserve for Classroom \$276,000 for the 2011-12 school year.*

Heather Campbell
Director of Education



Michael Lewis
Chair

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**Finance Committee Minutes
Education Centre
April 13, 2011 – 4:00 pm**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Marg Heyens, David Kircher, Michael Lewis, Ralph Hill

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dan Belluz

STAFF: Heather Campbell, Director of Education; Casey Slack, Superintendent of Education; Sylvia Parker, School Effective Leader; Brent Tookenay, Aboriginal Education Leader; Raymond Roy, Manager of Plant Operations & Maintenance; Meghan Cox, Accountant; Sherri Belluz, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order.

2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest - Nil

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

OFA Financing – Meghan Cox provided clarification of the process of financing capital projects internally versus externally.

With respect to the new Robert Moore School build financing in 2009-10, a prescribed interest rate grant was received from the Ministry at a rate of 1% for capital projects that the Board financed internally. As the Board's weighted average interest rate earned on the Board's bank account in 2009-10 was only 0.41%, the Board earned approximately 0.60% by financing some of the project internally.

The Ministry grant rate for 2009-10 for external borrowing for capital projects was approximately 1.27%. The weighted average rate at which the Board was able to secure financing externally was 1.54%. Therefore, the cost of external borrowing to the Board was 0.27%.

As such, it was in the Board's favour to finance a portion of the Robert Moore School build internally.

5. Reports

a) Reinvestment

i. Updates (handout)

The Committee received updates on the following programs that were previously approved:

SMART Equipment
Secondary Curriculum Coaches
Aboriginal Immersion Support
Elementary Curriculum Coach
Assistive Technology Special Education Resource Teachers

ii. 2011/12 Proposals

In May 2009, the Board approved a reinvestment request for \$294,000 from the Reserve for Classroom for Later Literacy/Oral Language Educational Assistants, Critical Learning Instructional Pathways, Professional Collaboration Sites, and a Student Success Coach. The request was for three years with the Board approving funding for 2009-10 with additional reserve withdrawal in 2010-11 and 2011-12 upon review. Approval is being requested for three projects for 2011-12 school year in the amount of \$276,000 as follows:

Later Literacy Educational Assistants	\$176,000
Student Success Coach	\$70,000
Professional Collaboration Sites	\$30,000

Recommendation:

That the Rainy River District School Board approve the Reinvestment in Student Achievement Year 3 with a commitment to withdraw from the Reserve for Classroom \$276,000 for the 2011-12 school year.

b) Capital Projects Update

Education Centre Renovation / Old Robert Moore School Demolition

- Finnway General Contractors is completing work on schedule.
- The interior of the Education Centre has been transformed into offices, the partitions and drywall are nearly 100% complete, painting has commenced, the porcelain tile in the hallways is being installed, the replacement of the exterior windows started this week, the installation of the ceiling grid is well underway, and all major mechanical items are on site.
- We are looking at a mid June completion date for the renovation work with move in scheduled for late June.
- The demolition of the old school will take place this summer.
- Total construction costs are \$4,000,000.

Mine Centre School Project

- Finnway General Contractors has this project well under way.
- The structural components are complete and miscellaneous framing inside the building continues.

- The structure is “closed in” - widows are installed, roof is shingled, and the building is essentially insulated for the most part, with the contractor maintaining heat inside.
- Interior block partitions are about 95% complete.
- The painting sub contractor is well under way coating the concrete block and drywall.
- Mechanical - The plumbing piping is complete with the heating system piping underway. Ductwork is about 60 % complete. All major mechanical items are on site and installation has started. The geothermal sub has started drilling the field.
- Electrical – The rough in is complete in the masonry walls with surface conduits and receptacles now underway.
- The contractor has indicated they are still on schedule for an end of June 2011 completion of the construction of the new school, with demolition scheduled for this summer.
- Progress of this project can be followed on the Board’s website.
- Total construction costs are \$6,744,007.

Renewable Energy Funding for Schools – Fort Frances High School

- As previously reported to the Finance Committee, the Ministry of Education has granted approval for our solar photovoltaic renewable energy proposal at Fort Frances High School. (116 kW)
- The Ontario Power Authority has approved our FIT application. (71.3 cents)
- All the engineering design work and the FFPC connection impact assessment are complete, and the panels are in town.
- Installation of the system will be starting in mid May, and all the work is expected to be completed and be fully operational by the end of August 2011.
- There will be a media launch tentatively scheduled for June 9, 2011.

6. In Camera

It was moved by Ralph Hill and seconded by Marg Heyens that the Finance Committee meet in camera.

7. Rise and Report

It was moved by Marg Heyens and seconded by Michael Lewis that the Finance Committee rise and report in public session.

Mr. Kircher reported that the Finance Committee discussed the details of the liens involving the Robert Moore School.

8. Future Meeting

The next Finance Committee meeting will be scheduled for the third week of May. Members were polled and a date will be confirmed.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:53 p.m.



REPORT

Policy Committee

- *Minutes of the Policy Committee meeting April 18, 2011.*

Resolutions:

- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies:*
 - 4.17 Playground Safety*
 - 4.60 Aboriginal Student Voluntary Self Identification*
 - 6.11 Smoking Prevention*
- *That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies for stakeholder consultation:*
 - 1.20 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee*
 - 2.70 School Food and Beverage*
 - 8.48 Student Fees*



**Policy Committee Minutes
Education Centre
April 18, 2011 – 9:30 a.m.**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Dan Belluz – Chair, Michael Lewis, Dianne McCormack, David Kircher
ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Ralph Hill
STAFF: Heather Campbell, Director of Education, Diane Ross, Manager of Human Resources, Bill Daley, Elementary Principal, Kathie Zatulsky, Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order.

2. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

There was no conflict of interest declared.

3. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved.

4. Confirmation of minutes – March 29, 2011

A correction was noted in the minutes under the committee's recommendations for changes to the Transportation Policy. Item 2. (page 2), should read, "Two weeks' notice will be requested for alternative addresses; however, requests may be accepted with a minimum of three days' notice." The word "required" was changed to "requested". There were no further changes noted.

5. Business Arising from Minutes

a) Trustee Code of Conduct

As directed at the March 29, 2011 Policy Committee meeting, Heather Campbell provided information regarding the voting process for a breach of conduct by a Board member. Bob Keel, of Keel Cottrelle LLP, Barristers and Solicitors, was contacted, as this was the firm that developed the Board's Trustee Code of Conduct Policy. According to the *Education Act* section 218.12, "A member who is alleged to have breached the board's code of conduct shall not vote on a resolution to do any of the things described in paragraphs 1 to 4 of subsection (11).2009, c. 25, s. 25." It was stated that by voting on whether he/she did or did not breach the Code of



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Conduct, the Trustee in question would have a conflict of interest. However, this does not apply to the Trustee bringing forth the alleged breach, as he/she is fulfilling his/her duty as a Trustee to comply with Board Policies and Procedures, Ministry of Education requirements as well as the provisions of the *Education Act* and Regulations. Bob Keel suggested that the Board look further into the process of investigating allegations of a breach, by striking a subcommittee of the Trustees.

There was discussion regarding the suggestions by Keele Cottrelle legal services in this matter. Two areas of concern noted in the voting process include:

- i) Possible bias from the Trustee bringing the information forward to the Board;
- ii) Possibility of more than one Trustee bringing information forward. Would they all be excluded from voting?

Trustee Michael Lewis made a recommendation to include the following statement in the Trustee Code of Conduct Policy to clarify the process for investigating and voting in the matter of an alleged breach of conduct by a Trustee:

“If a non-trustee alleges a breach of the Code of Conduct, such charge will be investigated by the Chair and Vice Chair. The findings of the investigation will be brought to the full Board of Trustees. All Trustees, except the Trustee alleged to have committed the breach shall have a vote on the matter. If a Trustee alleges a breach of the Code of Conduct, such charge will be debated by the two parties concerned. Neither the Trustee alleging the breach, nor the alleged perpetrator shall have a vote on the matter”.

It was agreed that the Chair, Vice Chair or Trustee should be appointed to investigate allegations of breach of conduct by a Trustee before coming to the Board as a whole. It was noted by Bob Keele of Keele Cottrelle that Board’s should give consideration to quorum requirements during the voting process.

Heather Campbell was asked to check with other Boards on the investigation and voting process and provide a report at the next Policy Committee meeting. The current policy with recommended changes will be presented at the next meeting.

b) Student Fee Guidelines and Draft Guidelines for Fundraising

It was reported by Heather Campbell that the Student Fee Guidelines were released by the Ministry of Education March 25, 2011, with a requirement for new or amended policies to be posted on board websites by September 1, 2011. The draft guideline for fundraising has been released with the Ministry consultation period occurring from March to August 30, 2011. The final guidelines will be released in the Fall of 2011, with implementation for the 2012-13 school year.



6. Reports

a) Policy Feedback

Heather Campbell reported that there was no feedback was received on the following policies:

- 4.17 Playground Safety (Danger of Strangulation)
- 4.60 Aboriginal Student Voluntary Self-Identification

It was noted that First Nation Chiefs and Council, and First Nation Education Counsellors have been invited to provided feedback during the consultation process.

Feedback was received on the Smoking Prevention Policy from Fort Frances High School. The school council questioned how the Board will “ensure” that smoking and use of smokeless products are not used in vehicles on school property “at all times”. It was felt that although the intention is good, it would be difficult to attain as a Board. The Committee agreed that a statement should be added to the policy that recognizes the best methods of smoking prevention through lifestyle education programs.

There was concerned expressed about the pedestrian corridor between the Fort Frances High School and King’s Highway that is being used by some students for smoking off Board property. It was agreed that although the Board does not condone smoking by students, the Board would not consider fencing this area off. Restricting this access could create a safety issue, and it would not allow students access to the restaurants located on King’s Highway.

Recommendation:

“That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies:

- 4.17 Playground Safety (Danger of Strangulation)***
- 4.60 Aboriginal Student Voluntary Self-Identification***
- 6.11 Smoking Prevention”***

b) Policy Initiation

Policy 1.20 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee – this policy was initiated by the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee. It was recommended that it be moved from Board Procedure to Board Policy. The Tuition Agreement Terms of Reference refer to policy. There was discussion about the appointment of members to this committee.

Policy 2.70 School Food and Beverage Policy – School boards must comply with legislation to establish a policy with respect to nutrition standards for food and beverages and for any ingredient contained in food and beverages provided on school premises or in connection with school-related



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activities. School boards must be in compliance by September 1, 2011. The committee reviewed the draft policy. There was discussion regarding the guideline requirements for food served at all educational events including staff meetings. The committee was in agreement that in order to model good nutrition for students, the statement should remain in policy. (2.6-c. School administrators and board staff planning school or educational events, including but not limited to Meet the Teacher, Open House, Graduation, professional activities, and staff meetings will model good nutrition by serving foods that comply with the nutrition standards as outlined in PPM 150 and the School Food and Beverage Policy unless the day has been designated a special event day). In the phrase "serving only foods that comply", the word "only" was removed so that it could give schools flexibility in serving foods that comply with the regulation as well as other refreshments that do not, during staff meetings and other educational events.

It was noted that the Northwestern Health Unit will provide assistance to school boards throughout the implementation of this policy.

Policy 8.48 Student Fees – Guidelines were released by the Ministry of Education on March 25, 2011 with a requirement for a new or amended policy to be implemented by September 1, 2011. The committee reviewed the draft policy as presented.

Recommendation:

"That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies for stakeholder consultation:

1.20 Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee

2.70 School Food and Beverage

8.48 Student Fees"

7. Future Meeting

The next Policy Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 30, 2011 at 9:30 a.m.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 1 <i>Board of Trustees</i>
ABORIGINAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE	1.20

POLICY

The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee will create and enhance an understanding of the educational and social needs of First Nation, Metis, and Inuit students.

RATIONALE

The Rainy River District School Board will more effectively meet the needs of First Nation, Metis, and Inuit students with a greater understanding of the unique needs of these students.

PLEASE POST
FEEDBACK TO BE RECEIVED BEFORE
MAY 20, 2011

IMPLEMENTATION

The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee will make recommendations to the Board relating to the education of aboriginal students and ensure the appropriateness of the content of Board curriculum materials and programming by:

- a) Expanding the awareness of the educational needs of aboriginal students to improve opportunities and ensure successful completion of secondary education;
- b) Increasing the awareness of the nature of native educational concepts and the positive impact it has for all students of the Board;
- c) Advising the Board with the development and implementation of Native Language/Studies programs.

GUIDELINES

1.1 Recommended participants:

- a) One trustee of the Board under Section 188 of the Education Act, RSO 1990 who is appointed by the Board to represent the interests of First Nation students. At the beginning of the year, a trustee alternate will be identified to attend when this person is unavailable;
- b) Director of Education/designate;
- c) Administrative representatives from elementary and secondary panels representing Aboriginal students in each of the geographic areas of the Board;
- d) Participants representing Aboriginal students in each of the geographic areas of the Board. At the beginning of the year, an alternate will be identified to attend when this person is unavailable. Appointment to the committee will occur through Aboriginal partner agencies;
- e) One or more members at large appointed by the Aboriginal Education Advisory

Committee participants;

f) Ex-Officio Member – the chair.

- 1.2 A committee member missing three consecutive meetings may be removed for that term by the committee and a replacement will be appointed for the remainder of the term.
- 1.3 Every vacancy on the committee occasioned by the death or resignation of a member, or by any other cause, shall be filled by a qualified person and that person shall hold office for the remainder of the term of such member.
- 1.4 The trustee shall chair the committee, and an appointment will be made for Director/ designate to the committee.
- 1.5 The Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee will meet a minimum of three (3) times per year.
- 1.6 Notwithstanding, the Committee shall not concern itself with salaries of the employees of the Board or with matters pertaining to personnel problems and policies relating to personnel.

<p><u>CROSS REFERENCE</u></p>	<p><u>Date Approved</u></p> <p><u>Board Motion</u></p> <p><u>Review Prior to</u> 2016</p>	<p><u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u></p> <p>Tuition Agreement – App. III Terms of Reference of the Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee</p>
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<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 2 <i>School Organization & Administration</i>
SCHOOL FOOD AND BEVERAGE	2.70

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board will guide Board personnel and school communities in the development of healthy school environments that support student learning and success by encouraging students, staff and parents/guardians to make nutritious food and beverage choices.

RATIONALE

The Rainy River District School Board and its schools foster healthy nutrition environments and implement food practices to support the wellness of students and staff.

All schools comply with provincial legislation relating to nutrition, such as Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) 150 (School Food and Beverage Policy), Policy/Program Memorandum (PPM) 135 (Healthy Foods and Beverages in Elementary School Vending Machines), the *Healthy Food for Healthy Schools Act* and other pertinent legislation.

IMPLEMENTATION

1.1 Definitions

Food – Includes both foods and beverages.

Healthy Eating – Eating the recommended types and amounts of food as per Canada’s *Food Guide*, which includes choosing foods from the Sell/Serve Most and Sell/Serve Less categories, as defined below, more often.

Nutrition Standards for Foods – Food is divided into “Vegetables and Fruit”, Grain products”, “Milk and Alternatives”, and “Meat and Alternatives”, following Canada’s Food Guide. There are also “Mixed Dishes” for products that contain more than one major ingredient (e.g. pizza, pasta, soup, salads, and sandwiches), and “Miscellaneous Items”, for items that are to be used in limited amounts (e.g. condiments, sauces, dips, oils and dressings) and for confectionary, which is not permitted for sale (e.g. candy, chocolate).

Sell/Serve Most (> 80%) – Products in this category are the healthiest options and generally have higher levels of essential nutrients and lower amounts of fat, sugar and/or sodium. They must make up *at least 80%* of all food choices that are available for sale or served in all venues, through all programs, and at all events. The same requirement applies to beverage choices. See PPM 150 Appendix Nutrition Standards for Ontario Schools (attached). Sell/Serve Less (< 20%) – Products in this category may have slightly higher amounts of fat, sugar, and/or sodium than foods and beverages in the “Sell Most” category. They must make up *no more than 20 %* of all food choices that are available for

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FEEDBACK TO BE RECEIVED BEFORE
MAY 20, 2011

sale or served in all venues, through all programs, and at all events. The same requirement applies to beverage choices.

Not Permitted for Sale or to be Served – Products in this category generally contain few or no essential nutrients and/or contain high amounts of fat, sugar, and/or sodium (e.g. deep-fried and other fried foods, confectionery). Food and beverages in this category may not be sold or served in schools.

Student Nutrition Programs – A breakfast, early morning meal, snack or lunch program offered by the school for all students which is funded by a combination of financial resources, including parent/guardian contributions, local community fundraising, and provincial funding and which attempt to increase food availability, while also aiming to promote healthy eating and provide a positive social atmosphere for all students and staff.

School Tuck Shops and Canteens – Small retail operations within a school that sell food, beverages and other items, usually for fundraising purposes.

Special Event Days – A day designated by the principal of the school on which food and beverages sold or served in schools are exempt from the nutrition standards outlined in PPM 150 and this policy.

Food Service Provider – Private, for profit company that contracts to sell food and/or beverages to students and staff within a school or worksite.

Nutrition Education – As outlined in the *Ontario Curriculum*.

Fundraising – Any voluntary contribution, sale of goods or services, or event, which is organized and conducted for the purpose of generating funds. Fundraising may occur within the school or outside of the school.

GUIDELINES

- 2.1 It is the responsibility of all schools in the Rainy River District School Board to comply with provincial legislation relating to nutrition including Healthy Food for Healthy Schools Act (Bill 8), Healthy Food and Beverages in Elementary School Vending Machines (PPM 135), School Food and Beverage Standards (PPM 150) and other pertinent legislation.
- 2.2 This policy covers food and beverages sold or served to students during the school day, at school or board sponsored special events, and at sports events.
- 2.3 Schools with nutrition programs shall follow the *Student Nutrition Program Nutrition Guidelines* developed by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. In addition to the required nutrition education as outlined in the Ontario Curriculum, opportunities to promote healthy eating and safe food practices are considered for planned events and classroom activities.
- 2.4 Exemptions

The standards do not apply to food and beverages that are:

- Brought from home or purchased off school premises and are not for resale in schools;
- Available for purchase during field trips off school premises;
- Sold in schools for non—school purposes (e.g. sold by an outside organization that is using the gymnasium for a non-school-related event);
- Sold for fundraising activities that occur off school premises provided these activities occur no more than two (2) times per term/semester in both elementary and secondary schools;
- Sold in staff rooms.

2.5 Notwithstanding the above, the guidelines for food sold, served and brought to school as detailed in Board Policy 4.14 Allergies – Life Threatening (Anaphylaxis) apply to all schools.

2.6 Schools and Classrooms

- a) If food is used as part of a celebration, all foods and beverages served must be from the Sell/Serve Most and Sell/Serve Less categories except on special event days.
- b) Schools and board sites, including non -instructional sites, must ensure that all school hospitality programs, tuck shops and canteens serve and/or sell foods that comply with the standards outlined in PPM 150 and the RRDSB Nutrition Policy.
- c) School administrators and board staff planning school or educational events, including but not limited to Meet the Teacher, Open House, Graduation, professional activities, and staff meetings will model good nutrition by serving foods that comply with the nutrition standards as outlined in PPM 150 and the School Food and Beverage Policy unless the day has been designated a special event day.
- d) The Board recognizes that special event days take place periodically throughout the year. The principal of the school shall solicit the views of the school council and, where appropriate, students, including but not limited to secondary school student councils, with respect to the designation of special event days for the school.
- e) The maximum number of days in the school year that may be designated as special event days for a school is ten (10). School administrators will communicate the dates of special event days to the school community.
- f) On such a designated special event day, schools are encouraged to follow the nutrition policy, but may, if they so choose, serve or sell foods or beverages that do not comply with the standards in PPM 150 and the School Food and Beverage Policy, e.g., an ice cream sandwich day or birthday treat day.
- g) Schools with student nutrition programs will follow the *Student Nutrition Program Nutrition Guidelines* developed by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services.

School and Board staff will inform community partners to ensure that donations provide only foods that comply with the standards outlined by PPM 150 and the School Food and Beverage Policy.

2.7 Cafeterias

- a) Cafeterias in all schools will sell or serve foods that comply with the nutrition standards contained in PPM 150 and the School Food and Beverage Policy. When negotiating food service contracts with food service providers for cafeterias or for schools (e.g. hot lunch providers), the Board will use the Request for Proposal (RFP) process and will include the following:
 - use of locally grown and produced foods wherever possible;
 - use of whole foods;
 - healthy foods that reflect cultural diversity and provide options for vegetarians and vegans on a regular basis;
 - posting of nutritional information of all foods sold or served .
- b) In addition, a copy of the School Food and Beverage Policy will be provided to and reviewed with food service providers.

2.8 Fundraising

It is recommended that the sale of non-food items be selected for fundraising purposes. The sale of foods that do not comply with the standards as outlined in PPM 150 and the School Food and Beverage Policy for fundraising purposes is not permitted in the school. A school may sell a non-compliant food for fundraising purposes in the community outside the school up to a maximum of two (2) times per school semester for a total of four (4) times in each school year.

2.9 Communication and Education

- a) Schools will communicate the Ministry Policy (PPM 150) and the School Food and Beverage Policy annually to parents/guardians, students and the community and provide guidelines and suggestions for foods to be served to students for lunches, snacks and school celebrations. Each school is encouraged to recognize, value and support parent/guardian and student involvement in making changes which reflect a healthy school environment, including the valuing of nutritional foods that represent cultural diversity.
- b) Schools may choose to develop additional guidelines in a School Food and Beverage Policy in consultation with their school council.

<u>CROSS REFERENCE</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>	<u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u>
<p>4.14 Allergies – Life Threatening (Anaphylaxis) Policy</p>	<p><u>Board Motion</u></p> <p><u>Review Prior to 2016</u></p>	<p>Bill 8 – Healthy Food for Healthy Schools Act, 2008 Policy/Program Memorandum No. 150; School Food and Beverage Policy – Ontario Ministry of Education, 2010 Policy/Program Memorandum No. 135: Healthy Foods and Beverages in Elementary School Vending Machines – Ontario Ministry of Education, 2004 <i>Call to Action: Creating a Healthy School Nutrition Environment</i> – Ontario Society of Nutrition Professionals in Public Health, 2004 <i>Nutrition Tools for Schools: Action Guides for Implementation</i> <i>Eating Well with Canada’s Food Guide</i>, 2007. Ontario Curriculum (Health and Physical Education 1-8 and 9-12, Kindergarten Program 2006)</p>

<i>Rainy River District School Board</i>	SECTION 8 <i>Finance</i>
STUDENT FEES	8.48

POLICY

The Rainy River District School Board believes that students are entitled to an education that ensures they achieve their full potential and that all students should be able to participate in all aspects of the school experience regardless of personal economic barriers.

RATIONALE

- 1.1 Every student has the right to attend school, where he/she is a qualified resident pupil, without payment of a fee. The costs of materials and activities for elementary and secondary education are provided to schools by the Ministry of Education and are reflected in the Rainy River District School Board's operating budgets.
- 1.2 When schools choose with the support of the school community to offer enhanced or optional programming, parents may be asked to contribute resources in the way of time, money, or materials to support these programs or activities. While no student should be excluded from participating in any school activity or event based on the ability to pay, some activities or events may require some recovery of the cost for participation.
- 1.3 Fees may be appropriate in cases where schools choose to offer enhancements or supplementary learning materials beyond the core curriculum. Where fees are appropriate, they should be minimized as much as possible, with the goal of supporting student participation in programs and activities regardless of individual economic circumstances.



IMPLEMENTATION

Definitions

Student Activity Fees – are voluntary amounts that are used to supplement a student's school experience through materials and activities such as student agendas, student recognition programs, yearbooks, extracurricular activities, school dances, or theme days.

Enhanced Programming and Materials – are voluntary enrichments or upgrades to the curriculum or co-curricular activities – as related to the regular school day program -

beyond what is necessary to meet the learning expectations for a particular grade or course. For example, in some performance and production courses (e.g., music, woodworking), student may wish to use a superior product or consumable than that provided by the school, in which case they may be asked to pay the additional cost of the upgrade.

Optional Programming – refers to voluntary courses or activities that students normally choose to attend through an application process, with the knowledge that these programs are beyond the core curriculum. An example is Advanced Placement®.

Guiding Principles

- 2.1 Every student’s school experience is enriched by participation in a variety of activities and opportunities “beyond the classroom.”
- 2.2 Students must be able to participate in any course and have the opportunity to acquire all skills and knowledge required to complete compulsory credit course requirements without any additional cost.
- 2.3 All students should be able to participate in all aspects of the school experience regardless of personal economic barriers that exist.
- 2.4 The Ministry of Education grants do not provide funding for all aspects of a student’s school experience.
- 2.5 Schools are permitted to charge student activity fees.
- 2.6 Members of school communities should participate in an accountable process regarding the development and allocation of student fees.

GUIDELINES

- 3.1 The basic cost of materials and activities for a course or grade are provided through school operating budgets; therefore, no student is denied enrolment in any course because of an inability to pay.
- 3.2 Successful completion of a required course or credit is not dependent on the payment of any course fee by a student.
- 3.3 Each school determines the basic materials and activities required for courses. All basic

materials essential for the completion of the program or course are made available by the school at no cost to students.

- 3.4 Examples of activities, program or materials ineligible for fee charges include:
- a textbook fee or deposit;
 - learning materials that are required for completion of the curriculum such as cahiers, workbooks, science supplies, lab material kits;
 - in-class field trips or presentations where the material being presented is a mandatory element of the subject or course.

However, schools may recover the costs for the replacement or repair of lost, damaged, or broken materials such as textbooks, library books, music or science supplies or any loaned materials. These charges should not exceed the replacement or repair cost.

- 3.5 A course fee is only charged for supplies, services, or activities that are considered enhancements to the program or course. Examples of activities, program, or materials potentially eligible for fee charges include:
- extracurricular trips, event, or activities that are extensions to the curriculum and not required for graduation;
 - extended student trips or excursions that are not necessary to meet the learning expectations of a particular grade or course;
 - optional art or music supplies or higher quality woodworking, design or technology materials that students choose to use for course completion, as long as the required materials are available at no cost;
 - student activity fees;
 - co-curricular activities, special events, program enhancements, or field trips (e.g., for costs of participation, rental of equipment or travel), if alternative programming and assignments are offered to students who choose not to participate;
 - student agendas and yearbooks.
- 3.6 Fundraising revenues are directed to supplies, services, or activities that enhance program opportunities for students.
- 3.7 Fees should reflect the actual cost of the services or materials being provided to the student. Any charges for supplies, services, or activities are reviewed with the school council before implementation and, at least, annually.
- 3.8 Fee schedules should be communicated to the school community, for example, by being included in fall school newsletters, posted on school websites, and referenced in student/school handbooks. These fee schedules should include an itemized list of fees that states the rationale and purpose of each fee and information about the process to confidentially address financial hardship.

<u>CROSS REFERENCE</u>	<u>Date Approved</u>	<u>LEGAL/MINISTRY OF EDUCATION REFERENCE</u>
<p>2.67 Equity and Inclusive Education Policy & Procedure</p> <p>8.24 Fundraising Activities Policy</p> <p>8.25 School Funds Policy & Procedure</p>	<p><u>Board Motion</u></p> <p><u>Review Prior to</u> 2016</p>	<p>Ministry of Education <i>Guideline for Fees for Learning Materials and Activities</i> <i>Education Act, Section 32, Section 171 (1) 31.1</i> <i>Ontario Regulation 293</i></p>



REPORT

<p><i>Personnel</i></p>

Resolution:

- *That the Rainy River District School Board receive the Personnel Report dated May, 2011.*

Rainy River District School Board

PERSONNEL REPORT

May 2011

	NAME	STATUS			EFFECTIVE DATES	
		PREVIOUS	CODE	NEW	COMMENCING	TERMINATING
<u>APPOINTMENT</u>						
<u>CHANGE IN ASSIGNMENT</u>						
<u>LEAVE OF ABSENCE</u>	Jodi Easton	1.0 FTE Teacher, JWS	E	0.8 FTE Teacher, JWS	29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Keira Chown	1.0 FTE Teacher, JWS	E	0.5 FTE Teacher, JWS	29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Mike Jones	1.0 FTE Teacher, CRS	E		29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Elisabeth Husser	1.0 FTE Teacher, SCAP	E	0.8 FTE Teacher, SCAP	29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Martha Duquette	0.2 FTE Teacher, NSC	E		29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Karen McAndrew	1.0 FTE Teacher, NSC	E	0.5 FTE Teacher, NSC	29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Chrissy Evans-Duquette	1.0 FTE Teacher, NSC	E		28-Nov-11	2-Mar-12
	Sarah Arpin	1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS	G		12-Jul-11	11-Jul-12
	Paul Elliott	1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS	E		29-Aug-11	30-Jun-13
	Kent Kowalski	1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS	E	0.33 FTE Teacher, FHS	29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Brian Church	1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS	E	0.67 FTE Teacher, FHS	29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
	Andrea Laur	1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS	G		1-Sep-11	31-Aug-12
	Shelley Fairbrother	1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS	E	0.67 FTE Teacher, FHS	29-Aug-11	22-Jun-12
<u>RESIGNATION</u>	Lucy Cutfeet	1.0 FTE Teacher, CRS	C		30-Jun-11	
	Debra Sloan	1.0 FTE Teacher, NFS	C		30-Jun-11	
	Jennifer Anderson	0.72 FTE Teacher, NSC	C		30-Jun-11	
<u>RETIREMENT</u>	Laurel Halvorsen	1.08 FTE Library Technician, FHS	D		31-Oct-11	
	Karen Woods	1.0 FTE Teacher, JWS	D		30-Jun-11	
	Dorothy Quibell	1.0 FTE Teacher, JWS	D		30-Jun-11	
CODES:	A - Additional Staff	E - Leave of Absence		I - Deferred Salary Leave	M - Replacement	
	B - Transfer	F - Leave of Absence (Rv)		J - Surplus	N - Termination	
	C - Resignation	G - Pregnancy Leave		K - Parental Leave		
	D - Retirement	H - Pregnancy Leave (Rv)		L - Parental Leave (Rv)		



REPORT

***Early Learning Kindergarten Program
Years 4 and 5***

Resolution:

- *That the Rainy River District School Board identify J.W. Walker School, Donald Young School and Sturgeon Creek School for Year 4 implementation of the Early Learning Program in 2013/2014.*



RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Early Learning Kindergarten Program – Years 4 and 5

The final stages of Full-Day Early Learning Kindergarten Program (FDK) ensures availability of the program to 100% of all kindergarten students enrolled in publicly funded schools in Ontario by September 2014. As part of this final stage, the Rainy River District School Board is required to identify proposed sites for Years 4 and 5 of FDK.

The first three years of FDK programming will provide programming for 49% of projected kindergarten enrolment, with sites at North Star Community School and Robert Moore School.

For Year 4, the programming will be expanded to another 25%, with the final sites allocated in Year 5.

The guidelines for Years 4 and 5 site selection are as follows:

- Consultation with coterminous board and the Rainy River District Social Service Administration Board, with representatives from the United Native Friendship Centre Head Start Program and daycare managers also attending to assess impact on FDK on local child care programs and community needs.
- Achievement of 74% Enrolment by Year 4, considering the cumulative enrolment for Years 1, 2,3, and 4 to achieve 182 pupil places, as indicated by the Ministry of Education's 2011: EL2 Memorandum.
- Whole School Approach, ensuring that all JK/SK classes within schools comply with the new FDK model in program design and delivery.
- Geographic Distribution, considering the various needs of all communities in selecting Year 4 sites in areas that may not have been allocated a FDK site in Years 1, 2, or 3.

After reviewing the feedback and data, administration is recommending that the Year 4 sites be implemented at the following schools: J. W. Walker School, Donald Young School, and Sturgeon Creek School. The following chart illustrates the projected enrolment (combining JK and SK students) of these sites for Year 4:

Schools	2013/2014
North Star Community School	23
Robert Moore School	66
J.W. Walker School	50
Sturgeon Creek School	24
Donald Young School	32
TOTAL	195

Therefore, the sites for Year 5 are the remaining schools of Riverview School, Crossroads School, McCrosson-Tovell School, Nestor Falls School, and Mine Centre School.

That the Rainy River District School Board identify J. W. Walker School, Donald Young School and Sturgeon Creek School for Year 4 implementation of the Early Learning Program in 2013/14.



REPORT

EDUCATION WEEK
May 2-6, 2011

“Learning Together, Succeeding Together”



The Rainy River District School Board

Celebrates “Education Week”

Education Week is an annual event celebrated by school boards and schools across the province. It is a time for students, teachers and parents to celebrate student achievement and teaching excellence. **The theme for Education Week 2011 (May 2-6) is “Learning Together, Succeeding Together”.**

The following are events planned at schools of the Rainy River District School Board:

Atikokan High

- May 1-8 – Ahousaht cultural exchange – 17 students and 2 staff will be completing the second half of the exchange in the community of Ahousaht on the west coast of Vancouver Island.
- May 2 – Lakehead University Visit – presentation to students attending Lakehead University next year.
- May 3 – Hosting a transition meeting for Grade 8 students entering the high school next year (parents are welcome).
- May 2-7 – Amazing Race (Student Council event) – Navigation/teamwork/problem solving activities.
- May 9-12 – Green & Clean Day community clean-up.

Rainy River High

- Blackduck Pottery Workshop
- Stained Glass Workshop
- Outdoor Education Workshop
- Community clean-up
- Green Media presentation

Fort Frances High

- The Wizard of Oz will be running from May 4-6 starting at 7:30 p.m.
- May 5 – Advanced Placement Exam.

Crossroads

- May 2 – Pancake breakfast for students and parents at 7:30 a.m., Job/Interest Fair with parents sharing their expertise with students from Grades 5-8 (12:15-1:25 p.m.).
- May 4 – Job/Interest Fair with parents sharing their expertise with students from Grades SK-4 (9:30-10:40 a.m.), Aboriginal Culture Day with Naicatchewenin First Nation presenting workshops for all students (11:25 a.m.-3:10 p.m.).
- May 5 – DARE Graduation (tentative).

Donald Young/Nestor Falls

- May 2 – Alice in Wonderland play commencing at 7:00 p.m.
- May 3 – Alice in Wonderland play commencing at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- May 4 – Alice in Wonderland play commencing at 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
- May 5 – Speech Contest (morning), Environmental Assembly and Pitch in (p.m.)
- May 6 – Jump Rope for Heart (p.m.) – Nestor Falls School will join Donald Young.

Education Week Activities – May 2-6, 2011

J. W. Walker

- May 2 – Walk to support Mental Health.
- May 3 – Pancake Breakfast, Silent Auction to raise money to support relief efforts in Japan, walk to support Mental Health.
- May 4 – Walk to support Mental Health, School Council meeting at Mitaanjigamiing First Nation.
- May 5 – Walk to support Mental Health, “Lunch with an Author”, Speech Contest.
- May 6 – Mental Health Awareness presentation to intermediate students, walk to support Mental Health.

North Star Community

- Reading Challenge – students will be highly engaged in the annual Reading Challenge. They read as many books as they can over a seven night period. If they beat the goal from the previous year, the principal will have to perform a stunt, dress up, colour her hair, or sing for them. Jody is leaning toward wearing the Suomo Wrestler suit all day, dressing up like a baby with wheelchair rigged-up stroller, or having to ride a kid’s motorbike around the track many, many times this year. A decision will be made when all the suggestions are in.
- May 3 – Rainy River District School Board meeting.
- May 3 – Recognition of Excellence presentation during the Board meeting on the Early Learning Kindergarten classroom.
- “Lunch with an Author” (Grade 1 class) – parents will come to listen to their children’s stories and share lunch with them.
- Grade 1 students will work with their Grade 5 Reading Buddies in the Grade 5 classroom.

McCrosson-Tovell

- May 2 – Hat Day.
- May 3 – Pajama Day, Alice in Wonderland at Donald Young School, student and family breakfast starting at 8:30 a.m
- May 5 – Occupation Day (dress up as an occupation).
- May 6 – Sports Day (dress up like an athlete), Jump Rope for Heart at Riverview.

Robert Moore

- May 2 – Mental Health Awareness – intermediate students.
- May 3 – School Council pancake breakfast in recognition for National Teachers’ Day.
- May 4 – Lockdown safety drill with fire alarm, Jump Rope for Heart.
- May 5 – Community Tea with Festival Highlights Performance.
- May 6 – Speech Contest, Grades 5-8.

Riverview

- May 2 – Whole school has been divided into 4 teams/houses – a variety of Spirit Week Activities will be planned including Door Decorating Contest, Teacher Exchange, Hat Day (parents are invited to participate in any of the activities).
- May 4 – Grade 2-3 and Grade 3-4 will be attending the play at Donald Young School, Town cleanup at 11:30 a.m. (backup is May 5).
- May 6 – Jump Rope for Heart at 11:30 a.m., Stories presented in the afternoon.

Education Week Activities – May 2-6, 2011

Mine Centre

- May 2 – Backwards Day.
- May 3 – Hat Day.
- May 4 – Dress Your Best Day – Spring Fling where parents are invited for tea and dainties. Each class will plan a student/parent interactive activity.
- May 5 – Wear Green Day – environmentally friendly activities.
- May 6 – Beach Day – hot dog lunch, UNICEF fund raiser (students/staff can purchase a sponge for \$2 to soak a staff member).

Sturgeon Creek

- May 2 – Speech Contest finals.
- May 4 – JK-4 students travelling to Donald Young School for Alice in Wonderland.
- May 5 – Spring Tea.
- May 6 – Community Cleanup.

SCAP

- May 3 – K-5 students at Donald Young School for Alice in Wonderland.
- May 4 – Grandparents' Day, Speech Contest for Grade 8 students.
- May 5 – Speech Contest for Grade 7 students.
- May 6 – Speech Contest for Grade 6 students.



REPORT

***Gidinwewinaan gosha Gidishidowinaan
“Our Language is Our Culture”***



RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Gidinwewinaan gosha Gidishidowinaan **(Our Language is Our Culture)**

On April 27, 28, and 29, 2011, the Rainy River District School Board and Seven Generations Education Institute hosted the 3rd annual Native Language & Native Studies Conference at La Place Rendez-Vous in Fort Frances, Ontario. The conference was an opportunity for Elders, teachers, principals, and community members from across North America to share and talk about the Ojibwe Language, and to participate in workshops with various Aboriginal focused themes.

As the title of the conference states, the Ojibwe Language is the basis of the culture. Many workshops focused on the Ojibwe Language with presenters coming from as far away as Montana. This year Native Studies workshops were included as this is an area of focus for the Rainy River District School Board. Presentations from local Elders and resource people from the Treaty #3 area presented on topics such as residential schools, creating graphic novels based on the 7 Grandfather Teachings, and “Embedding Aboriginal Perspectives in Instructional Practices”. There was also a presentation by Métis Nation of Ontario president, Gary Lipinski, on the education initiatives for the Métis Nation of Ontario.

The conference opened with a drumming ceremony from Fort Frances High School students and a blessing from a local Elder. The Director of Education, Heather Campbell, addressed the conference in the Ojibwe Language along with Seven Generations Education Institute CEO, Delbert Horton.

Keynote presentations were provided by Dr. Anton Treuer from Bemidji State University, Andree Cazabon from Cazabon Productions, and Dr. Stephen Greymorning from the University of Montana. Other workshops and presentations included SayitFirst founder Mike Parkhill, Chad Solomon, Mike Jones, Beth Fairfield, Glen Jourdain, Dick Bird, Rachel Mishenene, Brian Smith, Farrell White, and Chris Mcleod. Participants were able to connect with people from schools, communities, Aboriginal organizations and Elders to share knowledge, stories, and the Ojibwe Language.

The Asham Stompers provided a great show on Wednesday night at the Townshend Theatre for the participants and the Rainy River District.



REPORT

CORRESPONDENCE

Correspondence dated April 20, 2011, directed to the Rainy River District School Board from Mayor Dennis Brown of Atikokan, regarding a transportation issue *Page*



Town of Atikokan

Box 1330, 120 Marks Street
Atikokan, Ontario P0T 1C0

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Administration/Accounting
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Community Services
807-597-1234 x232 or x229
Director of Public Works
807-597-1234 x231
Fire/Building
807-597-1234 x228
Office Fax: 807-597-6186
www.atikokan.ca

April 20, 2011

cc:cs

Ms. Heather Campbell
Director of Education
Rainy River District School Board
528 Second Street East
Fort Frances, Ontario P9A 1N4

Dear Heather

Last night at the regular Committee of the Whole meeting of Atikokan Town Council, Valerie Fraser, a local citizen and grandmother attended to express her concerns about a safety and transportation issue for grade one students from the Cedar Crescent and Alder Street area who attend North Star School.

Atikokan Town Council feels that Valerie made some very convincing points about the need for the RRDSB to make some changes for safety reasons for the transportation policy of the grade one and two students of that area.

As Val pointed out there are no sidewalks in that section of town and with the huge amount of snow that we received this past winter, it became a safety hazard as it made it difficult for drivers to see children walking to and from school or when those in vehicles back out of their driveways.

While Atikokan Town Council has recently designated that section of town a "Community Safety Zone" with a reduced speed to 40 km, and is currently looking at making a proper sidewalk from Cedar Crescent to North Star School, we also strongly support Val's idea of changing the 1 kilometer radius rule from North Star School so that those families who have young students in grades one and two can take the bus to school if the families wish their child to do so. We understand there is room on the present bus.

Your attention to this very important safety issue will be most appreciated.

Should you wish further information simply contact me at your convenience.

Yours truly

Dennis Brown

Dennis Brown
Mayor

Cc Mike Lewis, Chair
Atikokan Town Council
Val Fraser