



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 19, 2018

### **Rainy River District School Board passes balanced budget**

At the June 19, 2018 Special Board Meeting, the Rainy River District School Board approved the 2018-2019 balanced budget of \$56,337,753, which represents a 4% increase over the 2017-2018 budget.

The 2018-2019 budget provides our schools with the resources and supports necessary to support the Strategic Plan of the Board, which focuses on A Culture of Lifelong Learning and A Culture of Caring. The budget recognizes the importance of student well-being with increased support for mental health/social work professional services in the schools. Continued support is being provided for the Renewed Math Strategy, Reading Recovery and Speech Language programming, while the two Transition Room Pilots and the Indigenous Education Coordinator will also continue to be supported. In addition, the budget reflects an increase of 11.66 staff across the system from the 2017-2018 budget allocation, including teachers, education assistants, professional/para professionals, and teacher coordinators.

Consistent with the Rainy River District School Board's mission of, "Together, we empower all students to believe in themselves, to achieve, and to dream," input was sought from school councils, from Board advisory committees, schools, and through an online survey for parents/guardians. The 2018-2019 budget reflects the input received, with enhanced Special Education supports, continued development of Ojibwe language resources, and an allocation to enhance literacy instructional materials and math resources for elementary schools.

"The Board was very happy to approve the 2018-19 budget in support of student achievement and well-being. This budget focuses on programming, supports system wide and local priorities, is in alignment with the Board's Multi Year Strategic Plan and reflects input from a wide variety of stakeholders. We appreciate all of the input received throughout the budget process and the work put into developing a budget which clearly puts students first," said Dianne McCormack, Board Chair.

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Mission: *"Together, we empower all students to believe in themselves, to achieve, and to dream."*

Vision: *"The Rainy River District School Board is an innovative community, nurturing hearts and minds, to build a foundation for tomorrow, today."*