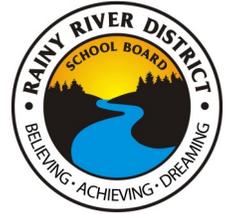


# SAFETY FIRST!



*Don't learn safety by accident*

September 2018

Rainy River District School Board

## Safety Talk—Travis Enge

Welcome Back everyone. I hope you all had a great summer! This year we are going to keep our focus on creating a culture of safety-mindedness. So what does this mean? It means that we all need to ensure that health and safety is in everything we do and ensure we make the right choices.

No one ever means to get hurt. In fact, many times we as workers have done a task and not been injured. But it is the exposure to a hazard that is the root cause of injuries. For example, when a person needs to reach a high place, grabbing the nearest chair or standing on a desk is a choice we could make. We may have done it before and we may have never been hurt. This may appear to be the easiest and quickest way to reach that place. But when you expose yourself to a hazard, you risk injury. That risk will not be worth it. Looking back you will regret your actions. You will wish you had just gone and fetched a proper ladder and used it correctly. I talked to a Ministry of Labour inspector this summer. He has personally seen paralysis from a 30" fall. He has personally seen a fatality from an 8' fall. And he only covers Thunder Bay and surrounding area. Walking through a dark room, squatting when you should kneel to do something, leaning a heavy object against a shelf instead of lying it down, lifting something too heavy, overexertion are all real life examples of risks and hazards we chose to expose ourselves to and ended up hurting ourselves.

So why do we do it? We do it because we did it before. We see others do it and don't say anything. It saves us time. That is where we need to change our culture. We need to create a culture of safety-mindedness. We need to make the right decision every time. Only then, will we see a change in our safety performance. Then we will not have 26 people that needed to go to the hospital. Help each other. Appreciate feedback. Please work safe and, help create a culture of safety-mindedness.

If you have a story regarding safety within the Board that you would like to share, please let us know. It could be something you learned or noticed, something that could be done better, or recognizing someone who is always a role model when it comes to safety.  
Email: [travis.enge@mail.rrdsb.com](mailto:travis.enge@mail.rrdsb.com)

## We share the AIR

Let's keep it  
**SCENT  
FREE**



Chemicals used in scented products can make some people sick, especially those with fragrance sensitivities, asthma, allergies and other medical conditions.

Therefore, all Rainy River District School facilities are to be as "Scent Free" as possible.

Please refrain from wearing and/or bringing scented products to work.

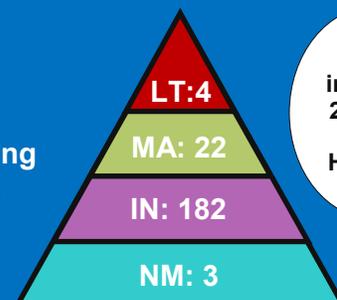
These products can include:

- Shampoo
- Hairsprays
- Deodorants
- Colognes
- Perfumes
- Soap
- Lotions and creams
- Cosmetics
- Air fresheners
- Oils
- Candles

Thank you for your cooperation and being sensitive to others.

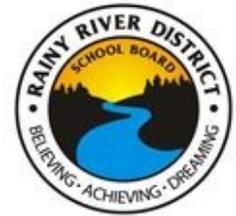
## Board statistics

There were a total of 211 reported incidents during the 2017-2018 school year, resulting in:



This included 26 Trips To Hospital

**RAINY RIVER DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
INCIDENT/ACCIDENT SUMMARY**



**Final 2017-18 School Year**

Severity					Total	Incident Type						
LT	MA	IN	NM	STF		SBA	SBC	MS	CA	VI	OTHER	
4	22	182	3	211	38	21	4	10	131	-	7	
Severity					LT	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
					MA	5	5	1	5	6	-	-
					IN	30	16	3	5	122	-	6
					NM	-	-	-	-	2	-	1

**Final 2016-17 School Year**

Severity					Total	Incident Type						
LT	MA	IN	NM	STF		SBA	SBC	MS	CA	VI	OTHER	
7	17	145	2	171	40	11	8	15	90	3	4	
Severity					LT	2	-	-	4	-	1	-
					MA	9	2	2	3	-	-	1
					IN	29	9	6	8	89	2	2
					NM	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

LT	Lost Time - Time missed after day of injury.
MA	Medical Aid - Visit to hospital.
IN	Incident - First aid required or physical contact.
NM	Near Miss - No physical contact but close call.

STF	Slip, Trip, Fall
SBA	Struck By, Struck Against
SBC	Shock, Burn, Cut
MS	Musculoskeletal
CA	Child Aggression
VI	Violent Incident
OTHER	Allergic Reaction, Other

# Team Safety Sweepstakes



Safety remains one of our top priorities at Rainy River District School Board. In order to ensure all facilities are safe environments for staff, students, and visitors, we're asking for your help in a new safety challenge to start out the 2018-2019 school year.

To participate, each team (RRDSB facility) will need to find and fix safety-related hazards or violations in your building. Where an immediate fix is not possible, the team will recommend a solution to management. Teams will receive points for each safety issue it identifies. Including a photo of the hazard or the fix will earn bonus points. The team that has the most points will win a healthy catered lunch.

Each team should choose a Team Leader to record and submit your facility's safety-related hazards.

Please fill out the form at [www.rrdsb.com/staff/wellness/health\\_and\\_safety/](http://www.rrdsb.com/staff/wellness/health_and_safety/).

Entries must be received by December 7, 2018.

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

This publication is available in accessible formats upon request.