



## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 20, 2016

### No deal reached through mediation session with RRDSB & OSSTF

Despite efforts to reach a deal this week, mediation between the Rainy River District School Board (RRDSB) and the Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation (OSSTF) District 5B ended unsuccessfully during the night of January 19, 2016.

The teachers' union informed the RRDSB that it intends to continue its partial withdrawal of services which began on December 9, 2015.

"The Board shares the disappointment of students and their families, that an agreement could not be reached and the local teachers' union has chosen withdrawal of services over the negotiations table," said Dianne McCormack, Chair of the Rainy River District School Board. "We are extremely frustrated as the Board's proposals are comparable to those of our local elementary teachers and of other school board agreements across Ontario, and do not erode OSSTF's current agreement as they contain responses to proposals from OSSTF only."

The Board's negotiations team has participated in bargaining since April, 2015. To date, the RRDSB has met with the local teachers' union nine times.

The RRDSB remains committed to reaching fair, equitable agreements with all of its employee groups.

The Rainy River District School Board values its partnership with parents, and will provide any new information and updates as they arise. There is also a dedicated section accessible from the front of the School Board's website, [www.rrdsb.com](http://www.rrdsb.com), for ongoing updates.

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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."*

*This publication is available in accessible formats upon request.*