



# *Rainy River*

## DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

October 14, 2020

### EDUCATION CENTRE

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Dear parents and guardians,

We would like to share further information with you on assessment, evaluation and reporting, including adjustments for the 2020-21 school year, as provided by the Ontario Ministry of Education. The Ministry acknowledges that in these exceptional circumstances, school boards can best support the unique needs and situations of students and their families by responding with flexibility and understanding. Therefore, there are a number of changes at the secondary level you should be aware of.

### WEB SITE:

[www.rrdsb.com](http://www.rrdsb.com)

### DIRECTOR

Heather Campbell

1. **Culminating activities will replace exams for the 2020-2021 school year for final evaluation.**

Culminating activities will be administered at, or towards, the end of the course to allow the student an opportunity to demonstrate comprehensive achievement of the overall expectations for the course. Teachers can provide a broad range of culminating activities to allow students to more effectively demonstrate their learning.

2. **For the 2020-21 school year, the Ministry is revising the 40-hour community involvement graduation requirement so that students will not be adversely impacted by the ongoing challenges related to COVID-19.**

For students graduating in the 2020-21 school year, the community involvement graduation requirement will be reduced to a minimum of **20 hours** of community involvement activities. In addition, students aged 14 years and older can count up to a maximum of 10 hours from paid employment towards their earned hours, with preapproval from the Principal. Students counting paid employment towards their graduation requirement will be required to complete a reflection exercise indicating how their work contributed to the service for others.

3. **The Ministry has been working closely with the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC) and the Ontario College Application Service (OCAS) regarding students applying to university and college programs.**

Most universities will make conditional offers of admission on a rolling basis using a combination of Grade 11 and available Grade 12 marks, as well as the Grade 12 enrollment data received in the fall.

4. **For the 2020-21 school year, EQAO will be field testing a new online and adaptive assessment for Grade 9 Academic and Applied mathematics courses.**

The results will not be used in the determination of a student's final mark, unless agreed to by the teacher and student, in support of the student's success.

**5. The Ministry currently plans to proceed with the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).**

For students graduating in June 2021, but have not yet met the literacy requirement, please visit your guidance department for information on completing this graduation requirement.

We know this is a very different school year, with new challenges to overcome and school staff are available to help answer any questions you have or address any concerns. We appreciate your patience, support, and understanding as we continue our efforts to support the best interest of students.

Sincerely,

*Beth Fairfield*

Beth Fairfield  
Principal, Atikokan High School