



Dibaaymowin

JANUARY

Message from the Director of Education



Christine Dokis
Director of Education

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge our staff, Board of Directors, and Participating First Nations (PFNs) who have supported the teaching and learning efforts of Anishinabek Education System (AES) students these past few unprecedented months. While it has not been easy, we have accomplished so much together, and we should be proud of that. I genuinely believe that 2021 has been a year marked by our resilience, perseverance, and adaptation to change. As we welcome the new year of 2022, let us keep our sights on the longer-term vision...Anishinaabe Aadziwin. During these next few weeks, the Kinooaadziwin Education Body (KEB) will be focused on meeting with the PFNs individually, to continue the discussion around education success and requirements for the future, and to better understand each community's unique needs. These discussions will help us assure that we are continuing to advocate for the best interest of all PFNs.

I wish everyone a healthy and energized start to the new year! I cannot wait to see what we accomplish together in 2022.

Christine Dokis



Last 2 months in Review



Acronym Guide

- AES** - Anishinabek Education System
- KEB** - Kinoomaadziwin Education Body
- DSB** - District School Board
- REC** - Regional Education Council
- PFN** - Participating First Nation

Multi-Year Action Plan (MYAP) Project Updates

→ Curriculum Resources & Program Development

The KEB has been working with the Curriculum Assessment and Student Success Policy Branch from the Ministry of Education as part of their review process for newly drafted curriculum documents. Several curriculum documents, specifically Grade 1-3 Social Studies, Grade 9 Science, Grade 9 Mathematics and Grade 10 Careers and Civics, are part of this review.

As part of this work, the AES is drafting a Curriculum Strategy which will help to streamline this engagement process with the Ministry of Education. The AES Curriculum Strategy will also outline AES goals and deliverables related to curriculum in response to the priorities of PFNs.



→ Language & Culture

- Two meetings have occurred with the Education Directors from the PFNs, to discuss the creation of Language Circles to support Native Language teachers.
- Planning is in progress for an AES Annual Language Conference and a call out for presenters will be forthcoming!
- Short Anishinaabemowin lessons have been shared with the KEB Staff and to PFNs from Zachary.
- The PFNs are welcome to contact Zachary directly for support in culture and language at zachary.beaudette@a-e-s.ca.

Learning Anishinaabemowin

Zachary Beaudette, the KEB's Language and Culture Lead, has been working on a series of videos to help young ones learn Anishinaabemowin (Nbisiing dialect). Click on the "LEARN MORE" button on the right to view a collection of videos. Keep an eye out for more language videos in the near future.



→ Student Transitions

The AES Student Transitions Protocol was shared in November 2021 as part of a soft roll-out of this collaborative resource! The objective of this document is to support the transition of students in several areas including entering schools, moving between schools, exiting schools, and moving into post-secondary education pathways. Regional Education Council (REC) Coordinators will be setting up engagement sessions with the District School Boards (DSBs) and their local First Nations, throughout the year, with support from the Indigenous Education Office. The intent is that these focused conversations will lead to actionable change for Anishinabek students that supports their well-being and success.

TRANSITION PRIORITIES

1 Wiidookwandwaa Ekinoomaagzjig
Orientation and Support

2 Minoyaawin Minwa
Health and Social Services

3 Mino Nendmowin Minwa Minoyaawin
Mental Health and Wellness

4 Anishinabek Mino-Naadziwin Zhichgewan
Anishinabek Well-Being Initiatives

5 Anishinaabe Biimaadziwin
Ways of Knowing

LEARN MORE

Have a look and flip through the pages of this interactive digital booklet by clicking on the "LEARN MORE" button or visiting <https://simplebooklet.com/studenttransitionsprotocol>

→ Professional Leadership & Development UPDATE

- Engagement and input have been received from the PFNs, the DSBs, and community members at the Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum in May 2021, and at the REC Fall Meetings in October 2021.
- From this input, the KEB will be providing various professional development sessions over the next few months.
- The first session of 2022 will be held in February, and will include three meeting dates, over a six-week period, each date will have focused discussions on addressing racism in education systems. This will include three virtual sessions and on-line modules to support the learning.
- A Collaboration professional development opportunity will also be held on January 28, 2022, for provincial Indigenous Education Leads and First Nation educators. This event will be virtual and will create opportunity to build relationships as well as engage in learning about land-based curriculum from a panel of First Nation educators and knowledge holders.

→ Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund UPDATE

Requirements for interim reports are coming up in the near future. Tammy Desmoulin, Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund Coordinator, will be reaching out to First Nations to book a virtual meeting to discuss the interim reports. As Ontario implements more restrictions to combat COVID-19, this may affect your Niigaan Gdizhaami Fund project.

If your project has been impacted, please do not hesitate to reach out to Tammy via email at ngfund@a-e-s.ca or by telephone at 705-303-7845.



Regional Education Council Highlights

The REC Coordinators and PFNs have been busy with multiple exciting projects!

Region 1

- REC 1 welcomed a new coordinator, Joshua LeClair, in December 2021.
- The Ezhi Kendmang Anishnaabe Naadzwin (EKAN) training underwent its first training module, hosted in Biigtigong Nishnaabeg at the sacred Turtle Lodge, with participants from the Superior-Greenstone DSB. Indigenous educator, Sandi Boucher, facilitated the training session and created a safe space for all of those involved. The second module of the EKAN training will be hosted in another REC 1 community.
- The Student Transitions Protocol was shared with PFNs and two DSBs in REC 1. A feedback meeting took place on January 10th, 2022.
- The first REC 1 meeting in the new year is scheduled for January 27.



Region 2

On January 10, 2022, the KEB welcomed a new REC Coordinator in Region 2. Get to know Jessica!



“Aanii! My name is Jessica Fellin and I currently live on Manitoulin Island. I am a graduate of both the University of Guelph and University of Toronto, where I earned my undergraduate and graduate degrees respectively. Prior to joining the KEB, I worked as an accessibility counsellor at the post-secondary level where I supported students with disabilities. Before this, I worked for several years as an Ontario Certified Teacher at both the elementary and secondary levels in various locations, including Wiikwemkoong and Pikangikum. When I am not working, I enjoy reading, bingeing shows on Netflix, and taking long walks with my dog. I am looking forward to getting to know and work with Region 2 Participating First Nations!”

Region 3

- In 2021, REC 3 began developing Community Profile Books for each PFN. The purpose of the books will be to promote a greater understanding of First Nations and help school curricula accurately reflect their history and experiences. The project will be completed in 2022.
- REC 3 is looking forward to participating in the EKAN cultural awareness training sessions with the Near North District School Board beginning in February 2022.
- While the Regional Workplan outlines REC 3 specific priorities, much of the upcoming work and projects will stem from the MEA and MYAP, where 14 projects are to be completed over the next 3 years that impact or include REC 3. Some of these projects include the Student Transitions Protocol, Spring and Fall Meeting planning, Addressing Racism in schools, regional engagement protocols between PFNs and DSBs, Youth and student success, and culture and language.

Region 4

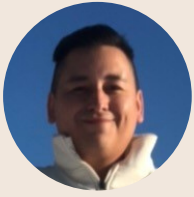
REC 4 is rocking some pilot projects!

- The Chippewas of Georgina Island is working with the York Region District School Board to pilot the EKAN cultural training sessions.
- Beausoleil First Nation and Aamjiwnaang First Nation are both taking part in the Learning As We Go pilot that looks at school improvement planning.
- Chippewas of Rama is preparing to pilot the Aaniish Naa Gegii which uses an Indigenous developed children's wellness measure.
- REC 4 is investigating the opportunity for two regional projects. The first project includes hosting a land-based learning conference. The second project is about developing a digital Anishinaabemowin resource repository.





❄️ New Employees Update



REC Coordinator for Region 1 Joshua LeClair

On December 7th, the KEB welcomed Joshua LeClair as the Regional Education Council Coordinator for Region 1. Joshua is a citizen of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and has extensive experience in relationship-building and capacity building in First Nation communities.



REC Coordinator for Region 2 Jessica Fellin

On January 10, 2022, the KEB welcomed a new Regional Education Council Coordinator in Region 2. Jessica Fellin is taking on the position from a remote home office on Manitoulin Island. See her introduction in the REC highlights on page #4.



Employment Opportunities



Special Education Coordinator

The Special Education Coordinator reports to the Anishinabek Education Services Manager for the KEB and is responsible for providing support to the PFNs with the development of Special Education policies and guiding documents.

Applications for the position will be accepted until 12:00 pm on Friday, January 21, 2022.

Click [here](#) to view the official job posting or visit <https://aes-keb.com/employment-opportunities/>

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Special Education Coordinator

We invite you to join our team!

[www.aes-keb.com/employment-opportunities](https://aes-keb.com/employment-opportunities)



Negotiation Updates



The KEB negotiations team met with Canada on January 10 & 11, 2022, to continue negotiating the terms of the next Education Fiscal Transfer Agreement for the AES. Discussions at the negotiation table factor in a wide-range of topics, such as reporting requirements, education programs and services, funding adjustors, information sharing, life-long learning, capital needs, and capacity development, among many others.

Members of the KEB negotiations team have been meeting with each PFN since Fall 2021, in order to ensure the needs and priorities of each community are considered within the overall negotiation plan. A number of amendments are being proposed by the KEB to better support PFNs and the ongoing development of the AES as a whole.

Meetings with the PFNs will continue in the early weeks of 2022. The next negotiation meeting with Canada is scheduled to take place on February 7 & 8, 2022.





PowerSchool



Teachers and administrators have access to various training options! Training is available in PowerSchool SIS, PowerTeacher Pro, Special Programs, Enrollment and Schoology. Explore your options below.

Group Training

Group training may be the solution for your school if you have several personnel that requires training all at once. A PowerSchool trainer will guide your staff through the various aspects of your application.

One-on-One Training

One-on-one training is available on an on-call basis to target specific tasks as needed.

Scheduled Training Sessions

Scheduled training sessions are offered online through PowerSchool throughout the year. Upcoming training dates and times for the month of January and February are:

TRAINING TITLE	PowerSchool SIS: Initial Product Training (IPT)	PowerSchool Enrollment: Foundations (Public Schools)	PowerSchool SIS: Database Management Certification	PowerSchool SIS: Initial Product Training (IPT)	Special Programs: End Users Experience (Part 1)	Special Programs: End Users Experience (Part 2)	PowerSchool SIS: Advanced Certification
DATE	Jan 24 – 26	Jan 27	Feb 1	Feb 2 – 4	Feb 15	Feb 15	Feb 22 – 25
TIME	9:30 – 4:30	9:30 – 12:30	9:30 – 12:30	11:30 – 6:30	10:00 – 1:00	2:00 – 5:00	8:30 – 3:30

Please contact Julian Cote at julian.cote@a-e-s.ca to discuss your PowerSchool training needs.

Admin Updates

FINANCE

JANUARY 20, 2022

Next payment of 2021-2022 education funding

2020-2021 YEAR END REPORTS

Please be reminded to submit your fiscal year end reports for 2020-2021 as soon as possible.

JANUARY 28, 2022

Deadline to receive applications to the Ontario Teachers Pension Plan

For any questions or required assistance, please contact Claire Scanlan, Finance Manager, at claire.scanlan@a-e-s.ca or at 705-471-4668

COVID-19

Due to the increasing concern over the Omicron variant of COVID-19, the KEB head office will be closed to the public and to staff effective Wednesday, January 5 until January 26, 2022. All work-related travel has been postponed until after the provincial restrictions have been lifted.

Upcoming Events

- JANUARY 20, 2022, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Community Engagement Session on the AES System-Wide Standards
- JANUARY 28, 2022, 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
AES Collaboration Event
- FEBRUARY 17, 2022, 9:30 AM - 11 AM
Kweji-kinoomaagzidaa! "Let's learn" - Bear Moon with Peter Beaucage
Invitation and event details are coming soon.
- FEBRUARY 2022
Addressing Racism Professional Development Workshops
Invitation and event details are coming soon.
- APRIL 20-21, 2022
Niigaan Gdizhaami Forum (7th annual)
Invitation and event details are coming soon.

