Kenora - Head Office
4th Floor, 240 Veterans Drive
Kenora, Ontario P9N 3Y5
Phone: (807) 468-5571
Fax: (807) 468-3857
Toll Free: 1-877-275-7771

Dryden Office
79 Casimir Ave
Dryden, Ontario P8N 2Z6
Phone: (807) 223-5311
Toll Free: 1-877-287-5430

Keewatin Patricia DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Keewatin-Patricia District School Board | Northwestern Ontario

Chief Executive Officer - Job Opportunity

Lead with Integrity, Kindness and Collaboration

The Board of Trustees invites applications for Chief Executive Officer (CEO). This is an opportunity to lead a geographically and culturally diverse English-language public school board serving students and communities across Northwestern Ontario, and to make a lasting contribution to public education.

At KPDSB, our vision is Mino-bimaadiziwin (Living a good life) *Achieving Dreams – Mind, Body, Spirit.* Our mission is to create meaningful learning experiences that engage each student through respectful, trusting relationships. Our 2024–2029 Strategic Plan and Operational Goals — Inclusive Engagement, Optimizing Resources, and Elevate Student Success — guide our commitment to communities where everyone feels valued, trusted, hopeful, and capable.

Live and Lead in Northwestern Ontario

In an area of over 90,000 sq. km, nestled against the Manitoba border, from Kenora and Dryden, north to Red Lake, Sioux Lookout, south to Sioux Narrows and the district's rural and remote communities, KPDSB offers the opportunity to combine meaningful leadership with a rewarding way of life. Lakes, trees, and natural beauty provide outdoor recreation in every season, while welcoming communities offer connection and a strong sense of belonging. Our vast geography invites creativity and innovation in connecting schools and supporting students, families, and staff. At KPDSB, see why "Your dream job in a spectacular setting awaits!"

The Opportunity

Reporting to the Board of Trustees and serving as Secretary to the Board, the CEO provides overall executive leadership, implements lawful Board direction, advises Trustees, and leads senior administration. The CEO is accountable for organizational performance, financial stewardship, effective operations, and aligning resources with student achievement and well-being.

The CEO will work with a separately appointed Chief Education Officer (CEdO) or may also hold that office if qualified and appointed. CEdO qualifications are an asset for this CEO competition; they are not required for appointment as CEO.

The successful candidate will:

- Build on successful literacy and numeracy initiatives, support evidence and researched-based teaching and learning, and use staff expertise and student outcome data to guide continuous improvement.
- Lead financial planning, budget development, risk management, capital planning, and sustainable operations.
- Develop senior leaders and model a culture of kindness, trust, collaboration, transparency and accountability, where staff can raise concerns, contribute ideas and respectfully challenge practices.
- Advance Indigenous student success, Truth and Reconciliation, equity, and respectful partnerships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit communities.
- Maintain visible, approachable leadership across the district, build constructive relationships with employee groups and community partners, and support staff recruitment and retention.

The Leader We Seek

We seek an accomplished executive who leads with integrity and purpose, and demonstrates the Seven Grandfather Teachings — Love, Respect, Bravery, Truth, Honesty, Humility, and Wisdom — in relationships, decisions, and everyday conduct. The successful candidate will actively listen attentively and with care, build trust, and balance compassion with clear expectations and accountability.

The successful candidate will demonstrate integrity, sound judgement and composure in difficult situations, transparent and honest communication with Trustees and staff, and a proven ability to build relationships, act on feedback and follow through on commitments. They will bring demonstrated experience improving organizational effectiveness and using resources wisely, together with a commitment to public education, community engagement, Indigenous relationships, equity and Truth and Reconciliation.

Required Qualifications and Preferred Assets

Candidates are expected to have experience leading a public, broader public or private-sector organization comparable to KPDSB in size, scope and complexity, and executive experience in the following areas:

- Budget stewardship.
- Risk management.
- Capital infrastructure management and planning.
- Collective bargaining and labour relations.
- Fiduciary, legal, and regulatory compliance.
- Governance, conflict resolution, and negotiation.

Additional selection criteria include demonstrated success in organization-wide strategic planning and implementation, and effective engagement with elected leaders, Indigenous partners, employee groups and community partners.

Given KPDSB's focus on teaching, learning, and student and staff well-being, K–12 educational leadership experience, eligibility for Ontario teacher certification, supervisory officer qualifications or equivalent educational leadership credentials will be considered as assets, as will relevant postsecondary qualifications in business, commerce, finance, public administration, education or a related field, graduate degrees such as an MBA, MPA or Master of Education, and professional designations such as Chartered Professional Accountant (CPA).

Location and Appointment

The successful candidate will be expected to reside within KPDSB's boundaries and maintain a regular presence in both the Kenora and Dryden offices, as well as in schools and communities throughout the district. Significant travel is required. A competitive executive compensation package will be provided. Start date will be confirmed through discussions with the Board.

How to Apply

Submit a cover letter outlining your interest and qualifications, a detailed curriculum vitae, and contact information for four (4) professional references, including your current supervisor, to:

Scott Yake, Executive Consultant
Ontario Education Services Corporation (OESC)
scott.yake@oesc-cseo.org

Applications are welcomed from qualified candidates both within and outside KPDSB.

Application deadline: November 27, 2026 @ 4:00 pm local time.

Applications and inquiries will be held in strict confidence. A detailed candidate brief with further Board, community, role, and selection process information will be available to all prospective candidates who contact OESC. Shortlisted candidates should anticipate an in-person interview in Sioux Lookout, Ontario, early in the new year (January 2027). Interview details and accommodation arrangements will be communicated to selected candidates.

KPDSB welcomes applications from individuals reflecting the diversity of the communities served, including Indigenous peoples, persons with disabilities, racialized persons, women, and people of diverse gender identities and expressions. Accommodation is available upon request throughout the selection process.