



## PRESS RELEASE

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January 8, 2013

### Rainy River District School Board recognizes Nestor Falls School at January Board Meeting

The January 8, 2013 Board Meeting of the Rainy River District School Board was held at the Education Centre in Fort Frances. At the meeting, the Rainy River District School Board presented its monthly Recognition of Excellence to Nestor Falls School for Information Technology.

In March of 2012, the Rainy River District School Board was approached by WireE to gain access rights to the Thunder Bay Telephone tower on the Robert Moore School site. Due to the Ministry of Education's reduction in the Grants for Student Needs for technology coupled with Nestor Falls School's size, the issue of providing a workable number of computers and other IT equipment has arisen. WireE has several corporate social responsibility initiatives, and was eager to assist in providing the students at Nestor Falls School with the latest in technology to enhance their education.

Executives from WireE Holdings International Inc. recently visited Nestor Falls School to formally present their generous contribution of ten laptops, six iPads, and 2 wireless printers. This will allow wireless printer availability for all staff and students, with iPad use focussed on Primary level students, and one-to-one access of laptops for Intermediate and Junior level students. The one device for each student ratio is especially advantageous in Nestor Falls School's classroom where different levels of students are being taught at the same time as using digital applications allows student to work simultaneously at their own developmental level. At the Primary level, the availability of iPads offers access to numerous educational applications and promotes digital literacy. The new technology received from WireE will help to expand learning opportunities, and to connect students with vast resources of information that would otherwise be difficult to access.

WireE President and Chief Executive Officer, Rob Barlow, has roots in northern Ontario and his company's philanthropic efforts extend internationally. WireE believes in developing the untapped potential that exists in the young minds and emerging economies in which they work.

"With the technology influx of devices at Nestor Falls School, the IT Department took the initiative take them a few steps ahead," said Stephen Danielson, Rainy River District School Board Information Technology Manager. "Personalization of the students' individual laptops was opened up to encourage the feeling of ownership and wireless printing from any device is being tested out. Cloud computing is the biggest move forward with each Junior and Intermediate student being allocated Skydrive online storage space for their files and Office 365. Skydrive also allows file sharing and is accessible on any device from anywhere there is an Internet connection."

"Along with Nestor Falls School staff and students, the Rainy River District School Board deeply appreciates the contributions of WireE," said Heather Campbell, Director of Education. "This supports an important goal of the Rainy River District School Board that has been identified by our trustees within the Board's Strategic Plan — purposeful, responsible and innovative use of technology as a communication and learning tool."

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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."*