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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF TERRACE BAY - SCHREIBER - ROSSPORT AND JACKFISH LAKE

Principal 'baffled' by school board decision

Lake Superior Board decides to not to make Balan Menon's contract permanent

by Darren MacDonald
The News

The Lake Superior Board of Education has decided not to permanently hire Balan Menon as the principal of Lake Superior High School.

The decision, taken at a board meeting Nov. 26, means that Menon's term as principal will end Dec. 31.

"Right now, I'm baffled and deeply troubled why they would do this to me," Menon said in an interview Dec. 2.

"Up until the end of

September, I was told I was doing a wonderful job—not just a satisfactory job, or a good job, but an excellent job."

Director of Education Ian McQuarrie said Monday that confidentiality rules prohibit him or any of the School Board Members from discussing the details of Menon's case.

"Our hands are tied. We are unable to make public comments on matters that deal with individuals," McQuarrie said.

"And I think that's appropriate that we shouldn't make public comments on individuals, whoever it is."

"Our hands are tied. We are unable to make public comments on matters that deal with individuals."

"Our hands are tied. We are unable to make public comments on matters that deal with individuals."

Ian McQuarrie,
Director of Education

"He was on a probationary contract, and it was not renewed, and the majority of the board felt that way," said

Schreiber Trustee Connie Elkin.

"Other than that, I don't think I can comment. I would think it's common courtesy (to keep the reasons confidential)."

"I'm disappointed," said Cecilia Kaizer, one of a group of parents who made a presentation supporting Menon to the board Nov. 19 in Marathon.

"I'm really trying to hold on to the hope that things will keep moving in the same way they seemed to be moving to

improve to the standards of education."

"I think the main concern we had as a group—and as parents—was with the quality of education," said Onna Grimm, also a member of the delegation.

"We feel that a strong administrator is the key to upgrading the quality of what's going on in the classroom."

Grimm said she hopes that whomever the board picks to replace Menon continues some

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The abominable snowman?



Grades two and three at Terrace Bay Public School stand beside a ten foot high snowman during last Wednesday's snowfall. The snowman was built by the grade five class, complete with eyes, nose, mouth and broomsticks for his arms.



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