

**RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
held in the boardroom  
on Tuesday April 28, 2015 at 5:35 p.m.

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Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (chair), B. Clement, J. Hunda, G. Fox, L. Killens, J. Kosmerly, G. Santala, Student Trustee Brunton (via phone)  
Absent: T. Campbell, D. Morrison  
Officials: N. Blaseg – Director  
D. Cayen-Arnold – Superintendent of Business  
B. Bourget, L. Dye, J. Noble - Superintendents of Education  
K. Wachnuk - Senior Administrator, Special Education  
N. Charette, H. Thirkill  
Others: D. Bazinet, R. MacLeod, N. Mousseau and members of the public

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 15-R66, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of April 28, 2015 be approved.  
– **Carried**

**B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

Trustee Santala declared a conflict regarding item D on the agenda.

**C. PRESENTATIONS**

Board Level Graduation Rates

Superintendent Judy Noble provided a detailed presentation highlighting data for 5-Year graduation rates (2009-2010 Grade 9 cohort). Trustees made comments and asked questions about this new Ministry reporting.

**D. REPORT FROM THE SPECIAL IN-CAMERA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD** (April 14, 2015)

Motion: 15-R67 B.Clement/J.Hunda

In the event of a full withdrawal of services by members of OSSTF/District 3 (Secondary teachers and secondary occasional teachers) all instructional programs for grades 9 to 12 will be cancelled and all Rainbow District School Board secondary schools will be closed to students. – **Carried**

**REPORT FROM THE IN-CAMERA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD** (April 28, 2015)

Motion: 15-W68, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the human resources update be received. - **Carried**

## **E. OLD BUSINESS**

### **1. Previous Minutes**

Motion: 15-R69, J.Kosmerly/G.Santala

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on March 24, 2015 be approved. – **Carried.**

### **2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals**

a) Motion: 15-R70, G.Santala/G.Fox

That the Board award the contract for Portable Digital Classroom Audio Systems and Services to the Canadian Hearing Society.

b) Motion: 15-R71, J.Kosmerly/G.Santala

That the Board award the contract to replace the gym floor at Confederation Secondary School to Westpoint Construction Inc.

c) Motion: 15-R72, G.Santala/B.Clement

That the Board award the purchase and installation of precast storage/sheds to Anchor Concrete Products Limited.

## **F. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Overview of 2015-2016 Grants for Student Needs**

Superintendent of Business Diane Cayen-Arnold provided information about Grants for Student Needs as released by the Ministry of Education on March 26, 2015.

### **2. Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 15-R73, B.Clement/ G.Santala

That Trustee Campbell and Trustee Morrison be granted a leave of absence from the April 28, 2015 Board meeting.

### **3. Director's Remarks**

On Monday April 13 I had the good fortune to attend and present awards at the Kiwanis Music Festival, held at St. Andrews United Church. Rainbow District School Board was well represented as Copper Cliff PS, MacLeod PS, Lasalle SS and Lively DSS provided wonderful musical performances. Awards were presented to all of the above as well as Assiginack PS.

Special thanks goes out to teachers Marc Savard, Mike Jensen, Val Whitehead, Cory Ross, Jack Broumpton and Ray Scott for being such great advocates for our students and their schools.

On Wednesday, April 22 I met with Robert Beaudin in M'Chigeeng. This is a follow up to our February 20<sup>th</sup> meeting where we established joint understanding and a

commitment to build a better understanding of First Nations partners. To reinforce our commitment to build stronger connections with our FNMI partners, Director of Education Beaudin took great lengths to show physical evidence of the many attributes his community has to offer. His tour of M'Chigeeng was very educational and greatly appreciated. We agreed to continue to explore many other areas where we could find common ground.

On Monday April 27, I attended the Learning Disabilities Association (LDAO) presentation at Cambrian College to hear Rick Lavoie's message on students who "Learn Differently" and strategies to help them find academic and social success. The event was well attended and the public received a great message. His presentation was live streamed to Espanola and Manitoulin Island. RDSB received recognition, by the host Ron Lessard, who presented us with a plaque.

Earlier in the day Rick Lavoie hosted several hundred teachers and educational assistants as he played an integral part of our professional development offering.

On Monday, April 27 all grade Grades 7 and 8 teachers received Physical and Health Education Curriculum Training, OPHEA.

OSSTF (District 3) withdrawal of services:

- We are the second of seven boards to strike (Seven boards include: Durham, Rainbow, Peel, Waterloo, Halton, Lakehead and Ottawa-Carlton)
- We are in day two of the strike
- For the last two weeks we have had daily updates with the Deputy Minister
- For the past week we have been working with the Ministry of Children and Youth Service (MCYS) and Ministry of Community and Social Services (MCSS). We are also working very closely with regional agencies to ensure there is support for families and their children - focusing on students with high needs
- On at least three occasions we have teleconferenced with the Minister of Education, Liz Sandals
- Our Communications Officer has maintained a comprehensive file on communications. Our website includes as many as 20 items for parents to seek information/clarification. As well she consults weekly with her counterparts from the seven boards.
- Superintendents with responsibilities for secondary programming are working with their counterparts from the seven boards and coordinating responses.
- We are monitoring schools very closely, ensuring that all stakeholders are respectful

### Itinerary

March 25/26 CODE, Toronto

March 27 OPSBA, Toronto

April 8 Executive Council

- April 10 EFTO meeting
- April 13 Occasional Teachers Meeting  
Agenda Setting  
Kiwanis Festival
- April 14 Meeting, CAS  
Labour Relations Committee  
Strategic Planning Committee
- April 15 Executive Council  
Central Manitoulin School Council Presentation, Mindemoya
- April 16 Tele-conference – Ministry of Education
- April 17 Meeting with City of Sudbury Mayor Brian Bigger  
Meeting with City Councillor Jocelyne Landry-Altmann  
Re: Fast Flowing Water
- April 21 Executive Council
- April 22 Executive Council  
Meeting with Robert Beaudin, Director of Education for M'Chigeeng  
First Nation.  
Manitoulin Secondary School Council Presentation, West Bay
- April 24 Budget deliberations
- April 27 P.A. day activities  
Rick Lavoie's presentation, Cambrian College

Director Blaseg responded to the timelines as requested by motion at the March 24, 2015 Board Meeting

Director Blaseg walked trustees through three possible phases:

1. Gathering voices (September to December 2015)
2. Making Sense of the Data (January to March 2016)
3. Setting Our Direction (April to May 2016)

This process will be aimed at engaging all stakeholders across the district, will ask compelling questions both face-to-face and online and will be open to receiving responses.

#### 4. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Killens thanked Director Blaseg for his recent visits to schools on Manitoulin Island. Trustee Killens also thanked Nicole Charette for her excellent work on the board's website.

Trustee Hunda noted the hard work by staff in the elementary panel with regards to Earth Day. Trustee Hunda also commented on Sudbury Secondary School's recent production *Camp Rock* and the commitment of staff to this remarkable show.

## 5. **Chairperson's Remarks**

The Ontario Secondary School Teachers' Federation - District 3 began legal strike action on Monday, April 27, 2015. As a result, Rainbow District School Board has cancelled all instructional programs for students in Grades 9 to 12. Secondary schools will be closed to students until further notice.

During the labour disruption, it is important that students continue to complete work they have been assigned and prepare for their final evaluations. Students and parents/guardians should work on the assumption that school will resume and studies will continue.

Students are encouraged to continue their learning through self-directed study. Resources can be accessed online at [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca). They are also encouraged to participate in community volunteer hours.

We thank students and parents/guardians for their patience.

Updated information regarding the labour disruption will be posted online.

And now for some good news stories:

Rainbow Schools celebrated Earth Day last week with a number of activities, including schoolyard / community clean ups, litterless lunches, eco-awareness presentations, greening and recycling. I commend students and staff for continuing to make sustainability a priority all year long.

May 4 to 8, 2015 is Education Week. A list of activities will be posted on the Board website. This year's theme is "Achieving Excellence: Moving Forward in Math".

Rainbow Schools will offer Early Learning - Kindergarten (ELK) orientation sessions for children who are starting Kindergarten this fall as well as their parents/guardians. A schedule will be posted on the Board website this week. Parents who have not registered their children still have time to do so and can reserve their spot for ELK orientation by calling the nearest Rainbow School. Registrations for September 2015 will also be accepted at the ELK sessions.

The 19th Annual Sudbury Regional Heritage Fair will take place on Thursday, May 7th and Friday, May 8th, 2015 at Laurentian University in Sudbury. The community is invited to view the projects in the Alumni Hall from 10 am to 12:30 pm. Admission is free.

Four young scientists from Rainbow Schools earned the privilege of competing at the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Fredericton, New Brunswick from May 14 to 16, 2015.

Mia Pandolfo, a Grade 12 student from Lockerby Composite School, developed a smartphone application that allows patients to track and record chronic pain episodes.

Grade 8 student Alyssa Gran of Algonquin Road Public School investigated ways to mitigate the effects of cancer-causing radon gas penetration into residential and/or commercial properties.

Ethan Albers and Jacob Little, Grade 7 students from Algonquin Road Public School, developed an inexpensive and labour-friendly ultrasound device that measures the thickness of ice on water bodies.

All of these students won numerous awards at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair and we are very proud to have them represent Rainbow District School Board at the national level. Our best wishes to each of them.

The thought for the month comes from Thomas Edison:  
“Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.

## 6. **Other Items**

**OPSBA Delegate** – Trustee Clement reported that he attended OPSBA meetings on April 24 and 25, 2015 in Toronto. He shared that it was felt that communication must be “one voice” and the importance of a consistent message.

**Student Trustee** – Student Trustee Brunton reminded trustees that this year’s Stand Up Speak Out conference, which had been scheduled on May 6, & 7, 2015 at Cambrian College, has been cancelled due to the labour disruption.

Student Trustee Brunton announced that the Student Trustee for the 2015-2016 school year would be Ethan Urban, a student at Lockerby Composite School.

Student Trustee Brunton spoke about the current labour disruption; how he is personally affected with his IB exam schedule, the views of his peers, the impact this is having on students and how this is affecting the application process for next year’s student senators.

## G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

### 1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Board and Strategic Planning Schedule of Meetings 2015-2016

Environmental Education Committee minutes Jan 14, 2015 (official)

Assessibility Planning Committee minutes January 19, 2015 (official)

Parent Involvement Committee minutes February 17, 2015 (official)

Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) minutes Mar 4, 2015 (official)

## 2. Non-Staff Communications

### H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Parent Involvement Committee May 5, 2015 7:00 pm Boardroom

Special Education Advisory Committee May 6, 2015 12:00 pm Education Centre

~~Stand Up Speak Out May 6 & 7, 2015 Cambrian College (Student Lead Conference)~~

Strategic Planning Committee May 12, 2015 5:00 pm Boardroom

Budget Meeting May 19, 2015 5:00 pm Boardroom

Environmental Ed Committee May 20, 2015 3:30 pm Boardroom

First Nation Advisory Committee May 21, 2015 10:00 am Lively DSS (location to be confirmed)

Student Senate May 25, 2015 5:00 pm Boardroom

Board Wednesday, May 27, 2015 5:00 pm Boardroom

Board Awards Wednesday, May 27, 2015 6:30 pm Council Chambers

### I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 15-R74, T.Campbell/J.Hunda

That we now adjourn at 8:00 p.m. – **Carried.**