

**RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
held in the boardroom  
on Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 5:45 p.m.

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Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (chair), B. Clement, G. Fox, J. Hunda, L. Killens,  
J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, G. Santala, Student Trustee  
Urban  
Absent: T. Campbell  
Officials: N. Blaseg – Director  
D. Cayen-Arnold - Superintendent of Business  
B. Bourget, J. Noble, K. Wachnuk - Superintendents  
N. Charette, H. Thirkill  
Others: D. Bazinet, R. Jones, D. Koziar, M. McNamara, D. St.  
Amour, member of the public

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 15-R115, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of September 29, 2015 be approved. - **Carried**

**B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL**

**C. PRESENTATIONS**

1. Summer School Update

Superintendent Kathy Wachnuk provided an overview of the two summer programs provided in July 2015 for students with special needs.

Superintendent Lesleigh Dye and Daniel Koziar, one of the leads of the summer literacy, numeracy and FNMI programs, provided details about the programs that took place during July at Lansdowne Public School, Chelmsford Public School and Little Current Public School.

Superintendent Judy Noble and principals Maureen McNamara and Dave St. Amour provided information about summer school options for secondary students that were offered during July and August 2015.

There was opportunity for trustee questions and clarification. Trustees were extremely impressed with the summer school programs and thanked the presenters and staff for their contribution

2. 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning

Superintendent Noble provided Trustees with an update of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Teaching and Learning in classrooms.

Trustees asked questions and discussed the enhancements in classrooms.

**D. REPORT FROM THE IN-CAMERA COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING OF THE BOARD**

Director Blaseg advised that the acting vice-principal at Northeastern Elementary School is Jake Mashinter.

Motion: 15-W116, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

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

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Previous Minutes**

Motion: 15-R117, G.Santala/G.Fox

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 25, 2015 be approved. – **Carried**

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

3. **Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees**

**Strategic Planning Committee**

a) Notice of Motion: 15-R118, D.Morrison

That the changes to Board Policy GOV-15 Student Accommodation be approved. – **Carried**

b) Motion: 15-R119, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the draft changes to Board Policy GOV-15 Student Accommodation be distributed to community partners and stakeholders for input and that the motion to approve the changes to Board Policy GOV-15 Student Accommodation be considered at the November Board Meeting. – **Carried**

c) Motion: 15-R120, B.Clement/G.Santala

That the draft changes to the Community Planning and Facilities Partnership administrative procedure be distributed to community partners and stakeholders for input and that the final report of the Community Planning and Facilities Partnership administrative procedure be presented at the November Board meeting. – **Carried**

## **Audit Committee (AC)**

### **d) 2014/2015 External Audit Plan – Report from KPMG**

Motion: 15-R121, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the 2014/2015 External Audit Plan be approved. – **Carried**

### **e) 2015/2016 Internal Audit/Multi-Year Internal Audit Plans**

Motion: 15-R122, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the 2015/2016 Internal Audit Plan and the Multi-Year Internal Audit Plan be approved. – **Carried**

## **F. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. 2015 Northern Region Meeting and Program**

Motion: 15-R123, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the Board approve the attendance of Trustee Fox at the OPSBA 2015 Northern Region Meeting and Program in Sault Ste. Marie October 16-17, 2015. – **Carried**

### **2. Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA) Fall General Meeting**

Motion: 15-R124, J.Hunda/G.Fox

That the board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Ethan Urban at the OSTA Fall General Meeting October 1 to 4, 2015 in Toronto. – **Carried**

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

Motion: 15-R125, B.Clement/G.Santala

That Trustee Campbell be granted a leave of absence from the September 29, 2015 Board meeting. – **Carried**

### **4. Director's Remarks**

In spite of all the challenges associated with the uncertainty generated by labour, start up was great. Schools were able to accommodate kindergarten entry and transportation was quite successful. Of course there are always challenges with individual schools and we continue to work with those sites to make the appropriate accommodations. One of those challenges is primary class size. There were 8 schools where reorganizations were required.

Enrolment data continues to be tracked and it would appear that elementary enrolment is on target. Predicted enrolment was 8407 and we currently sit at 8449 – up 42 students (8556 last year on October 31<sup>st</sup> count date).

Secondary enrolment data continues to be tracked and it appears we are very close to predicted enrolment. We predicted 4984, we currently sit at 4994 up by 10 students. (5082 last year on October 31<sup>st</sup> count date).

Of course we continue to monitor enrolment numbers very closely as we know historically we would see slight declines come October 31<sup>st</sup>. I will provide concrete numbers after the October 31<sup>st</sup> count date.

We are extremely pleased that we have an agreement with OSSTF. Over the Labour Day weekend Bev Webb and Bruce Bourget worked with mediators to complete a local deal with OSSTF. It was no small effort that we were able to achieve an agreement. It would be an understatement to say that we were very pleased with the result. Thanks to staff and the principals for making this happen. We look forward to a great year working with our teachers.

We have started our Strategic Planning consultation with Student Senate and School Councils. I met with the Student Senate and reviewed six questions that will be posed to their community schools. They will be bringing these questions to their respective schools and provide feedback at the next student senate meeting. As well we sent the same six questions to School Councils and to the Parent Involvement Committee. The deadline for feedback is October 15<sup>th</sup>.

On Wednesday, September 16, 2015 a memo was sent to all principals regarding two important documents that will guide our accommodation reviews – the revised Student Accommodation policy and the revised Community Planning and Facilities Partnerships administrative procedure. Principals were directed to include these items on the agenda at their next School Council meeting. Secondly, minutes of those meetings were to include a motion indicating they had opportunity to provide feedback. A teleconference was held with principals on Monday, September 21 at 9:30 to review the above.

On September 22 I, along with 14 others had opportunity to meet with the Ombudsman Office (Policy Forum). During the course of this meeting the Ombudsman's Office explained their mandate and gave everyone the opportunity to seek clarification or ask questions regarding their mandate and their process. They were also seeking input on how best to share their mandate later this fall via a conference. The exchange of information was honest, frank and very helpful. More to come!

System Implementation and Monitoring a Ministry of Education initiative, was held today. All boards in our district were participants. RDSB had 10 participants. During this two-day meeting Board's are reminded of ministry goals, resources and strategies. It is a great way to ensure alignment of our initiatives with the ministries.

### Itinerary

Aug. 26      Director/Principals Leadership Conference

- Aug. 27 Director/Principals Leadership Conference
- Aug. 28 P.D. for Custodial/maintenance staff
- Aug. 31 Exec Council  
Agenda Setting  
OPSEU meeting
- Sept. 1 Orientation Day – New employees
- Sept. 3 PA system day
- Sept. 4 Provincial Nurses Reference Group
- Sept. 8 Exec Council
- Sept. 9 School Visit – Princess Anne PS, O’Connor Park
- Sept. 10 Healthy Kids Community Challenge, James Jerome Park
- Sept. 11 Labour Relations Committee meeting
- Sept. 14 Exec Council  
School Visit - Queen Elizabeth PS  
Student Senate
- Sept. 15 Audit Committee Meeting  
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
- Sept. 16 Agenda Setting  
Meeting With Leisure Services, Greater City of Sudbury
- Sept. 17 Wear Pink Day  
School Visit with Trustee – Queen Elizabeth PS and O’Connor Park
- Sept. 18 Children’s Community Network (CCN) AGM.
- Sept. 21 Exec Council  
VTRA protocol signing
- Sept. 22 Ombudsman Policy Forum – Toronto
- Sept. 24/25 CODE - Toronto
- Sept. 28 PA day  
Directors meeting with elementary principals  
Meeting with ETFO  
Labour Relations Committee Meeting

5. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Killens expressed his pleasure at seeing his colleagues at the M'Chigeeng Fall Fair held on September 24. He commented on the Parent Council Meeting held at Manitoulin Secondary School and the great presentation by Principal Laurie Zahnow.

Trustee Fox thanked trustees for attending the ceremony recognizing the signing of the education agreements and also thanked Superintendent Lesleigh Dye and Kathy Dokis for their organization of the event.

Trustee Fox shared that she recently met with Principal Laurie Zahnow regarding a memoir project that will be starting shortly. The finished product will be shared on family day in February.

Trustee Fox will be sending trustees the minutes of the First Nation Council meeting that she attended in August as well as the Manitoba Language Strategy.

6. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Representatives of Rainbow District School Board and 11 First Nations gathered on Manitoulin Island on Tuesday, September 24, 2015 to celebrate the renewal of Education Service Agreements. In effect from September 2015 to August 2016, the agreements reaffirm our goal to increase academic success of First Nation learners; honour and support the language, culture, and history of the First Nation people; increase knowledge and understanding of First Nation people; and build awareness of the important issues that affect First Nation learners in our schools. Thank you to Chief Linda Dabosigay, Chief Georgia Thompson and trustees Tyler Campbell, Larry Killens, and Judy Kosmorsky who joined trustee Grace Fox, Bob Clement and myself along with staff and the dedicated members of the First Nations Advisory Committee to honour the signing of the Agreements. A special thank you to Stephanie Roy and Kenjegin Teg Educational Institute for hosting this important event.

Students in Rainbow Schools continue to receive new instruments thanks to generous donations to the Joan Mantle Music Trust, with a third round of allocations now underway. The Trust has reached \$180,000 in total funds raised since it was launched in the fall of 2008, as individuals and local businesses, including Newcap Radio, continue to make donations. Please mark April 9, 2016 on your calendar for the JMMT International dinner.

Cyril Varney Public School in New Sudbury literally walked the talk on September 22, World Car Free Day, earning top marks in the Rainbow District

School Board's Car Free Challenge. Principal Ron Hodkinson left his home in Wahnapiatae at 3 am to arrive at school at 8 am having walked 26 kilometres in five hours. The school parking lot had plenty of spots to spare as staff biked, car pooled, took transit and walked to work. Congratulations to all schools that participated in World Car Free Day.

This is Terry Fox Run week with a number of schools participating, including Lively District Secondary School. In honour of the 35th anniversary of the Terry Fox Run, Grade 7 and 8 students and staff will run a marathon a day for 143 days – yes you heard right – 143 days. It will take place on the track behind the school, with the first lap leaving the starting line on this Thursday, October 1 at 10:30 am. Students and staff will be sporting light clothing when the run kicks off but they will be wearing warm coats, hats, mitts and even snowshoes when the run comes to a close in mid-February.

It's Fall Harvest Feast time with many schools celebrating the bounty of the season. The feast is supported by staff and parent volunteers and gives students a sense of community by creating a family dinner atmosphere.

And a friendly but sincere reminder that Rainbow District School Board is currently seeking input on two important documents that will guide accommodation reviews – the revised Student Accommodation policy and the revised Community Planning and Facilities Partnerships administrative procedure. A draft of both documents is available on the board website – [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca)

The thought for the month comes from author Norman Vincent Peale who wrote "The Power Of Positive Thinking"

*The trouble with most of us is that we would rather be ruined by praise than saved by criticism.*

Chair Dewar also discussed boardmail delivery with Trustees. It was decided that Trustees would receive their mail at meetings and mail would no longer be delivered to home addresses unless requested.

## 7. Other Items

**OPSBA Delegate** – Trustee Clement reported that he attended a meeting in Toronto on Friday, September 25, 2015. An update on negotiations and a presentation by the Ombudsman's office was provided on Saturday, September 26, 2015.

**Student Trustee** – Student Trustee Urban is looking forward to attending the OSTA Fall General Meeting in Toronto later this week.

At the October 5, 2015 Student Senate meeting, questions from the Director regarding the current Strategic Directions document and the Achieving Excellence document which outline the Board's vision will be discussed.

**G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**  
Audit Committee Meeting minutes December 16, 2014 (official)
2. **Non-Staff Communications**  
Letter from Office of the Ombudsman of Ontario

**H. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Student Senate Meeting October 5, 2015 5:00 pm Boardroom  
Special Education Advisory Cmttee Oct 7, 2015 12:00 pm Education Centre  
Strategic Planning Committee October 13, 2015 5:00 pm Boardroom  
Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting October 14, 2015 3:30 pm Boardroom  
Parent Involvement Cmttee AGM Oct 20, 2015 7:00 pm at Sudbury Secondary School  
Board October 27, 2015 5:00 pm Boardroom  
First Nation Advisory Committee Nov 12, 2015 10:00 am Whitefish River First Nation

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 15-R126, G.Santala/D.Morrison  
That we now adjourn at 7.35 p.m. – **Carried.**