

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held in the boardroom
on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at 5:15 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (chair), B. Clement, J. Hunda, L. Killens (via telephone), J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, G. Santala, Student Trustee Urban

Absent: Trustee Campbell, Trustee Fox

Officials: N. Blaseg – Director
D. Bazinet - Superintendent of Business
B. Bourget, L. Dye, J. Noble, K. Wachnuk - Superintendents
N. Charette, H. Thirkill

Others: R. Jones, K. McCauley, K. Dokis, member of the public

Chair Dewar requested that cell phones should be turned off during the meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 16-R41 J.Kosmerly/D.Morrison

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of February 23, 2016 be approved - **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

1. Superintendent Dye and Kelly McCauley provided an Elementary Math and Use of Technology presentation. Trustees asked questions and discussed.
2. Superintendent Dye and Principal Kathy Dokis provided a First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Education Update. Trustees asked questions and discussed.

Trustees thanked Superintendent Dye for her informative presentations.

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

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. R.L. Beattie Public School

Motion: 16-R42 B.Clement/D.Morrison

That the Board approve an exception to an accommodation review under 3.1(d) Board Policy No. GOV-15 Student Accommodation, to move grade 7/8 students to Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School effective September 2016. - **Carried**

2. **Proposed Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School Renovations**

Superintendent Bazinet presented a site plan for the Lo-Ellen Park area that could accommodate grade 7 & 8 students. There was discussion. Trustees were reminded of a public meeting scheduled for Thursday, February 25, 2016 at 7:00 PM at Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School.

3. **Previous Minutes**

Motion: 16-R43 J.Hunda/G.Santala

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on January 26, 2016 be approved as amended. The amendment being under Trustees Remarks the comment should read "Trustee Kosmerly shared a very moving poem written by several students at Cecil Facer." - **Carried**

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

5. **Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees** NIL

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2016 School Year Structure**

Motion: 16-R44 D.Morrison/B.Clement

That the Board approve the 2016-2017 School Year Structure for elementary and secondary schools. - **Carried**

2. **OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources 2016**

Motion: 16-R45 G.Santala/J.Kosmerly

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources 2016 in Toronto March 30 – April 1, 2016: Trustee Dena Morrison and Trustee Judy Hunda - **Carried**

3. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 16-R46, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That Trustee Campbell and Trustee Fox be granted a leave of absence from the February 23, 2016 Board meeting. - **Carried**

4. **Director's Remarks**

The ministry has announced that the Annual PIC symposium will be held regionally as opposed to provincially. Six sites will be determined. The symposium will have a local focus, however the general theme is still focused on Student Achievement and well-being. Details for Sudbury are: Saturday, May 14, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. to be held at the Holiday Inn. We will be selecting PIC Chairs and Co-Chairs, and five (5) school council representatives.

The Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services will be holding regional consultations to get advice for the enhancing the strategy for a *Safer Ontario*. The Ministry will hold 11 facilitated consultations throughout the province; Sudbury's will be on Tuesday, March 31st at the Steelworker's Hall.

The focus will be target the following:

- Community Safety and Well- Being plans, a new integrated and collaborative approach to community safety.
- Improved interactions with Police and vulnerable citizens
- Modernizing what police do,
- Enhancing account ability and oversight of police services, and
- Training and education for Police officers.

Superintendent Kathy Wachnuk will represent us at the consultation.

On Thursday, February 18 Future Leaders kicked off its two-year leadership development initiative. We had 54 applicants and we moved 31 successful candidates forward. Applicants include teachers, educational assistants, board staff, and DECE's. Future Leaders is chaired by Principals Danielle Williamson and Heather Gaffney. During the course of the initiative staff and participants get to work on developing and refining leaderships qualities. Most importantly individuals are able to reflect on their potential to look at leadership opportunities.

I had the good fortune to see the Sudbury Secondary School's performance of CATS on Friday of last week. We are so fortunate to have such committed staff and a wonderful facility to showcase the talents of our students. The music, Choreography and costumes were amazing. I encourage all folks, should they get the chance to attend these wonderful performances ...they are a real treat to see and hear. Well done to Bob Deeth and more specifically Line Roberge and her supporting cast.

The Ministry has announced new ADM's effective March 21, 2016. Martyn Beckett, current Director of Durham Board will take over from Richard Franz (former Student Success Lead) as the Learning and Curriculum ADM while Kathy Montreuil, former Director with Bruce Gray Catholic Board, will take over as the Student Achievement ADM.

I had the good fortune to meet with ADM Montreuil on February 4 and she was very clear that the Student Achievement and well-being agenda would be modifying its approach to student achievement planning. Going forward all divisions within the Ministry of Education will be challenged to integrate so that all initiatives are universally coordinated and reflect a more refined planning process that removes systemic barriers. Hence boards will be challenged to follow suit. We understand that the Ministry will be providing more substantive details in late April.

Speak Up Grants were announced today: As described by the Ministry,

SpeakUp grants are part of the Ministry of Education's Student Voice strategy. Student Voice aims to promote student engagement and success in Ontario's schools by listening to and learning from students. Ten Rainbow programs were successful in obtaining the grants.

School Name	Project Title	Amount
A.B. Ellis Public School	Including Indigenous in Our Community	\$2500
Churchill Public School	Just Ask!	\$996
Confederation Secondary School	Building Relations for a Promising Future	\$1000
Espanola High School	Espanola High School Pow wow: Respecting All Ways	\$1000
Lansdowne Public School	Healthy You... Healthy Me... "A Stronger We"	\$1000
Lively District Secondary School	Healthy, Active Living	\$2500
Manitoulin Secondary School	MSS Minute	\$1000
Monetville Public School	Monetville Public School Community Gardens	\$1000
N'Swakamok Alternative School	Honouring and Empowering Indigenous Students	\$2500
Sudbury Secondary School	First Nation Youth Group	\$1000
TOTAL		\$14,496

SpeakUp Projects are intended to provide students an opportunity to lead and/ or participate in a project in order to:

- Empower students to take action and support student engagement, equity, achievement, and well-being through an experience within the school community; and,
- Make connections/partnerships within the school community and classrooms.

All boards have received \$10 000 from CODE to investigate 21st Century Teaching and Learning practices. Boards are encouraged to investigate, out of province, for innovative ideas to help shape/influence what our schools/systems could look like. We will be researching this initiative over the next few weeks to determine the best sources to investigate. To date boards have looked internationally and nationally.

Trustees are welcome to tour the Wembley site on Friday, February 26 at 11:00 AM.

Drake Trudeau - a grade 6 First Nation student from Assiginack Public School has been invited to attend a discussion exploring themes from 'Imagine a Canada', the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation's national art and essay competition. He will be presenting the essay he wrote on reconciliation, comparing his own experiences with two different school systems. The

invitation comes on behalf of His Excellency the Right Honorable David Johnston, Governor General of Canada. Drake will attend Rideau Hall on Tuesday, March 1, 2016 with his parents Lynda and Robert Trudeau. His grandmother, a Residential School survivor, will be his special guest. Drake is a quiet student who is very proud of his heritage.

Dare to stand out conference will be held at CVDCS on March 4, 2016 starting at 9:00 AM. All are welcome.

Itinerary:

January 27	Read a Book – Literacy day at Queen Elizabeth PS Agenda Setting
January 28-30	Public Education Symposium – Toronto
February 1	Exec Council School Year Calendar – 4 Boards
February 3	School Visit Confederation Best Buy Presentation Meeting with Deputy Mayor
February 4/5	Regional Education Conference
February 8	Exec Council Agenda Setting
February 9	Chairs/Vice Chairs/Directors Governance Meeting Ministry of Education – Toronto
February 10/11	Research Education Symposium – Toronto
February 12	Lansdowne Public School visit
February 16	CUPE meeting Exec Council
February 17	Community Partners Meeting – Sudbury (Board Office)
February 18	Community Partners Meeting – Espanola (E.H.S.)
February 19	Community Partners Meeting – West Bay (M.S.S.)
February 22	Exec Council Hearing
February 23	Board Meeting

5. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement attended a meeting in Toronto on February 19, 2016. He met with representatives from northern boards and discussion included declining enrolment, the ARC process, closing of schools in Northern Ontario and the geographic issues. At the regional session the code of conduct was discussed and the enforcement of the code.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Urban spoke about the OSTA conference that he attended in Ottawa last week. Mental health was again one of the main topics of discussion. Excellent guest speakers focused on sharing the young voice. Ethan took part in discussions around northern schools, gender-neutral washrooms and the inclusion of mental health in the curriculum.

Student Trustee Urban invited all trustees to the upcoming Talent Show which will take place on March 4, 2016 11:30 AM to 1:45 PM at Sudbury Secondary School.

Trustees were reminded of the upcoming Stand Up Speak Out conference scheduled for May 4 and 5, 2016 at Cambrian College.

Student Trustee Urban advised that several schools would be taking part in the Big Bike Challenge and raising money for Heart & Stroke.

6. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Santala inquired about a motion passed at the March 24, 2015 board meeting:

Motion: 15-R60, G.Santala/T.Campbell

That community schools continue to receive additional supports through consultation and direct input of staff and the school community with timelines for implementation.

Trustee Morrison also made reference to this motion.
Director Blaseg will report back at the next Board Meeting.

7. **Chairperson's Remarks**

The Lasalle Secondary School Music Department will host "An Evening of Festival Music" on Monday, February 29, at 7 pm in the school gym. Admission is a donation with all proceeds going to the Joan Mantle Music Trust.

On Wednesday, March 2, the Board will host its Technological Skills Competition at Cambrian College where secondary students will test their skills in events such as carpentry, welding, auto-CADD, cabinet making, and TV/video production. You are welcome to drop in to view the competition beginning at 9:30 AM with Awards at 2:15 PM.

The Rainbow Board will host its seventh symposium aimed at creating and enhancing school-based supports for students who are lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and questioning (LGTBQ) as well as students with friends and family members in these communities on Friday, March 4. The Dare to Stand Out Conference, being presented in partnership with the Canadian Centre for Gender and Sexual Diversity, will take place at Chelmsford Valley District Composite School.

Grade 7 and 8 students from Rainbow Schools will participate in the Board's annual Elementary Science Fair on Wednesday, March 9, 2016 at Lockerby Composite School.

Dr. David Buley, Associate Professor of Music Education at Laurentian University, has been selected as this year's recipient of the Joan Mantle Music Trust Community Award. The award will be presented at the International Dinner and Silent Auction in support of the Trust on Saturday, April 9, at 6 pm at the Park Side Older Adult Centre.

Please be sure to check out RDSB website for more information on all events.

I had the pleasure of attending the 2016, OPSBA Public Education Symposium – PES and one of my favorite speakers, Mike Hines, spoke on the topic of The Governance Structure Established by the Education Act.

Specifically, Mike spoke of the significant changes that were made to the Act in 2010, changes that as a seasoned trustee, I should have known about but I didn't.

He said, "Boards and trustees are statutory entities that have no inherent powers." He pointed out that many governance issues are not addressed directly in the Ed Act so gaps can/must be filled in by self-regulation.

The Ed Act new s.169.1 explicitly sets out what Boards are required to do but not necessarily how they are to be done.

It is important to note that the Act does NOT address trustee/staff interaction AT ALL. In fact, individual trustees have NO LEGAL relationship to staff. All references about giving direction, reporting, etc. etc. are between the Board and staff NOT the individual trustee and staff.

Trustees are "members of the Board" not "trustees" (s.1(12)) The trustee declaration refers to "performing the office of Board member" (s.209) NOT "performing the office of a trustee".

"Constituency responsibilities" are never mentioned in the Education Act. Mike explained that we have "constituents" until we are elected. Then we become part of the Board and our duties, as listed in the Education Act under s.218.1,

unlike Councilors and/or members of Parliament, our duties are as Board members.

Mike stated that while we all have heard the saying that there is no “I” in “Team” we need to be reminded that there is no “I” in “Board” either. Under “Duties of Board Members” (not “duties of trustees”) he pointed out 2 sections in particular which he felt were deserving of attention.

- A member of the Board shall carry out his or her responsibilities in a manner that assists the Board in fulfilling its duties.
- A member of the Board shall uphold the implementation of any Board resolution after it is passed by the Board.

We need to remember that as a Member of the Board, even when there is a conflict with individual communities, we must make decisions in the best interests of the entire school community.

The thought for the month comes from Mike’s closing slide:
“Disagreement is anticipated. Dissent is permissible.
But the best interest of the system as a whole is paramount.”

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

2016 Elementary and Secondary School Graduation Dates
Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) minutes Jan 6, 2016 (official)

2. Non-Staff Communications

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Student Senate April 4, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom

Parent Involvement Committee April 5, 2016 7:00 pm Boardroom

Special Education Advisory Cmttee March 2, 2016 12:00 pm Education Centre

Strategic Planning Committee March 8, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom

Equity and Inclusive Education, March 10, 2016 4:00 pm Lockerby CS Library

Board March 22, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom

Stand Up Speak Out Conference, May 4 & 5, 2016, Cambrian College

First Nation Advisory Committee May 19, 2016 10:00 am Sheshegwaning First Nation

Board July 5, 2016 5:00 pm Boardroom

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 16-R47, D.Morrison/B.Clement

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