

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
held in the Boardroom
on Tuesday, January 31, 2012 at 5:45 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D.Dewar - Chair, T. Campbell, B. Clement, G. Fox, L.Killens (via phone), R. Kirwan, D. Morrison, Student Trustee O. Amaratunga
Absent: G. Santala
Officials: N. Blaseg - Director
D.Cayen-Arnold – Superintendent of Business
A . Della Penta, B. Bourget, L. Dye, S. Speir – Superintendents
M. Egan, N. Charette, S. Acroyd
Others: Media, members of the public

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 12-R26, T.Campbell/R.Kirwan

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 31, 2012 be approved. - **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

C. PRESENTATIONS

Superintendent Lesleigh Dye presented the French as a Second Language Toolbox website funded by the Ministry and led by Rainbow District School Board.

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

Motion: 12-R27, D.Morrison/G. Fox

That the Staff Changes as outlined on pages A-4 of the agenda be received. – **Carried**

Motion: 12-R28, B. Clement/D.Morrison

That the 2010/11 Director's Performance Review be approved and that the former chair deliver it to the Director on behalf of the Board. - **Carried**

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 12-R29, R.Kirwan/D.Morrison

That the minutes of the Organizational Board meeting held on December 20, 2011 be approved. - **Carried**

Motion: 12-R30, G. Fox/T.Campbell

That the minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on December 20, 2011 be approved. – **Carried**

2. **Tenders** NIL

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

a) Notice of Motion: 12-R31, R.Kirwan

That I or someone on my behalf will move or caused to be moved at a subsequent meeting of the Board, that changes to Policy 4.15 Electronic Communication and Social Media be approved.

b) Motion: 12-R32, T.Campbell/D.Morrison

That Operational Procedures 4.15 Electronic Communication and Social Media be approved. - **Carried**

c) Notice of Motion: 12-R33, D.Morrison

That I or someone on my behalf will move or caused to be moved at a subsequent meeting of the Board, that changes to Governance Bylaw section 4 Regular and Special Meetings of the Board be approved.

d) MacLeod PS

Motion: 12-R34, D.Morrison/T.Campbell

That the project budget and proposed funding for a new green school to be constructed on the MacLeod PS site be approved. - **Carried**

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. **OPSBA Labour Relations Symposium**

Motion: 12-R35, T. Campbell/D.Morrison

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the OPSBA 2012 Labour Relations Symposium in Toronto March 29 – 31, 2012: R. Kirwan, D.Morrison, G.Fox, B. Clement, T.Campbell, J.Hunda. - **Carried**

2. **2012 Futures Conference**

Motion: 12-R36, D.Morrison/T.Campbell

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the 2012 Futures Conference in Toronto sponsored by the Toronto District School Board May 3-5, 2012: Robert Kirwan. - **Carried**

3. **Education Law Seminar**

Motion: 12-R37, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the request to attend the Education Law Seminar be added to the agenda. - **Carried**

Motion: 12-R38, D.Morrison/J.Hunda

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the Education Law Seminar by Miller Thomson Lawyers on February 24, 2012 in Waterloo or on March 1, 2012 in Toronto: Robert Kirwan, Doreen Dewar. - **Carried**

4. **OSTA Conference**

Motion: 12-R39, B.Clement/J.Hunda

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Oshani Amaratunga at the Ontario Student Trustee Association Conference: *Taking Action, Leading Change* from February 9th to February 12th in Ottawa. - **Carried**

5. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

*Chair

Motion: 12-R40, J.Hunda/B. Clement

That Gord Santala be granted a leave of absence from the January 31, 2012 Board meeting. - **Carried**

6. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

*Chair

Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.

Trustee Morrison commended staff for their work on Welcome to Kindergarten. Also she was proud of the Canadian justice system for decision on Shafia case.

Trustee Kirwan remarked on the OPSBA conference, specially the presymposium on how to be effective chairs. He cited the importance of the work of the Executive Assistant in particular the work of Rainbow District School Board's Maureen Egan.

Trustee Hunda thanked everyone for their work on Welcome to Kindergarten and stressed the importance of this function.

Trustee Clement remarked on Public Education Symposium especially what he learned about social media and bullying.

7. **Chairperson's Remarks**

*Chair

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to Information Nights at Rainbow secondary schools. The dates and times of secondary school information nights are posted on the Board website.

Rainbow District School Board has been working with Northern Life to produce a 12-page supplement on the revitalization of Sudbury Secondary School and will be published on Thursday, February 9th, 2012. Sudbury Secondary School will host its

Information Night on Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 6:30 pm. Alumni and community tours of the new facilities will take place from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm.

The Regional Improv Tournament will take place from February 9 to 11, 2012 at the Ernie Checkeris Theatre at Thorneloe on the Laurentian University Campus. Participating schools include Espanola High School, Lasalle Secondary School, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School and Confederation Secondary School

Tyler Makinen of Lively District Secondary School was selected to participate in the 2012 American High School Honors Performance Series at Carnegie Hall in New York on Sunday, February 12, 2012. Tyler will be playing his violin in the Honors Orchestra along with approximately 95 other finalists. Over five days in New York City, Tyler will rehearse, learn and perform under the direction of Honors Orchestra Conductor, Charles Peltz.

Jeremy Dias will return to speak in Rainbow Schools on February 21, 22 and 23, 2012. Jeremy talks about his experience of racism and homophobia growing up in Northern Ontario and what he is now doing to support students in the school system to build a more welcoming environment.

I attended the Annual OPSBA Public Education Symposium and felt that it was one of the best that I've ever been to. I hope to incorporate many of the ideas and updates into our everyday RDSB functions.

One of the items was directed at the need for review of our By-Laws especially in the light of Bill 177. In particular, there was a direct reference to an item that appeared in the "letters to the editor" in the Sudbury Star namely the By-Law governing delegations at a Board Meeting. We are addressing this issue in a timely manner.

My first column as a chair appeared in the local paper and this item was also timely. Judging from the breadth of comments, the weather certainly gives everyone something to talk about. Of course it was the fact that the weather is tied to school bussing that stimulates discussion. I still maintain that if we had a Crystal Ball we could better judge what will happen 2, 4, even 6 hours from the time when a decision must be made.

Thank you to all staff for their tireless efforts during the month of January to inspire success for all students.

Thought for the upcoming month: the five most essential words for a healthy, vital relationship are "I apologize" and "You are right."

8. **Director's Remarks**

*Director

Director Blaseg reported that as a result of the recent transportation cancellations the Chair, Superintendent of Business and himself met with the Consortium's Executive Director Renee Boucher to review the circumstances surrounding the cancellations.

He said it was a very productive meeting and they examined ways to enhance communication in the future. A letter was drafted to the Manitoulin area identifying reasons why transportation was not cancelled.

Director Blaseg also advised that the Drummond report will be released mid February.

9. **Other Items** *Chair

OPSBA Delegate

Trustee Clement represented the Board at the last meeting and shared the Board's successes. He said that declining enrolment is common with all boards in the province and also that boards are in accommodation reviews. Trustee Campbell has copies of the Code of Conduct session and he will send out via email to trustees.

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

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

Policy and Finance minutes January (unofficial)
PIC minutes November (official)
Audit Committee minutes December (unofficial)
SEAC minutes December (official)
RDSB Graduation dates 2012

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

Correspondence from the Minister of Education

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair

SEAC	- February 1, 12:00 pm Gord Ewin Centre
Policy and Finance Agenda	- February 1, 1:30 pm Director's Office
Student Senate Meeting	- February 13, 5:00 pm Boardroom
Policy and Finance Meeting	- February 14, 5:00 pm Boardroom
Board Agenda Setting	- February 15, 1:30 pm Director's Office
Parent Involvement Ctte.	- February 21, 7:00 pm Boardroom
FNAC	- February 23, 10:00 am Lively DHS
Board Meeting	- February 28, 5:00 pm Boardroom
Policy and Finance Agenda	- February 29, 4:00 pm Director's Office

I. **ADJOURNMENT** *Chair

Motion: 12-R41, R. Kirwan/T.Campbell

That we do now adjourn at 6:35 p.m. - **Carried**