

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
held in the boardroom
on Tuesday November 26, 2013 at 5:15 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D. Dewar - Chair, T. Campbell, B. Clement, G. Fox, J. Hunda,
L. Killens (via phone), R. Kirwan, D.Morrison ,G. Santala,
Student Trustee Roberto Bagnato

Officials: N. Blaseg – Director
D. Cayen-Arnold – Superintendent of Business
B. Bourget, L. Dye, S. Speir - Superintendents of Education
J. Noble – Senior Administrator of Program and Services
M. Egan, N. Charette, D. Kitching, students, Deb Clements,
Kathy Dokis, Laurie Ann Lielkalns, Sue Del Riccio,
media, members of the public

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 13-R147, D.Morrison/G.Santala

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of November 26, 2013 be approved as amended. The amendment being the addition of three letters under G.2 Non Staff Communications. - **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

First Nations Student Achievement 2013 EQAO Results

Lesleigh Dye, Judy Noble, Kathy Dokis presented the 2013 EQAO results for FNMI students. They also shared strategies to support FNMI staff and student success. An Ojibwe toolkit will be developed to assist parents and students at home.

Students Niibishens Trudeau, Zack Bondy and Nicholas Hebert provided positive remarks of appreciation for the opportunities within Rainbow schools including the return of First Nations languages to our curriculum. Trustees expressed appreciation to all the presenters and were very impressed with the student participants.

Special Education Student Achievement 2013 EQAO Results

Sharon Speir and Kathy Wachnuk assisted by Laurie Ann Lielkalns and Sue Del Riccio presented the 2013 EQAO results for Special Education students. It was noted that Rainbow District School Board has a very high percentage of our total identified student population participating in EQAO testing with higher than average outcomes. Trustees expressed sincere appreciation for the dedication of our staff whose efforts have enabled our students to achieve outstanding results.

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

Motion: 13-R148, D.Morrison/J.Hunda

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

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

a) Motion: 13-R149, G. Santala/B.Clement

That the minutes of the Board meeting held on October 29, 2013 be approved. - **Carried**

b) **MacLeod PS Update**

Superintendent Dye provided a verbal update. Correspondence has been sent to parents indicating that JK-2 students will move into the new school in March 2014 and grade 3 to grade 8 will move in for September 2014.

c) Motion: 13-R150, L. Killens/R. Kirwan

That AB Ellis PS (JK to Grade 8) be relocated at Espanola High School (Grade 9-12) subject to capital funding from the Ministry of Education”, be rescinded. - **Defeated**

Trustee Killens requested a poll vote. Poll Vote Results: Defeated

Tyler Campbell: Opposed

Judy Hunda: Opposed

Robert Kirwan: In Favour

Bob Clement: Opposed

Grace Fox: Opposed

Dena Morrison: Opposed

Doreen Dewar: Opposed

Larry Killens: In Favour

Gord Santala: Opposed

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals NIL

3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

Motion: 13-R151, D.Morrison, J.Hunda

That changes to Governance Bylaws section 6.03 be approved. – **Carried**

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Tax Bylaw

*SBO

Motion: 13-R152, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That bylaw 2013-05 as attached be deemed to have been read three times and finally enacted in open board meeting this 26th day of November, 2013. - **Carried**

2. Trustee Expenditures

*SBO

Superintendent Cayen-Arnold reviewed the back up that was included in the agenda and advised that the 2012/13 trustee expenditures will be posted on website.

3. **Budget Development Process** *SBO

Motion: 13-R153, D. Morrison/J.Hunda

That the 2014-15 Budget Development Process be approved as amended. The amendment being January 10, 2014 be changed to December 2013, June 24, 2014 changed to July 2, 2014 and June 30, 2014 changed to July, 2014. - **Carried**

4. **OPSBA Public Education Symposium 2014** *Chair

Motion: 13-R154, D. Morrison/B.Clement

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the Public Education Symposium in Toronto January 30 to February 1, 2014: Robert Kirwan, Doreen Dewar, Bob Clement, Tyler Campbell, Grace Fox, Judy Hunda. - **Carried**

5. **Board Meeting** *Chair

Motion: 13-R155, D.Morrison/T.Campbell

That the June 24, 2014 Board meeting be moved to Wednesday July 2, 2014. – **Carried**

6. **Requests for Leave of Absence** NIL *Chair

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** *Chair

Trustee Clement commented on The Fifth Estate report on the Amanda Todd story. He suggested showing it in our schools so students see the dangerous effects of the internet.

Trustee Fox attended the Student Senate meeting where the aboriginal student was selected to be a representative. She also attended the Equity and Inclusive committee which was quite informative. She attended the FNAC meeting in November and thanked the team that works on FNMI development; the aboriginal reps that attend were very impressed with the development that has taken place in that framework. The Ministry attended to facilitate the consultation process known as Great to Excellent. The FNAC asked that the input be identified as FN input and recognized within the total provincial survey.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks** *Chair

On Friday, November 15, Lively District Secondary School celebrated its outstanding fall sports program while marking the school's Canned Food Drive. During the lunch period, city championship athletes enjoyed tacos as part of the "Rock Your Mocs" promotion to celebrate First Nations culture.

Brandan Wilson, a Grade 10 student at Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, received a Governor General of Canada History Award in Aboriginal Arts and Stories at a ceremony in

Ottawa on Tuesday, November 19. He created a unique photo collage challenging stereotypes.

A student and a teacher from Rainbow Schools received a YMCA Peace Medal on Thursday, November 21 - Braden Yawney of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School and Kari Gerhard of Lansdowne Public School.

Braden Yawney. At the age of 13, Braden traveled to Bangladesh with Symbiosis Canada. This organization works to empower and develop community based organizations. During this mission, Braden built friendships and served as a role model to young children in the community. Two years later, Braden went to Honduras on another mission to visit Schools of Hope. He helped in the construction of a new building, participated in a children's educational program and helped feed the homeless. Braden also traveled to Fort Severn, an isolated native reserve, to renovate the local church and parsonage and he befriended many of the children and youth of the community. Braden also makes a difference in the local community. As an Honorary Member of the Knights of Columbus, he has helped with pancake breakfasts at various churches. He also served Out-Of-The-Cold Dinners, participated in Free the Children, Halloween for Hunger, 30 Hour Famine and the Me to We Conference. Braden, who is now 16, gives freely and abundantly to help others without reservation. Braden wants to make a difference and his actions are a testament to his compassion for others

Kari Gerhard. Kari Gerhard is a Grade 8 teacher at Lansdowne Public School who works relentlessly and selflessly to promote peace in her classroom, across the school and in the greater community. Kari creates a classroom environment where all students feel welcome, secure and accepted. She encourages student learning and growth by addressing difficult and important topics such as bullying, poverty, diversity, sexuality and the environment. She believes all students can succeed and tells them so they all believe it too. Kari goes above and beyond every day for her students – both present and past – to support them academically, socially and emotionally. It is common for her to provide students with food and clothing for families in need. Kari kindly helps students who need special additional support as well as tutoring former students to ensure their continued success in high school. Kari empowers her students to be brave, confident and to make decisions". Kari helps her students do this. Kari is also a member of the Canadian Mental Health Association and works to support the mental well-being of all. Her goal is to remove any stigma or barrier for open conversation about supports in any form.

Think Recycle is calling Carl A. Nesbitt Public School 'Environmental Champions' for being ranked one of Canada's Top 10 recyclers in the 2012-2013 Think Recycle Environmental Fundraising Program contest. For its efforts, the school has earned close to \$5,000 towards its charity of choice, the Breast Cancer Foundation. The funds were raised by recycling cell phones and print cartridges and diverting e-waste from landfill sites.

MacLeod Public School, under the leadership of teacher Brenda Johnson, is offering the opportunity to purchase special Christmas Cards for that "hard-to-buy-for person" on your gift list. Parents who would otherwise be purchasing a gift for their child's teacher are

encouraged to consider purchasing a "MacLeod on a Mission" Christmas card. The cards are \$5.00 each and the money raised goes directly to the Elgin Street Mission. Cards are still available.

The School Council at Queen Elizabeth II Public School has entered The Aviva Community Fund Contest. They are asking the community to help make their dream come true by voting for "The Gisèle Sivret Memorial Playground". Just go to the Aviva Community Fund website to vote.

The Lansdowne Public School Neighbourhood is one of 10 designated Canadian communities who have launched a Pace Car program, which is designed to prevent injury and save lives by reducing vehicle speeds in residential areas. Community members are asked to sign up to be "Pace Car drivers", who drive respectfully and within the speed limits.

At the November FNAC meeting, committee members provided input into the Ministry of Education "Great to Excellent" consultation.

Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School invites Grade 8 students and parents/guardians to a "High School 101" information session on Wednesday, December 4, 2013 at 7 pm in the school gymnasium.

The Lasalle Secondary School Arts Department will host its annual "Winter MADness" celebration on Wednesday, December 11, 2013 at 7 pm in the school gym. Everyone is invited to enjoy an evening of Music, Art and Drama featuring Lasalle Secondary School's talented performing arts students.

A list of Christmas events in Rainbow Schools will be posted on the Board website next week.

In the feasibility for Espanola that was done by the two Catholic school boards, on page 10, you may have noticed the following statement: "Former St. Louis de France church – E4- currently occupied by the Rainbow District School Board – elementary school program." I would like to clarify by assuring you that this statement is false and Rainbow District School Board definitely does not occupy any space in the former St. Louis de France church.

This Month's quote comes from the American humourist Evan Esser who said: "Statistics are the only science that enables many different experts using the same set of figures to draw completely different conclusions."

9. Director's Remarks

*Director

The Ministry of Education met with First Nations Advisory Committee on Friday, November 15 regarding the Great to Excellence consultation and with Partners Children Youth on November 21.

School Board Efficiencies and Modernization Consultations.

The ministry is looking for new ways to deliver key priorities within current fiscal realities. On November 11, Diane Cayen–Arnold was involved in a teleconference with OPSBA to provide information and support for OPSBA’s brief slated for the November 18th consultation with the Ministry of Education.

Enrolment

In your backup you have summary enrolment reports for 2013-2014. We will have a comprehensive report on December 3rd at the Policy and Finance meeting.

November Audit

During the month of November external auditors KPMG conducted year-end financial statements. They were on site for approximately two weeks and their report will be issued at the next audit committee meeting. Finance is looking at revised estimates for 2013-2014. All indications point to a favourable financial situation going forward.

Espanola Update

We have confirmed with our coterminous boards that information shared at their last public consultation, slide 10 indicating RDSB was utilizing St. Louis de France Church for programming, was incorrect.

Remembrance Day

We recognize the need for community participation when it comes to significant events such as Remembrance Day. We acknowledge that we can do more to visually demonstrate, to the community, and more importantly to our veterans that we are active participants. We will endeavor to expand the number of opportunities to participate at the community level. However it is important to know that all schools held and were part of ceremonies to acknowledge the role of our veterans in many significant events in Canada’s history.

Director’s Schedule

Oct. 31	Westmount – school visit
Nov. 1	Lockerby, Algonquin, Lo- Ellen School visits
Nov. 2	Attended “Free the Children”, Copper Cliff
Nov. 4	R.L. Beattie school visit and Sudbury Food Bank Executive Meeting.
Nov. 6	Attended First Nation, Early Learning Ministry Initiative in Toronto.
Nov. 8	Meeting with President Sonia Del Messier and France Quirion of Cambrian College and Chair Dewar
Nov. 11	Tele-conference – Ministry consultation
Nov 12	Cyril Varney
Nov.13	Tour of School of Architecture
Nov.14	Attended Regional Education Committee, North Bay
Nov. 15	Attended Sudbury Developmental Services 60 year celebration RDSB was recognized for their contribution ie: SHILO program
Nov. 19	Violence Threat Risk Assessment training – level 1
Nov. 21	Chaired Partner for Children and Youth - Directors meeting with Principals

Nov. 22 Chelmsford Valley District Composite School and Copper Cliff
Nov. 26 Service Collaborative – CAMH

10. **Other Items** *Chair

OPPSBA Delegate – Trustee Campbell advised that the next meeting is Friday November 29 and that the Northern Directors will be discussing the bargaining framework. He will continue to update trustees.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Bagnato advised that the Student Senate is proceeding very well this year and that the Senate is currently planning the April leadership conference. Trustee Bagnato recently attended the OSTA conference in Toronto and felt this was an excellent opportunity for personal growth.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

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

Enrolment Report October 31, 2013

SEAC October 2013 (official)

Equity and Inclusiveness minutes November 2013 (unofficial)

FNAC minutes November 2013 (unofficial)

H. FUTURE MEETINGS *Chair

Policy & Finance Agenda - November 27, 2013 1:30 pm Director's Office

Board Agenda Setting - December 2, 2013 1:30 pm Director's Office

Policy & Finance Meeting - December 3, 2013 5:00 pm Boardroom

SEAC - December 4, 2013 12:00 pm Educ. Ctre.

Student Senate - December 9, 2013 5:00 pm Boardroom

Board Meeting - December 17, 2013 5:00 pm Boardroom

Policy & Finance Agenda - Decemer 18, 2013 1:30 pm Director's Office

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 13R156, D.Morrison/T.Campbell

That we now do adjourn at 7:30 pm. - **Carried** *Chair