

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, November 21, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, J. Hunda, L. Killens, J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, G. Santala, Student Trustee M. Leach Jarrett

Absent: G. Fox, R. Ward

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

Others: Muiriel MacLeod Checkeris, Vicki Kett, Frank Benish, Jim Sutherland, Julie Ozawagosh, Chief Steven Miller, Chop Waindubence, Bob Goulais, C. McDonald, S. Conroy, K. Dokis, L. Fisher, H. Gaffney, G. Gauthier and members of the public

Director Norm Blaseg welcomed everyone to the first meeting of Rainbow District School Board in the Centre for Education.

Julie Ozawagosh, an Elder with Atikameksheng Anishnawbek, provided a traditional opening.

Chief Steven Miller of Atikameksheng Anishnawbek acknowledged the territory, explained the significance of this acknowledgement and offered the flag of the Anishnawbek Nation that will be displayed in this boardroom.

Chop Waindubence, an Aboriginal Support Worker with the Board, highlighted the importance of the flag and provided the drumming.

Director Blaseg advised that several Board traditions that existed in former locations would continue in the Centre for Education. The area where the consultants and co-ordinators are located on the third floor will be named the Gord Ewin Wing, in honour of former Director of Education Gord Ewin. The meeting room on the second floor will be the Howard Shecter Room in memory of Board Psychologist Dr. Howard Shecter. The meeting room on the first floor will be the Indigenous Room, acknowledging our commitment to truth and reconciliation. The main boardroom will be dedicated in memory of long-time trustee, Ernie Checkeris.

Director Blaseg called on Chair Dewar to read Ernie Checkeris' bio.

Retired principal Jim Sutherland presented the board with a bell that was used at Wembley Public School that will be placed in a prominent location as a reminder of the rich heritage of Wembley Public School.

After a brief recess, Chair Dewar called the meeting to order and requested that cell phones be turned off during the meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 17-R144, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of November 21, 2017 be approved. - **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Vocabulary

Superintendent Noble introduced *vocabulary* as this year's focus. She reminded trustees that the focus last year was *working memory* and *automaticity* and advised that next year's focus would be *comprehension*.

System principals Sherry Conroy and Colleen McDonald informed trustees about vocabulary development: what it is, why it is important, myths and research about vocabulary and explanations of how children learn.

Trustees had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

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

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 17-R145, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on October 24, 2017 be approved. - **Carried**

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals NIL

3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees NIL

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Enrolment Report

Superintendent of Business Bazinet referred to the elementary and secondary actual enrolment summaries dated October 31, 2017 that were provided as back up with the agenda.

2. **Trustee Expenditures 2016-17**

Superintendent of Business Bazinet explained the details on the Trustee Expenses spreadsheet. The report will be posted on the Board's website.

3. **Insurance Renewal**

Motion: 17-R146, D.Morrison/B.Clement

That the 2018 Renewal of Insurance for liability, property, crime and fleet automobile with the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange be approved.

- **Carried**

4. **Budget Development Process**

Motion: 17-R147, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the 2018-19 Budget Development Process be approved. – **Carried**

5. **Levying Education Taxes Bylaw**

Motion: 17-R148, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That the Levying Education Taxes for 2018 bylaw as attached be deemed to have been read three times and approved. – **Carried**

6. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 17-R149, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That Trustee Grace Fox and Trustee Ruth Ward be granted a leave of absence from the November 21, 2017 Board meeting. - **Carried**

7. **Director's Remarks**

Director Blaseg spoke about Remembrance Day ceremonies that were held throughout the board and made reference to the email attached to the agenda from an Algonquin Public School parent who attended a ceremony.

Director Blaseg shared details of the November 17 professional activity day. Niigann Sinclair spoke with all teachers about Truth & Reconciliation. Manitoulin and Espanola teachers participated at Espanola High School in the morning. In the afternoon, Niigann traveled to Sudbury and presented to Sudbury teachers at the Radisson. Most educational assistants completed First Aid training while others completed ABA training provided by Brien Managhan, while other staff who had not completed their Health & Safety requirements completed their training.

Director Blaseg reminded trustees of the First Nation Consultations and reviewed dates and locations of upcoming sessions.

Itinerary:

October 25 FNMI portfolio meeting

ETFO meeting
 Agenda setting meeting
 Ad Hoc committee meeting

October 26 School Visit, Lasalle Secondary School
 Chelmsford VDCS Junior Awards

October 27 Student Achievement Meeting

October 30 ETFO meeting

October 31 Executive Council

November 1 Teleconference MCYS
 School visits with Trustee Hunda
 Queen Elizabeth Public School
 Sudbury Secondary School
 Adamsdale Public School

November 2 Lockerby Vikings Awards

November 3 Tele-Conference COPEL

November 6 School visits with Trustee Morrison
 J.R. Judd Public School
 North Eastern Elementary School
 Cyril Valley Public School
 Churchill Public School

November 7 Executive Council
 Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

November 8 Agenda setting meeting
 OSCE meeting

November 9 Ministry GSN consultations

November 10 Review of Leadership Eligibility process

November 13 School Visits with Trustee Kosmerly
 Redwood Acres Public School
 Confederation Secondary School
 Valley View Public School

November 14 Director's Meeting
 Transition Meeting, Cambrian College

November 15 Agenda setting meeting

November 16	Capital Planning Ad Hoc committee meeting
November 17	Professional Activity Day
November 20	Tele-conference RE: School Year Calendar
November 21	Lo-Ellen Nights awards Exec Council Board Meeting

8. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement advised that his next OPSBA Board of Directors Meeting will be held in Toronto on December 1, 2017.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Madeleine Leach Jarrett reported a very busy month. She attended the Ministry's *2017-18 Students as Researchers (StAR)* conference at the Ontario Education Leadership Centre (OELC) in Orillia along with a student senator and Superintendent Noble. Last week she attended the OSTA Fall Conference in Toronto. She commented that she has been the only northern student trustee to be at both the May and November OSTA conferences. Student Trustee Leach Jarrett attended a meeting with the Minister of Education to further discuss rural communities. Trustees appreciated that she is a strong student voice for Northern Ontario.

9. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Kosmerly shared her personal notes from the OPSBA Northern Regional meeting that she attended October 13 and 14, 2017 in Sault Ste. Marie.

Trustee Clement reported that he has received complaints from parents and staff concerning the shortage of space at A.B. Ellis PS.

Motion: 17-R150, B.Clement/D.Morrison

That Rainbow District School Board send a letter to the Conseil scolaire catholique du Nouvel Ontario, with a copy to the Minister of Education, that the French Catholic Board vacate the space being leased at A.B. Ellis Public School by the end of the 2017-2018 school year. – **Carried unanimously**

10. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Congratulations to Carrie Wilson, a teacher at Northeastern Elementary School, who received an Outstanding Educator Award from the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury. In presenting the award, LDAS said Carrie Wilson has always gone above and beyond to ensure that students with learning disabilities are successful. The award was presented at the LDAS Awards Dinner at the Holiday Inn on November 16th.

Central Manitoulin Public School in Mindemoya received a \$10,000 MusiCounts Band Aid Grant to enhance its music program. With the funds, the school purchased six flutes, five trumpets, two baritones, one clarinet and one alto saxophone. We thank the Canadian Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences for championing music education in schools through the MusiCounts Band Aid program.

A total of 14,438 clothing items were collected from communities across the city for this year's Winter Clothing Drive with Rainbow Schools contributing 5,816 items to this total. We would like to thank everyone who helped to make this winter a little warmer.

A.B. Ellis Public School and Espanola High School assisted in collecting over 3,000 food items to fill a bus for the *Stuff the Bus campaign* in Espanola in support of the Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank.

Three secondary schools will host Information Nights soon – Lasalle Secondary School on November 23rd, Lockerby Composite School on December 6th and Lively District Secondary School on December 7th. Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, visit rainbowschools.ca

Sudbury Secondary School's main stage production "The Theory of Relativity" is a clever mix of "The Big Bang Theory," "Chicago" and "The Book of Mormon." "The Theory of Relativity" opened last weekend and continues on Friday, November 24th and Saturday, November 25th, 2017. Performances will be held in the Sheridan Auditorium at 7:30 pm.

2017-2018 marks the 10th year that the Joan Mantle Music Trust will distribute funding to secondary school music programs in Rainbow District School Board. To celebrate, the Board will host a 10th Anniversary Community Concert. Everyone is invited to join the celebration on Wednesday, November 29, at 7 pm in the McKellar Auditorium at Lockerby Composite School.

Many students in Rainbow Schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin will canvass their neighbourhoods for non-perishable food items for their local food banks on Thursday, November 30. This is the fourth annual Rainbow Kids Helping Kids Day, to support the Christmas Food Drive in memory of Edgar Burton.

Lasalle Secondary School will celebrate the arts at their annual Variety MADness (MAD = music, art and drama) Celebration on Monday, December 11th in the school gymnasium. Performances begin at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome.

The thought for the month comes from Ernie Checkeris who lived and led the following:

"Never lose sight of the fact that the child as the learner is not only the centre of the system, but the only reason for its existence."

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

2. Non-Staff Communications

Letter from Peel DSB dated October 17, 2017

Letter from Lakeview School dated October 19, 2017

Letter to Council of Directors of Education (CODE) dated November 7, 2017

Email RE: Algonquin Public School dated November 10, 2017

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Nov 28, 2017 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Student Senate Meeting December 4, 2017 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Special Education Advisory Cmttee Dec 6, 2017 12:00 pm Centre for Education Room 125

Equity & Inclusion Education Cmttee, Dec 7, 2017 4:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Audit Committee Meeting December 11, 2017 4:00 pm Centre for Education Room 216

Board Meeting (organizational) December 12, 2017 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Parent Involvement Committee January 9, 2018 7:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Environmental Ed Cmttee Meeting January 10, 2018 3:30 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 17-R151, D.Morrison/B.Clement

That we now adjourn at 7:45 p.m. – **Carried.**