

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, G. Santala, R. Ward, Student Trustee H. Golden
Absent: G. Fox
Officials: N. Blaseg – Director and Secretary of the Board
D. Bazinet - Superintendent of Business
B. Bourget, J Noble, K. Wachnuk - Superintendents
N. Charette, H. Thirkill
Others: L. Killens, C. McDonald, M. Jago, G. Gauthier, T. Batchilder, N. Mousseau, and members of the public

Chair Dewar advised that live stream equipment was being tested during the meeting and requested that cell phones be turned off.

Chair Dewar began the meeting with a statement:

“Before we begin our Board Meeting this evening, I ask that we observe a moment of silence for three tragedies that have occurred in recent weeks.

First, we mourn the loss of those who were killed at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh including Joyce Fienberg, who has ties to the Speigel family of Greater Sudbury.

Secondly, we pay our respects to the families and friends of the victims of the mass shooting in California.

Lastly, we send thoughts of comfort to the thousands of people who are suffering tremendous losses from the devastating California wildfires.

Prayers and thoughts cannot change history but they may bring comfort to others to know that we stand in solidarity with those of the Jewish faith; that we extend sympathy to the victims and families of mass shootings and that we show compassion for all human tragedy.”

A moment of silence was observed.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 18-R146, R.Ward/G.Santala

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of November 20, 2018 be approved. - **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Director Blaseg provided an enrolment report to trustees.

The Director explained predicted and actual enrolment, the actual count dates, spoke about Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) and spoke specifically about actual 2018 enrolment compared to actual 2017 enrolment for both the elementary and secondary panels. He explained the annual process for administrators, taking into consideration patterns, trends and best practices to come to a very accurate estimate of future enrolment.

Trustees were given the opportunity to discuss and ask questions.

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

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 18-R147, J.Hunda/R.Ward

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 be approved. - **Carried**

2. Mental Health Strategic Plan 2018-2021

Mary Jago, Mental Health Lead for the Board, provided trustees with specific information about each initiative listed that required resources.

Trustees discussed and asked questions about the financial request.

Trustee Morrison requested a poll vote.

Motion: 18-R148, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That Rainbow District School Board approve \$200,000 for 2018-2019 from the student focused initiative reserve to support the Mental Health Strategic Plan 2018-2021.

Bob Clement: In-favour

Doreen Dewar: In-favour

Grace Fox: Absent

Judy Hunda: in-favour

Judy Kosmerly: In-favour

Dena Morrison: In-favour

Gord Santala: In-favour

Ruth Ward: In-favour

- Carried

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

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

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Finance**

Honorarium for Trustees

Under the Education Act, the current Board of trustees is required to pass a motion approving the Honorarium for Trustees for the 2018-2022 term of office.

Motion: 18-R149, D.Morrison/B.Clement

That BOARD OF TRUSTEES PROCEDURE - TRUSTEE HONORARIA, be approved for the 2018-2022 term of office. - **Carried**

2. **Trustee Expenditures 2017/2018**

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**

Superintendent of Business Bazinet provided a report on the cost of insurance. He pointed out the rebate amount that the Board will be receiving.

Motion: 18-R150, R.Ward/J.Kosmerly

That the 2019 Renewal of Insurance for liability, property, crime and fleet automobile with the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange for \$216,747.92 be approved. - **Carried**

4. **Budget Development Process**

Motion: 18-R151, B.Clement/R.Ward

That the 2019-20 Budget Development Process be approved. - **Carried**

5. **Levying Education Taxes Bylaw**

Motion: 18-R152, J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the Levying Education Taxes for 2019 bylaw as attached be deemed to have been read three times and approved. - **Carried**

6. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 18-R153, J.Hunda/G.Santala

That Trustee Fox be granted a leave of absence from the November 20, 2018 Board meeting. - **Carried**

7. Director's Remarks

Director Blaseg provided a human resources update.

We have five elementary teachers retiring during the first semester (December 31, 2018). In the future we hope to change the retirement date to reflect the semester system. In doing so reporting periods will reflect a conscientious transition from one reporting period to the next ie: a new teacher will not have to create a report card for a student they have only known for a month. Secondly, four secondary teacher retirements have been submitted effective January 31, 2019.

We participated in the Ministry of Education consultation telephone town hall earlier today. The teleconference lasted about an hour and covered seven questions (Note we did have an opportunity to vote and ask questions). Each segment was timed and there were strict parameters placed on contributors.

Consultations with our coterminous boards regarding the 2019-2020 school year calendar will begin next week. Just a reminder that we must coordinate the school year calendar not only with our three coterminous Boards but also with Huron Superior Catholic District School Board which shares our bussing in the Espanola/Massey area. Secondly, we must also be responsive to collective agreements and provincial initiatives thus flexibility in arriving at a Rainbow only calendar is quite slim. Finally you should be aware of Elections Canada's request for a PA day on voting day, October 21, 2019. A reminder that the school year structure committee will meet in January 2019 to review the recommendations that staff bring forward.

Just a reminder of the upcoming PA day on Friday, November 30, with the focus on literacy (half-day) and numeracy (half-day) both of which are Ministry initiatives. Some of you are familiar with Lexia, a literacy tool, will be the theme in some of our schools for the literacy focus.

Director thanked Trustees:

I would be remiss to let this Board meeting come to a close without extending my sincere thanks to all of you for your dedicated service over the past four years.

Individually, you brought your experience, perspective, energy and passion to the role of Trustee.

Together, and with input from the communities that we serve, you were called upon to make important decisions and, in the process, demonstrated care, compassion, conviction and, above all, a commitment to student achievement and well-being.

The path towards progress was not always easy, as it often demanded some courageous conversations, but I firmly believe that we are in a good place because of your leadership and your stewardship.

On behalf of staff....

To those who are continuing in the role of Trustee, we look forward to working with you in your next term of office.

To those who are new to the role of Trustee, we extend a warm welcome.

And to those who are completing their terms of office, we thank you for your many years of service and wish you the very best now and into the future.

Thank you.

Itinerary

October 24	Student Achievement Meeting Agenda Setting Lively DSS Awards Ceremony
October 25	Sudbury SS Awards ceremony
October 26	Professional Activity Day
October 29	UCCM Meeting, Manitoulin Island
October 30	Executive Council ETFO Meeting Parent Involvement Committee Meeting
October 31	NOARC presentation
November 1	Lockerby Composite Schools Awards Ceremony
November 6	Executive Council
November 7	Lo-Ellen Pak SS Awards ceremony Agenda Setting
November 8	Superintendent Noble - Family of Schools Meeting Ministry Of Education - Cannabis Webinar
November 9	Alexander PS – Remembrance Day Ceremony Citizenship and Immigration meeting – teleconference
November 12	First Nations Lead meeting Sudbury SS Remembrance Day Ceremony Elementary Principal meeting – President of O.P.C. Ombudsman Teleconference
November 13	Directors Meeting Transition Evening – Cambrian College

November 14	Superintendent Wachnuk - Family of Schools Meeting Agenda Setting
November 15	Superintendent Bourget- Family of Schools Meeting LDAO awards evening
November 17	New Trustee Orientation – Facilitated by Sheila MacKinnon
November 19	Student Achievement Team Meeting
November 20	Executive Council Minister of Education - Town Hall consultation Board Meeting

8. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement reported the he would be attending an OPSBA meeting in Toronto on Friday, December 7, 2018.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Golden reported that student senators held another productive meeting in November. The group is working on a survey that will be going out to students in the next week. She thanked Mary Jago for helping the student senators with this initiative.

Student Trustee Golden advised that work has begun on the Stand Up Speak Out Conference. The focus of the conference will be equity and well-being.

9. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Santala expressed his gratification in being part of the Board since 1989, acknowledging many of the great people he has worked with over the years. He spoke about the changes in the role of the trustee over time, the tough times (accommodation reviews) and also the rewarding times. He thanked the hardworking staff, principals, and superintendents and directors.

Trustee Ward said it was a privilege to serve as a trustee at Rainbow District School Board. She advised that she had been a part of parent council at several schools, then joined the Parent Involvement Committee and then became a trustee. She advised that she is not walking away from education and that she is always available to offer support in any way necessary. She thanked the trustees around the table for their hard work and dedication to students.

10. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Since September, students in Rainbow Schools have been collecting gently used winter clothing items for local families in need. The drive was spearheaded by Cooper Equipment Rental and encouraged by many willing RDSB staff including Principal Chris Bourré. Our students, staff and school communities collected 6,337 items to support approximately 5,500 people. Please note the letter of appreciation.

On Friday, November 16, 2018, Markstay Public School students, staff, families and members of the Markstay-Warren Fire Department created a human chain of caring to hand deliver items to the local food bank. The chain was approximately 500 meters in length, starting at the school and ending at the Markstay Food Bank.

The Free to Be Me Conference will take place this Thursday, November 22nd from 9:30 am to 2 pm at Lockerby Composite School. This annual symposium aims to create and enhance school-based supports for students who are lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual, questioning and two-spirited as well as students with friends and family members in these communities. On the cusp of its tenth anniversary, the conference has expanded to include poverty, race, culture and disabilities.

In December, Rainbow Schools are invited to go green and pay it forward by sharing non-perishable food items and gently used clothing, scarves, hats and mitts. This Go Green initiative is part of the Rainbow Environmental Committee's ongoing efforts to encourage sustainable practices and increase awareness about how purchasing behaviours impact climate change.

Rainbow District School Board is seeking applications to fill positions on the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) for a period of four years, beginning January 2019. The deadline for applications is Wednesday, December 5, 2018.

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, December 6, 2018. This is the fifth annual Rainbow Kids Helping Kids Day, which is part of the annual efforts to support the Kids Helping Kids Christmas Food Drive in memory of Edgar Burton.

Rainbow secondary schools information nights for Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians will begin with Lockerby Composite School on Thursday, December 6th at 7 pm.

A full list of schools, dates and times are posted on the Board website.

RDSB is currently accepting nominations for the Joan Mantle Music Trust Community Award. If you know someone who shared Joan Mantle's passion for music education for all ages, has had a positive impact on music in the community, promotes lifelong music education and serves as an inspiration to others through their musical contributions, please consider nominating them for the Award. The deadline for nominations is January 15, 2019.

Please check the board website in the near future for a list of festive events in Rainbow Schools.

The thought for the month comes from Newt Gingrich who said, "Perseverance is the hard work you do after you get tired of doing the hard work you already did."

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

Equity and Inclusive Education Committee Minutes September 20, 2018 (official)

2. Non-Staff Communications

Letter from Toronto DSB dated Nov. 2, 2018 RE: Indigenous writing sessions

Letter from Toronto DSB dated Nov. 2, 2018 RE: student voice

Letter to Minister Lisa Thompson dated Nov. 5, 2018 RE: PRO Grants

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Inaugural Board Meeting Dec 3, 2018 5:00 pm Ernie Checkers Boardroom

Parent Involvement Cmttee December 4, 2018 7:00 pm Boardroom

Audit Committee Meeting December 10, 2018 3:00 PM Ernie Checkers Boardroom

Student Senate Meeting December 10, 2018 5:00 pm Ernie Checkers Boardroom

Board Meeting December 11, 2018 5:00 pm Boardroom

Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting Jan 9, 2019 3:30 pm Centre for Education Room 125

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Jan 15, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkers Boardroom

Special Education Advisory Cmttee Feb 6, 2019 12:00 pm Centre for Education Room 125

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee Feb 14, 2019 4:00 pm Ernie Checkers Boardroom

First Nation Advisory Committee Feb 21, 2019 10:00 am Centre for Education Room 125

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 18-R154, G.Santala/R.Ward

That we now adjourn at 6:40 p.m. – **Carried.**