

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING
held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, January 29, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, K. St. Jean, M. Stringer (via google hangout), Student Trustee H. Golden

Absent: D. Morrison

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: C. McDonald, G. Gauthier, S. Ackroyd, T. Batchilder, N. Mousseau, and member of the public

Chair Dewar advised that the meeting was being live-streamed.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 19-R25, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 29, 2019 be approved.
- **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS NIL

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

a) Motion: 19-R26, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the minutes of the Inaugural/Organizational Meeting held on December 3, 2018 be approved. - **Carried**

b) Motion: 19-R27, J.Kosmerly/K.St.Jean

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 3, 2018 be approved. - **Carried**

2) Tenders/Requests for Proposals NIL

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

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Revised Estimates 2018-19**

Superintendent Bazinet distributed the revised budget estimate document and reviewed with trustees.

2. **EPO Report**

Superintendent Bazinet distributed the EPO Report and reviewed with trustees.

3. **Capital and Accommodation Plan – Initial Staff Report**

Superintendent Bazinet reviewed the document with trustees by planning area . He explained that this is an annual report to the board.

a) **Central Sudbury**

Motion: 19-R28, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the implementation date for motion 17-R35 be deferred. - **Carried**

b) **New Sudbury**

Motion: 19-R29, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the implementation date for motion 17-R38 be changed to September 1, 2021, subject to Ministry of Education approval to proceed. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R30, J.Kosmerly/B.Clement

That the implementation date for motion 17-R39 be changed to September 1, 2020. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R31, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That the implementation date for motion 17-R40 be changed to September 1, 2021, subject to Ministry of Education approval to proceed. - **Carried**

c) **Sudbury South**

Motion: 19-R32, B.Clement/K.St.Jean

That the Board purchase two detached modular classrooms for installation at R.L. Beattie Public School and/or Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School for September 1, 2019. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R33, J.Kosmerly/K.St.Jean

That Admin present options to the Board for the Sudbury South planning area. - **Defeated**

d) Valley North

Motion: 19-R34, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the implementation date for motion 17-R43 be changed to September 1, 2020, subject to Ministry of Education approval to proceed. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R35, B.Clement/K.St.Jean

That the implementation date for motion 17-R44 be changed to September 1, 2020. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R36, J.Kosmerly/M.Stringer

That the implementation date for motion 17-R45 be changed to September 1, 2020. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R37, J.Kosmerly/B.Clement

That Levack Public School be right-sized for September 1, 2020, subject to Ministry of Education approval to proceed. - **Carried**

Motion: 19-R38, A.Gibson/J.Hunda

That the implementation date for motion 17-R46 be changed to September 1, 2020. - **Carried**

4. **Special Education Advisory Committee**

Motion: 19-R39, J.Kosmerly/A.Gibson

That Rainbow District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) membership be approved for the period January 2019 to December 2022. - **Carried**

5. **Ontario Student Trustee Association - Board Council Conference**

Motion: 19-R40, J.Hunda/K.St.Jean

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Hannah Golden at the Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA) Board Council Conference in Ottawa February 21 to 24, 2019. - **Carried**

6. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

Motion: 19-R41, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That Trustee Dena Morrison be granted a leave of absence from the January 29, 2019 Board meeting. - **Carried**

7. **Director's Remarks**

Welcome back, this is our first Board Meeting for 2019 and I'm really excited about the second semester. As you already know the first semester culminated with a number of transportation cancellations. I will remind you of the process for bus cancellations. Each Bus operator has a number of designated personnel that go out in the morning to check on road conditions. These designated personnel report their

findings to the operators and the operators notify the consortium. The directors receive a call from the consortium between 5:00 and 5:30 am. At this time the consortium informs the Directors of the status for transportation for that day.

As for exams, students and parents are reminded to check their own schools website to see when their exams have been rescheduled

Prior to the Christmas Break I had the honour of attending the Manitoulin Secondary School awards evening. Like they have done, for so many years, the Island community provided over \$49,000 in bursaries. It is truly an outstanding evening. What makes it so unique is that all students receiving these awards have been in University or College for at least 4 months.

Illness in schools is common amongst primary and junior aged children, especially during the winter months. We were notified in early January that some schools had higher than normal absences due to flu like symptoms (upwards of 30% of the school was off in two schools). Public Health was aware of the challenges, and the high incident rates, but they also understood that this was quite normal. As a board we often increase custodial services in these instances – we add cleaners and introduce measures to help reduce the risk of spreading the germs. So cleaners and custodians wipe down toys, door handles etc. while teaching and other staff are constantly reminding everyone to wash their hands and cough into their arms. When we asked the health professionals if we should inform parents they indicated that by the time we notify parents, the spike in illness will have already subsided.

I had the good fortune to participate in the Public Education Symposium last week in Toronto. It was very heartening to see so many trustees from all over the province attend. I'm sure you will hear more from the trustees that attended but I just want to put a plug in for those that were not able to attend. The April conference may have interest for everyone. This being a negotiation year, and the fact that we have a new government, trustees would gain much awareness by participating in the Labour Relations conference.

Yesterday the School Year calendar Committee met and we have come up with a proposed School Year Calendar for 2019/2020. I will be bringing our recommendations to the three other Directors on Thursday, January 31st. At the conclusion of that meeting the four Directors will be bringing the final draft to their respective boards for approval. I will be bringing the calendar to our February 19 Board Meeting. A joint communication will follow once all four boards have passed a motion regarding the common calendar.

Finally, over the next few weeks I will have Heather contact each of you to arrange dates for school visits. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet and see schools in action.

Itinerary

December 12 Agenda Setting

December 13	Director's Meeting
December 14	City of Sudbury – Poverty Conference Transportation Consortium – AGM Volunteer for the Sudbury Food Bank
December 18	Executive Council
December 19	School Visit – CVDCS
December 20	School Visit – Sudbury Secondary School Manitoulin Secondary School Awards
January 8	Executive Council
January 9	OSSTF meeting
January 10	School Principal Visits Northeastern Elementary School Alexander Public School
January 11	Student Achievement School Visit - C.R. Judd Public School ETFO meeting (ERC)
January 14	Student Achievement School Visit - Lockerby Composite School
January 15	Executive Council Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
January 16	Agenda Setting
January 17	School Principal Visits Cyril Varney Public School Carl A. Nesbitt Public School
January 22	Executive Council
January 23-25	Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) meeting, Toronto
January 25/26	Public Education Symposium (PES) for Trustees, Toronto
January 28	OSSTF meeting Agenda Setting Safe Schools Meeting School Year Calendar meeting
January 29	Executive Council Board Meeting

8. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement reported that he attended the PES conference this past weekend in Toronto, put on by OPSBA. He reminded that all agendas and minutes can be found on the OPSBA website. Trustee Clement commented that there was a 40% turnover in trustees throughout the province after the last municipal election and the attendance at this conference was higher than usual. He commented on the excellent breakout sessions that were available to trustees and appreciated the *Guide to Good Governance* that was made available to trustees.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Golden reported that student senators held another productive meeting last week.

The survey that was sent out in December has closed and the student senators have reviewed the results. In response to the student suggestions in the survey, a conference has been scheduled for March 21 “Stand up for Acceptance”. Mary Jago is helping student senators organize the conference.

9. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Kosmerly spoke about the Public Education System (PES) conference that she attended last week in Toronto. She reported on the excellent sessions, was happy the Ministry of Education spoke to the group and was pleased to attend a meeting with trustees from northern boards. There was discussion of “one board”.

Trustee Clement showed the *rules of order and parliamentary procedure* wheel that he received at the PES conference.

10. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

Before I share the good news stories for the month, I want to take this opportunity to share the following.

I believe that local decision-making is essential to student success.

What works in Toronto and other large urban centers does not necessarily work in Rainbow Board. What works for school boards in the far north cannot necessarily solve the challenges of our area. Every area has different needs and requires different approaches to providing the opportunities that will result in student success.

I do not profess to understand the difficulties of the delivery of education in large urban areas. When I point out that Rainbow’s challenges cannot be solved with “Made in Southern Ontario Solutions”, I am not saying that Southern Ontario does not have difficulties. I am saying that the difficulties are *different*.

Local decisions provide local student success and we need to deliver that message whenever, however and to whoever we can.

Tomorrow is *Bell Let's Talk Day*. We invite everyone to join the conversation about mental health, including signing the banner in the reception area. Rainbow District School Board is committed to end the stigma as it continues to support student wellbeing. I would like to take a few moments to highlight some initiatives.

On January 22 and 23, 2019, fifteen educators in Rainbow Schools took part in Suicide Intervention Workshops also known as A.S.I.S.T or "Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training".

The Board is teaming up with Public Health Sudbury & District to pilot a social skills training intervention program called PEERS. The Program for the Education and Enrichment of Relational Skills was developed by UCLA for teens with autism spectrum disorder.

Another initiative: students in Grades 1 and 6 are engaged in Kids Have Stress Too! a program that aims to positively influence social and emotional development in children.

Jack Talks are mental health presentations delivered by young people to young people and they are coming to Rainbow secondary schools in February. Guest speakers from Jack.org will use the power of their personal stories to inspire and educate students about mental health, including signs of distress and resources for help.

Thank you to all staff that are actively committed to the Rainbow Board's Mental Health Strategic Plan.

Secondary School Information Nights continue in Rainbow secondary schools at Confederation Secondary School, Manitoulin Secondary School, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School, Lasalle Secondary School, and Espanola High School. Please check the website for dates and times.

On Thursday, February 7, 2019, the Board's Environmental Committee invites staff and students to turn down the heat and wear a sweater. The event is intended to raise awareness about renewable energy and change behaviour around energy consumption.

Friday, March 1, 2019 is the deadline for parents/guardians of students with special needs and exceptionalities in the Rainbow District School Board to provide input into the 2019-2020 Special Education Plan. The survey is available online at rainbowschools.ca.

The thought for the month comes from Oliver Napoleon Hill, an American self-help author best known for his book *Think and Grow Rich*. Mr. Hill said, "*Whatever the mind can conceive and believe, it can achieve.*"

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

2. Non-Staff Communications

Letter to Minister of Education Lisa Thompson dated December 14, 2018

Letter from Rainy River DSB dated January 14, 2019

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Student Senate Meeting February 4, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Feb 5, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

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

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee Feb 20, 2019 4:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom

Board Meeting February 19, 2019 5:00 pm Boardroom

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

Parent Involvement Cmttee February 26, 2019 7:00 pm Boardroom

Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting Mar 6, 2019 3:30 pm Centre for Education Room 125

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 19-R42, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That we now adjourn at 8:05 p.m. – **Carried.**