

**RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury  
on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

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Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, D. Morrison, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, K. St. Jean, M. Stringer (via google hangout), Student Trustee H. Golden  
Officials: B. Bourget – Superintendent and Acting Secretary of the Board  
D. Bazinet - Superintendent of Business  
J. Noble - Superintendent  
N. Charette, C. Whitson  
Others: T. Hayes, S. Kett, G. Gauthier, N. Mousseau, D. Franco Villa (Barrydowne College graduate)

Chair Dewar advised that the meeting was being live-streamed and requested that cell phones be turned off during the meeting.

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.

The definition of a tragedy is *"an event involving great suffering, destruction, and distress, such as a serious accident, crime, or natural catastrophe."*

Our world experienced two such events in less than a week.

Experts are studying the Ethiopian air disaster with the view of addressing a problem that might be fixed through science and technology.

The violent loss of lives in the New Zealand mosque shootings, however, cannot be resolved through innovation.

We must each make a personal commitment to eradicate racism, hatred and violence through compassion, kindness and peace.

May it comfort those directly affected by these tragedies to know that they are in our thoughts and in our prayers.

Please join me in a moment of silence.

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 19-R50, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of March 19, 2019 be approved.

- **Carried**

**B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL**

**C. PRESENTATION**

Barrydowne College

Superintendent Noble introduced Principal Susan Kett, who provided a presentation on Barrydowne College; a reengagement school that supports students aged 18-21.

Principal Kett introduced a recent Barrydowne graduate who spoke of his positive experiences within Barrydowne on his road to graduation.

Principal Kett provided a presentation on the background of the school and provided data and statistics that included graduation rates, student success and general student enrolment information.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions and comment.

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

Chair Dewar presented a copy of a letter received from the Ontario Ombudsman's office dated February 11, 2019. After discussion it was decided to attach the letter to the agenda of the March 19, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion: 19-R51, D. Morrison/J. Hunda

That the report from the In-Camera Committee of the Whole Board Meeting of February 19, 2019 be received. - **Carried**

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Previous Minutes**

Motion: 19-R52, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 be approved. - **Carried**

**2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals**

Motion: 19-R53, D. Morrison/B. Clement

That the Board award the contract for Lockerby Composite School, unit ventilator upgrades - tender #2019-04 to Metal-Air Mechanical Systems Ltd. for \$229,030. - **Carried**

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

## Strategic Planning Committee

Notice of Motion: 19-R54, D. Morrison

That I or someone on my behalf shall move or cause to be moved at the next Board meeting that the changes to *Governance By-Law-13 Conflict of Interest* be approved. – **Carried**

## Special Education Advisory Committee

The Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) recommended to the board that a letter be sent to the Ministry of Education regarding changes to the Ontario Autism Program and the significant adverse impact these changes will have on student programs and services in Rainbow District School Board.

Motion: 19-R55, J. Kosmerly/M. Stringer

That a letter be sent to the Ministry of Education regarding changes to the Ontario Autism Program and the significant adverse impact these changes will have on student programs and services in Rainbow District School Board.

– **Carried unanimously**

Amendment: D. Morrison/J. Hunda

..... with a cc to the federations. – **Carried unanimously**

## **F. NEW BUSINESS**

### 1. Property

Motion: 19-R56, B. Clement/J. Hunda

That the former A.B. Ellis Public School building only, located at 128 Park Street, Espanola P5E1S7 be declared surplus to the needs of Rainbow District School Board. - **Carried**

### 2. **Ontario Public School Board Association Annual General Meeting**

Motion: 19-R57, D. Morrison/K. St Jean

That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2019 OPSBA Annual General Meeting in Toronto July 4 to 7, 2019:

Trustee Gibson, Trustee Hunda, Trustee Clement - **Carried**

### 3. **Requests for Leave of Absence** NIL

### 4. **Director's Remarks**

Principal/Vice Principal Appointments

Elementary

Acting Principal Nadia Berardelli appointed as Principal of Markstay Public School effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Principal Jennifer Harvey appointed as Principal at Lansdowne Public School effective August 19 2019.

Acting Principal Patrick Hopkin appointed as Principal at Jean Hanson Public School effective August 19 2019.

Acting Principal Elizabeth Mack appointed as Principal at Larchwood Public School effective August 19 2019.

Acting Principal Heather Pennie appointed as Principal at Assiginack Public School effective August 19 2019.

Acting Vice-Principal Shannon Lafrance-Pitura appointed as Vice Principal at MacLeod Public School effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Vice-Principal Elisa McNeil appointed as Vice Principal at Princess Anne Public School effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Vice Principal Kristen Pichette appointed as Vice Principal of R.L. Beattie Public School effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Vice Principal Kim Reisiger appointed as Vice Principal of Churchill Public School effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Vice Principal David Squarzolo appointed as Vice Principal of A.B. Ellis Public School effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Vice Principal Cheryl Vincent appointed as Vice Principal of Lansdowne PS effective August 19, 2019.

### **Secondary**

Acting Principal Heather Downey appointed as Principal of Sudbury SS effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Principal Susan Kett appointed as Principal of Barrydowne College effective August 19, 2019.

Acting Vice Principal Denis Lafleur appointed as Vice Principal of Manitoulin Secondary School effective March 4, 2019.

Acting Vice Principal Ryan Lafreniere appointed as Vice Principal of Lockerby Composite School effective August 19, 2019.

There are additional acting principals and acting vice principals who will remain in their current roles.

With regards to the class size announcement, the board is working to determine the impact this will have on the board and staffing. It is too early to tell as a variety of factors are still unknown such as predicted enrolment, retirements, details in GSN and attrition factor.

5. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement advised that he attended the OPSBA Director’s meeting in Toronto on February 22, 2019. He mentioned the various topics discussed included Bill C369, Bill C91, Fund consultation, Indigenous Education, TRC Curriculum, Autism Policy, Class sizes and French as a Second Language.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Golden reported that Student Senate is hosting the Stand Up for Positivity Conference on Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Centre for Education and extended a big thank you to Mary Jago and the student senators for the hard work in getting the conference prepared.

Student Trustee Golden reported that there was a lot of discussion with provincial student trustees regarding the e-learning announcement with an overall negative response to the announcement. Student Trustees are suggesting that providing the options for e-learning is great but the students feel it should not be mandatory.

6. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Morrison looks forward to a report on the impact of the class size changes.

Trustee Morrison congratulated LoEllen Park student, Brendon Matusch on being selected as 1 of 8 students to represent Canada at an international science fair.

7. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

Before the good news.....

The Ministry of Education has proudly boasted about their commitment to consultation. In August, Minister of Education, Lisa Thompson said, “We will embark on a broad and robust public consultation process that will focus on engaging parents and guardians, students and other stakeholders.”

On March 15, the government released “[\*Education that Works for You, a bold new vision for Ontario’s education system\*](#)”. Minister Thompson announced, “We conducted the largest public consultation on education in the province’s history. We heard from parents, teachers, students, employers, partners and stakeholders.”

And there may very well be excellent learning opportunities in the new vision for Ontario’s Education system. The devil is in the details and we have yet to unravel the details.

But I would like to know who the province consulted that suggested that student success would improve if we would just increase class sizes. Why didn't we think of that? Little did we know that in order to have "*Education that works for you*", we need to raise the class size caps.

Another part of the "vision" is e-learning. Which of the many groups consulted, recommended that students learn best sitting in front of a computer monitor? It wasn't the students. Was it the teachers, the parents? So who was it?

And perhaps most significantly, which of the many groups consulted, provided the suggestion that the way to deal with waiting lists for children with autism is simply to eliminate the process to get on a waiting list? Get rid of waiting lists and move these children into the school system where, by the way, they will be met with increased class sizes.

I find it difficult to join with OPSBA in congratulating the government for their consultation process. And I am seriously asking: who are they consulting with?

Rainbow District School Board's Student Senate will host a Stand Up for Positivity conference (day after tomorrow) on Thursday, March 21st. Students from all secondary schools will participate in the full-day event, which will take place at the Centre for Education. This initiative will help to build school cultures focused on wellness, where students help each other and those experiencing stress can access peers for support.

The Sudbury Regional Science Fair is being held in the Alumni Hall at Laurentian University on Saturday, April 6th and Sunday, April 7th. The public is invited to view projects in the Alumni Hall on April 6th from 1 pm to 4 pm and on April 7th from 12:45 pm to 1:15 pm. Students will be selected to compete at the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Ottawa this May.

Grade 7 and 8 students in Rainbow School will take part in the Math, Science and Technology Olympics on Thursday, April 11th in the Vale Cavern at Science North. Each year, over 100 eager students are challenged to test their knowledge and skills in math, science and technology. Parents/guardians and members of the public are welcome to attend.

The Joan Mantle Music Trust International Dinner and Silent Auction will take place on Saturday, April 13th. This is the 11th anniversary of the Trust, which has raised more than \$240,000 since its inception.

The thought for the month is from Ambrose Bierce, an American short story writer, journalist, poet, and Civil War veteran. He said that the definition of Consult is "*To seek approval for a course of action already decided upon.*"

## **G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

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

First Nation Advisory Committee minutes September 13, 2018 (official)  
Parent Involvement Committee minutes October 30, 2018 (official)  
Parent Involvement Committee minutes December 4, 2018 (official)

### **2. Non-Staff Communications**

Letter from Ombudsman dated February 11, 2019  
Letter from OPSBA dated February 14, 2019 (Re: Engagement Guides)  
Letter from OPSBA dated February 14, 2019 (RE: Reg 132/12 & Reg 274/12)  
Letter from OPSBA dated February 26, 2019 (RE: Ontario Autism Program)  
Letter to Minister of Education dated March 12, 2019 (RE: One Board)

## **H. FUTURE MEETINGS**

Parent Involvement Committee April 2, 2019 7:00 pm Boardroom  
Special Education Advisory Cmttee April 3, 2019 12:00 pm Centre for Education Room 125  
Student Senate Meeting April 8, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkkeris Boardroom  
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting April 9, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkkeris Boardroom  
Board Meeting April 23, 2019 5:00 pm Boardroom  
Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting May 1, 2019 3:30 pm Centre for Education Room 125  
First Nation Advisory Committee May 16, 2019 10:00 am Centre for Education Room 125  
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee May 16, 2019 4:00 pm Ernie Checkkeris Boardroom

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 19-R58, B. Clement/D.Morrison

That we now adjourn at 6:36 p.m. – **Carried.**