

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

held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury  
on Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

---

Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, L. Debassige, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, K. St. Jean, M. Stringer, Student Trustee C. Gauvreau

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: A. Conley-Cayer, K. Dokis, R. Duffy, L. Fisher, H. Gaffney, G. Gauthier, T. Hayes, S. Kett, L. Lielkalns, C. McDonald, N. Mousseau, D. St. Amour, C. Wilson and members of the public.

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

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 19-R102 J.Kosmerly/K.St.Jean

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of September 24, 2019 be approved. - **Carried**

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

**C. PRESENTATION**

Summer Programs for Students

Superintendent Noble reported that there were eight different summer programs during summer 2019.

Colleen McDonald, Principal of Special Education, spoke about three Special Education Programs available during the month of July.

Ashley Conley-Cayer, Principal of Kindergarten Summer Camp 2019, spoke about the success of this day program that was available at 23 Rainbow schools and was attended by approximately 350 young students.

Carrie Wilson, CODE Summer Learning Program Principal, spoke of this successful program that was available to students in grades 1 to 5 for the 9<sup>th</sup> consecutive. Again this year, the Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) provided funding.

Richard Duffy, Summer Learning Gr. 6-8 Program Consultant, provided information about the program offered at Princess Anne PS for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. Forty-six students from 14 Rainbow schools attended and results provided proved that this program is making a difference in numeracy and literacy.

Kathy Dokis, Principal, Indigenous Education, provided details about Indigenous Summer School that was available at Espanola HS, Manitoulin SS and Lively District SS in July. Trustees viewed a video produced by students in the summer program, highlighting the opportunities the students had to work with Elders and other guest speakers, visit First Nation communities and explore Cambrian College.

Dave St. Amour, Secondary Program Summer School Principal, shared information and results about eLearning Summer School, Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC) Blended Learning and Three Credit Coop. He shared data about the success for students in achieving credits and graduating through summer program offerings.

Laurie-Ann Lielkalns, Site Lead at Barrydowne College Summer Program, shared results for those attending the program.

Trustees had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions. Trustees were extremely pleased with the results from all summer school programs.

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

Motion: 19-R103 D.Morrison/B.Clement

That the report from the Labour Relations Committee of August 27, 2019 be approved. - **Carried**

**E. OLD BUSINESS**

**1. Previous Minutes**

Motion: 19-R104, J.Hunda/M.Stringer

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, August 27, 2019 be approved. – **Carried**

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

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

**Environmental Education Committee**

Superintendent Noble shared a report from the Environmental Education Committee regarding climate change which included two students from R.L. Beattie PS who spoke about the “*Beattie Barons – Climate Change Warriors*” and what they are doing daily to reduce their carbon footprint.

Superintendent Noble provided information regarding Rainbow Ecoschools and the commitment that every student, every teacher and every classroom has in this important initiative.

Trustees discussed and asked questions.

Motion: 19-R105, J.Hunda/M.Stringer

That Rainbow District School Board declare a climate change emergency and create a climate change action plan including having 100% of Rainbow Schools certified as Ecoschools within three years, with each school committed to reducing its carbon footprint and increasing sustainable practices.

Trustee Stringer requested a poll vote.

*Bob Clement: In-favour*

*Doreen Dewar: In-favour*

*Linda Debassige – In-favour*

*Anita Gibson: Abstained*

*Judy Hunda: In-favour*

*Judy Kosmerly: In-favour*

*Dena Morrison: In-favour*

*Kerrie St.Jean: In-favour*

*Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

– **Carried**

## **F. NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Ontario Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Special Education Conference 2019**

Motion: 19-R106, D.Morrison/J.Hunda

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the CEC 63<sup>rd</sup> Annual Special Education Conference in Toronto November 29 – 30, 2019:

Trustee Debassige, Trustee Kosmerly, Trustee St. Jean, Trustee Stringer

– **Carried**

### **2. Ontario Student Trustee Association (OSTA) Fall General Meeting**

Motion: 19-R107, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Gauvreau at the OSTA Fall General Meeting October 17 to 20, 2019 in Toronto. – **Carried**

### **3. OSTA-AECO Fees**

Motion 19-R108, L.Debassige/K.St.Jean

That the 2019/20 membership fees in the Ontario Student Trustees' Association be approved. – **Carried**

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

## 5. Director's Remarks

On August 30, ten First Nations representing the communities that have Education Service Agreements with Rainbow DSB gathered at Atikameksheng Anishnawbek and signed off on three-year Education Service Agreements and at the same time were introduced to our 'Commitment to Action' as it relates to the Truth & Reconciliation report. We were honoured to have several guests speak at the signing. Chiefs, elders, former First Nation Trustee Grace Fox, along with many First Nation students, many principals, Rainbow staff and Board members were in attendance.

Trustee Linda Debassige, took on two roles at this event: one as Chief of M'Chigeeng First Nation, the other as Trustee. Trustee Debassige was thanked for her very warm words of support and encouragement.

Atikameksheng Anishnawbek was thanked for hosting and providing such a wonderful venue for the signing of the ESA. A smudge, feast, many speeches, acknowledgements and a dance truly highlighted the significance of the signing. System Principal Kathy Dokis and her staff were thanked for ensuring the ceremony was a huge success.

The Director reported that this week Public Health Sudbury and Districts posted immunization rates for its jurisdiction. Two areas were noted: they include immunization rates for DTP (Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio) and MMR (Measles Mumps and Rubella).

For the former, our schools ranged from 79.4% - 98.6% compliance.

The latter MMR ranged from 82.4% - 100% compliance.

It was noted that many parents may opt for an exemption based on religious reasons. The highest rate for exemption at any one school was 17.6%.

Over all, the immunization rate for schools in its jurisdiction was 92.4% for DPT and 97% for MMR.

The Ministry of Education has announced a new procurement threshold, increasing from \$25,000 to \$100,000. Superintendent of Business, Dennis Bazinet provided details.

Recently the Ministry of Education released information about Reciprocal Education Approach (REA) on its website. It is important to note that RDSB, through its Educational Service Agreements (ESAs) have agreements that are much more comprehensive. It is important that the public is aware that written approvals by the band are required for a student living on-reserve to attend a provincially run public school. Secondly, an off- reserve student wanting to attend a First Nation school must register with their home school first then attend the band school. There will be more to come on REAs.

The Director advised that adjustments to staffing complements would occur this week. With Increased enrolment, primary class size and collective agreement compliance will be reflected in school reorganizations this week. Superintendent Bourget provided additional information.

Jody Levesque, Payroll Supervisor, was acknowledged for her work by the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan. She was recognized for the accuracy of her work and timely pension data compared with other boards in the province.

Itinerary:

August 28	RDPC – Elementary meeting Agenda setting
August 30	Education Services Agreement signing Atikameksheng Anishnawbek
September 3	PA day Exec Council meeting
September 4	School Visits (11 site inspections, transportation and construction scan)
September 9	OSSTF meeting
September 10	Exec Council meeting Strategic Planning Committee Meeting
September 11	Agenda Setting
September 12	'Wear Pink" Day SATSO (Student Achievement and Superintendent Officers) Meeting
September 13	School visits: Adamsdale Public School Northeastern Elementary School
September 16	School visits with Trustee St. Jean Princess Anne Public School Jean Hanson Public School Copper Cliff Public School Lively District Secondary School & 7/8s Walden Public School R.H. Murray Public School
September 17	Exec Council meeting
September 19	PCODE, Toronto
September 20	PCODE, Toronto
September 23	Population Health, Safety & Well-Being Panel (PHHSP) Fielding Park

## Audit Committee meeting

September 24      Exec Council meeting  
Board Meeting

### 6. **Other Items**

OPSBA Delegate – Trustee Clement reported that he will be attending the first OPSBA Director's meeting on September 27, 2019 in Toronto, as well as the 2019 Northern Regional Meeting and Program in Thunder Bay on October 4 & 5, 2019.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Gauvreau reported that the first Student Senate meeting of the 2019-2020 school year was held on September 9, 2019. Student Senate is accepting applications to be part of the committee until Friday, September 27, 2019 as there are still a few vacancies to be filled.

Student Trustee Gauvreau advised that she attended a meeting of the OSTA Student Achievement Working Group this past weekend via tele-conference in her role as Co-Chair.

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

Trustee Stringer advised trustees of the partnership with Manitoulin Streams and the positive impact their initiatives are having on students on Manitoulin Island. Specifically, Little Current PS has set up a micro-hatchery.

Trustee Stringer also advised that she took part in the annual Agricultural School Fair put on by Central Manitoulin PS students and staff, the Manitowaning Fall Fair and the 9<sup>th</sup> annual Kenjgewin Teg Fall Fair.

Trustee Stringer requested that a future Board Meeting be scheduled at Manitoulin SS, as part of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the school. This would allow trustees to see the renovations in the school as well.

Trustee Morrison advised that as stated in the news media, CUPE is in a legal strike position and work to rule plans are in place commencing Monday, September 30, 2019. In Rainbow schools, CUPE members include cleaners, custodians and maintenance staff.

Trustee Morrison asked if the Ministry has provided any updates on the new JK – 6 school in New Sudbury (nothing received to date).

Trustee St. Jean spoke about her recent visit to schools with Director Blaseg, commenting on all of the great things that are occurring daily in Rainbow schools.

### 8. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Brendon Matusch, a Grade 12 student from Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School is one of 45 Science Fair finalists to represent Canada at the MILSET Expo-Science

International Exhibit in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates from September 22 to 28. Brendon will join some 2,000 young scientists from over 50 countries to showcase innovative projects in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

Circle your calendars

This coming Friday, September 27, there will be no school for students as staff attend a Professional Activity Day.

Rainbow students and staff are invited to wear orange on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to show support for residential school survivors. Orange Shirt Day recognizes the effects and intergenerational impacts of the residential school system on First Nations, Métis, and Inuit children in Canada. September 30, Orange Shirt Day, was the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to attend residential schools.

The Joan Mantle Music Trust Steering Committee will host a media event on Wednesday, October 9, 2019 at 10 am at Sudbury Secondary School's Sheridan Auditorium, to provide an update to the community.

Also on Wednesday, October 9, but at 6 pm, Secondary students are invited to start planning their post-secondary journey during a University Information Program session at Lockerby Composite School. This fair-style event will bring together representatives from all 21 of Ontario's universities.

A summit to discuss youth mental health will take place on Thursday, October 10, from 9 am to 3 pm at Collège Boréal. Students from Rainbow Schools will participate in HEADSTRONG, an evidence-based anti-stigma initiative aimed at inspiring students to Be Brave, Reach Out and Speak Up about mental health.

Rainbow Schools will participate in Eat Local Day on Wednesday, October 16, as Rainbow District School Board continues to focus on education for sustainable development. Operated by Chartwells, secondary school cafeterias will feature a special menu made with local ingredients.

Parents/guardians are invited to a viewing of *Screenagers*, a documentary about growing up in the digital age, on Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 7 pm in Sudbury Secondary School's Sheridan Auditorium. Marcus Schwabe, Host, Morning North, CBC Sudbury will moderate a discussion following the screening.

September and early October, students in Rainbow Schools have been and continue to put their feet to the pavement in support of The Terry Fox Foundation. Please check the Board website for the schedule of schools hosting a run or walk.

We may not like it but winter will soon be upon us so everyone is encouraged to drop off gently used winter clothing at any Rainbow elementary and secondary school for the Winter Clothing Drive powered by Cooper Equipment Rentals.

The thought for the month aligns with declaring a climate change emergency and comes from Chief Seattle, a 19<sup>th</sup> century Native American who was committed to

ecological responsibility. The city of Seattle, Washington was named after him. He said *"We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children."*

"Borrowing" means "returning". I truly believe we owe it to our children to do all we can to return what we borrowed in good condition.

Thank you.

## **G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**  
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes June 5, 2019 (official)
2. **Non-Staff Communications**  
Ontario Teachers Pension Plan Report 2017-2018  
OPSPA 2019-2020 Central Bargaining September 1, 2019

## **H. FUTURE MEETINGS**

First Nation Advisory Committee Sept 26, 2019 10:00 am Centre for Education Room 125  
Special Education Advisory Cmttee Oct 2, 2019 12:00 pm Centre for Education Room 125  
Student Senate Meeting October 7, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Oct 8, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
Environmental Education Cmttee Meeting Oct 9, 2019 3:30 pm Centre for Education Room 125  
Board Meeting October 22, 2019 5:00 pm Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
Parent Involvement Cmttee AGM Oct 29, 2019 7:00 pm Sheridan Auditorium Sudbury SS

## **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 19-R109, K.St.Jean/D.Morrison  
That we now adjourn at 7:35 p.m. – **Carried.**