

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Minutes of the
STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 5:05 pm.

Present: Trustees: D. Morrison (chair), B. Clement, D. Dewar, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, K. St. Jean, Student Trustee C. Gauvreau
Absent: L. Debassige, M. Stringer
Officials: N. Blaseg – Director and Secretary of the Board
D. Bazinet – Superintendent of Business
B. Bourget, K. Wachnuk – Superintendents
Staff: N. Charette, H. Thirkill, D. Kitching, S. Ackroyd, T. Hayes, M. Jago, C. McDonald, R. Thirkill

A. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: K.St.Jean/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Strategic Planning Committee meeting for January 14, 2020 be approved. - **Carried**

Chair Morrison began the meeting with a moment of silence for the Osagie family. Three students from Chelmsford PS were tragically killed on January 1, 2020 in a car accident.

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

C. **PRESENTATIONS**

Supporting Mentally Healthy Schools

Mary Jago, Mental Health Lead, provided a detailed presentation to trustees about mental health and the many challenges faced by students and staff of Rainbow DSB as well as local communities.

Rainbow strives to provide a caring environment for students and often relies on community partnerships to achieve this goal. Mental health is a priority in Rainbow Schools. However, pathways for students and their families to receive support during a crisis situation are not easy to navigate. There is a need to get individual and family needs met, but there is a challenge in connecting families with community agencies for children.

Mary Jago spoke about Mental Health First Aid, which is two days of training for staff. The purpose of this training is to provide staff with strategies and techniques to deal with students, providing individual support with mental health. Trustees showed interest in this training.

Trustees discussed at length. Director Blaseg highlighted some of the challenges and reduction to service that have occurred over the last few years. Trustees are eager to find solutions to fill these gaps in services for students and families.

Trustees requested staff complete a further analysis of the gaps in mental health supports for our students and prepare a draft letter for their consideration at an upcoming Strategic Planning Committee Meeting. Discussion ensued about who it should be directed to i.e. Ministries, MPPs, OPSBA member boards, local agencies, Premier.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Minutes

Motion: J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on November 26, 2019 be approved. – **Carried**

2. Capital and Accommodation Plan Update

Superintendent Bazinet reviewed the report provided to trustees, providing updates regarding the Manitoulin Island Planning area, New Sudbury Planning Area, Sudbury South Planning Area and Valley North Planning Area and the timelines for each project (as an update to the October 22, 2019 report to the Board).

Superintendent Bazinet advised that this report will be posted on the board tomorrow.

Trustees had the opportunity to discuss and ask question.

Sandi Ackroyd, Manager of Capital Project showed photos of ongoing work at Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, Manitoulin Secondary School and the dome being constructed on the Lasalle Secondary School site.

E. **NEW BUSINESS**

F. **FUTURE ITEMS**

EQAO

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Poverty

Policy Review

- Policy No. GOV-05: Code of Conduct: Board Members
- Policy No. GOV-15: Student Accommodation

G. **TRUSTEES' REMARKS**

Chair Morrison advised that Heather Jefkins, teacher at Assiginack PS, has been named as a recipient of the 2019 Governor General's Award of Excellence in teaching History and will be travelling to Rideau Hall later this month to accept this award. Congratulations to Heather!

Director Blaseg advised that admin staff are supporting schools with Kindergarten Open Houses this week as teachers and some office staff will not be attending (per OSSTF and ETFO work to rule). Superintendent Noble is assisting with registration at Princess Anne PS this evening.

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

February 4, 2020

March 3, 2020

April 7, 2020

May 5, 2020

June 9, 2020

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: K.St.Jean/B.Clement

That the meeting be adjourned (8:10 pm). - **Carried**