

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held electronically via Google Meet
and livestreamed from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

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

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, C. Whitson

Others: G. Gauthier, T. Hayes, S. Ackroyd, D. Digby, N. Mousseau, C. Gauvreau

Chair Dewar advised that the meeting was being live-streamed and archived.
Chair Dewar completed roll call to establish who was participating in the Google Meet Board meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 20-R82, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of September 1, 2020 be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

STUDENT TRUSTEE

Motion: 20-R83, J.Hunda/M.Stringer

That Ava Lafrance (Confederation Secondary School) be appointed Student Trustee for the school year 2020-2021.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour

Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– **Carried Unanimously**

Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance.

Director Blaseg administered the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance to Student Trustee Ava Lafrance and welcomed her to the board table.

Chair Dewar said, “*On behalf of the trustees of the Rainbow District School Board, I’d like to take this opportunity to welcome you, Student Trustee Ava Lafrance, to the Board of Trustees. We sincerely appreciate your commitment to represent the students of our Board and we look forward to working with you in the 2020-2021 school year. Thank you.*”

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATION

Director Blaseg thanked outgoing Student Trustee Colleen Gauvreau for fulfilling her role as Student Trustee in the midst of a global pandemic, demonstrating resilience as she continued to lead the student senate. Director Blaseg highlighted the many accomplishments during her time as student trustee and wished her well in her future as a university student and perhaps one day as a kindergarten teacher.

Colleen Gauvreau was thanked by trustees for her contribution to Rainbow Schools.

Chair Dewar said, “*On behalf of the trustees of the Rainbow District School Board I want to thank you Colleen for your leadership and your dedication during the 2019-2020 school year. It was an extremely challenging year and we appreciate all you did. Thank you again.*”

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

Motion: 20-R84, D.Morrison/K.St.Jean

That the Board ratify the tentative local agreement between the Rainbow District School Board and the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario Rainbow Occasional Teachers' Local (elementary occasional teachers) as recommended by the Labour Relations Committee.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried unanimously

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 20-R85, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on August 18, 2020 be approved.

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals NIL

3. Deferred Motion from the August 18, 2020 Board Meeting

Motion: 20-R86, M.Stringer/J.Hunda

Be it resolved that all students K-12 in Rainbow Schools wear masks at school.

Amendment: A20-R03, M.Stringer/J.Kosmerly

That the motion be amended with the addition of “*With reasonable exceptions*”; that “K” be changed to “1” and with the addition of “*and all Kindergarten students wear masks and/or face shields*”.

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried unanimously

4. 2019-2020 Live Stream Report

Superintendent Bazinet referred to the Board Report provided to trustees. The report provided information gathered during the last twelve months about meeting recordings, archiving and the costs associated.

Motion: 20-R87, K.St.Jean/D.Morrison

That the Regular Board Meetings of Rainbow District School Board held in the Ernie

Checkeris Boardroom continue to be live streamed, recorded and archived and that the AODA compliant recorded meetings be archived for one year and be accessible to the public via a Board provided web link.

Amendment A20-R04, A.Gibson/K.St.Jean

That the motion be amended by the removal of “Regular Board”; the addition of “*including the meetings of a committee of the Board*” ; the removal of “held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom continue to”; the removal of “and that the AODA compliant recorded meetings be archived for one year”; the removal of “via a Board provided web link” and the addition of “*and be accessible to the public*”.

Amendment to the Amendment A20-R05, A.Gibson/K.St.Jean

That the amendment (A20-R04) be amended by the removal of “*meetings of a committee of the Board*”, and the addition of “*Strategic Planning Committee Meetings and Parent Involvement Committee Meetings*”

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: Opposed
Linda Debassige: Opposed
Doreen Dewar: Opposed
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: Opposed
Judy Kosmerly: Opposed
Dena Morrison: Opposed
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: Opposed

– Defeated

Amendment to the Amendment: A20-R06, A Gibson

That the amendment (A20-R04) be amended by the removal of “*meetings of a committee of the Board*”, and the addition of “*Strategic Planning Committee Meetings*”.

The amendment to the amendment received no seconder.

Amendment A20-R04, A.Gibson/K.St.Jean

That the motion be amended by the removal of “Regular Board”; the addition of “*including the meetings of a committee of the Board*” ; the removal of “held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom continue to”; the removal of “ and that the AODA compliant recorded meetings be archived for one year” ; the removal of “via a Board provided web link” and the addition of “*and be accessible to the public*”.

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: Opposed
Linda Debassige: In-Favour
Doreen Dewar: Opposed
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: Opposed
Judy Kosmerly: Opposed
Dena Morrison: Opposed
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: Opposed

– Defeated

Motion: 20-R87, M.Stringer/D.Morrison

That the Regular Board Meetings of Rainbow District School Board held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom continue to be live streamed, recorded and archived and that the AODA compliant recorded meetings be archived for one year and be accessible to the public via a Board provided web link.

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– **Carried unanimously**

Motion: 20-R88, D.Morrison/M.Stringer

That the Strategic Planning Committee meetings held in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom be live streamed and that this be reviewed in one year.

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– **Carried unanimously**

Point of order:

Trustee Stringer pointed out that Motion: 20-R86 listed under “#3. *Deferred Motion from the August 18, 2020 Board Meeting*”, **as amended**, had not been voted on.

Motion: 20-R86, M.Stringer/J.Hunda

With reasonable exceptions, be it resolved that in Rainbow Schools all students grades 1-12 wear masks, and all Kindergarten students wear masks and/or face shields.

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: In-favour
Kerrie St Jean: In-favour
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried unanimously

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

6. **September School Reopening Update**

Director Blaseg provided a detailed update on reopening schools.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2019-2020 COVID-19 Expense Report**

Superintendent Bazinet referred to the Board Report provided to trustees. He clearly explained the steps that have been taken since the Ontario Ministry of Education suspended face-to-face instruction in all publicly funded schools on March 13, 2020.

2. **Lasalle Secondary School Project Update**

Superintendent Bazinet provided an update on the Lasalle Secondary School project. A floor plan was projected to show the next phase of construction as the grade 7 and 8 students move into the Lasalle SS site.

Trustees had an opportunity to ask questions.

3. **OPSBA Fees**

Motion: 20-R89, B.Clement/L.Debassige

That the 2020/21 membership fees in the Ontario Public School Boards' Association be approved.

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: In-favour

Linda Debassige: In-favour

Doreen Dewar: In-favour

Anita Gibson: In-favour

Judy Hunda: In-favour

Judy Kosmerly: In-favour

Dena Morrison: In-favour

Kerrie St Jean: In-favour

Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried unanimously

4. **Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Annual General Meeting (AGM)**

The OPSBA Annual General Meeting, usually held in June, was deferred and has now been scheduled for Saturday, September 26, 2020, via video conference.

Motion: 20-R90, D.Morrison/K.St.Jean

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the OPSBA AGM via video conference September 26, 2020:

Trustee Debassige

Trustee Gibson

Trustee Kosmerly

Poll Vote

Bob Clement: In-favour

Linda Debassige: In-favour

Doreen Dewar: In-favour

Anita Gibson: In-favour

Judy Hunda: In-favour

Judy Kosmerly: In-favour

Dena Morrison: In-favour

Kerrie St Jean: In-favour

Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

5. **Requests for Leave of Absence** NIL

6. **Director's Remarks**

Itinerary

August 19 Agenda Setting

August 20 Deputy Minister Teleconference
Regional Teleconference
Local Teleconference
First Nation Portfolio Meeting

August 21 School Visits:
S.Geiger Public School
Little Current Public School

August 23 School Visits:
Central Manitoulin Public School
Manitoulin Secondary School

August 24 Exec Council
Ministry of Education/Chair – Teleconference
PCODE Teleconference

August 25 Exec Council

August 26 Directors Meeting
First Nation Portfolio Meeting

August 27 Staff Orientation
Deputy Minister Teleconference

Regional Tele-conference
Exec Council
School Visits:
Chelmsford Valley DCS
Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School

August 28 Exec Council
Public Health Sudbury and District -Teleconference

August 31 Exec Council

September 1 Exec Council
Labour Relations Committee meeting
Board meeting

7. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Clement reported that there is no OPSBA Directors' meeting scheduled at this time.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Lafrance thanked trustees for the opportunity to join the Board table.

8. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Gibson spoke about a news item last week re the Fabio Belli group.

Trustee Morrison reported that she read about an instant COVID test to be used as a home-based screening tool.

Trustee Stringer welcomed staff and students back to another school year.

Trustee Hunda welcomed all to the 2020-2021 school year.

9. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Last week, some of Rainbow's youngest students participated in Kindergarten Camp. The five-day program ran for three hours a day at a number of schools. Under the guidance of qualified teachers and designated early childhood educators, children got a glimpse of daily routines, including proper hand hygiene, all in preparation for the start of school.

A series of three Professional Activity Days began today and will continue through Thursday. The focus is on COVID-19 protocols, health and safety training, mental health, the new math curriculum and remote learning platforms.

Labour Day is on Monday, September 7th. The school year begins on Tuesday, September 8th with staggered starts to ease the transition for staff, students and families. For the complete list of start dates, visit the Board's website.

Staff and students in Rainbow Schools will wear pink on Thursday, September 17th, as Rainbow District School Board marks its 13th annual “Stand Up Against Bullying Day”. We invite everyone in the community to join with us and wear pink.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all students, staff and families as we reopen Rainbow Schools.

Whether attending school in person or online, our educators and support staff look forward to reconnecting and embarking on the journey of learning together.

As always, health and safety is our first and foremost priority. We invite everyone to read the Reopening Guide for Rainbow Schools to learn about the many protocols being implemented in response to COVID-19.

Providing a strong circle of care in this time of uncertainty is more important than ever. While we resume teaching and learning against the backdrop of a global pandemic, rest assured we remain focused on student well-being and achievement.

Never before has it been so necessary for school, home and community to work together as partners. Our schools are safe because our communities are safe. We are fortunate to have willing and able partners working together for a common goal.

We can do this!

I want to share two thoughts for this month. They come from two different American Presidents and both seem extremely relevant at this unique time.

The first is from Lyndon B. Johnson who said:
“Yesterday is not ours to recover, but tomorrow is ours to win or lose.”

The second quote comes from Jimmy Carter who said:
“You can do what you have to do, and sometimes you can do it even better than you think you can.”

I repeat, “We can do this!”

Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

2. Non-Staff Communications

Letter to Minister Lecce dated August 24, 2020

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Student Senate Meeting September 14, 2020 5:00 pm

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Sept 15, 2020 5:00 pm Boardroom

Special Education Advisory Committee Sept 16, 2020 12:00 pm
First Nation Advisory Committee Sept 24, 2020 10:00 am
Board Meeting September 29, 2020 5:00 pm Boardroom
Parent Involvement Committee AGM October 20, 2020 7:00 pm To be determined

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 20-R91, D.Morrison/K.St.Jean
That we now adjourn at 8:35 p.m. – **Carried.**

Official