

**RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

to be held electronically via Google Meet  
in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive  
on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

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| <b>AGENDA<br/>AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS</b> |
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**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA \*Chair**

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 26, 2021 be approved.

**B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST \*Chair**

**C. PRESENTATIONS \*Chair**

Financial Literacy – Superintendent Noble

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

**E. OLD BUSINESS \*Director**

**1. Previous Minutes \*Chair**

a) Motion:

That the minutes of the Organizational Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 be approved.

b) Motion:

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 8 2020 be approved.

**2. 2020-2021 School Year Update \*Director**

**3. Tenders/Requests for Proposals \*SBO**

a) Motion:

That the Board award the contract for Construction Management Services – RFP #2021-05 to \_\_\_\_\_ .

- b) Motion:  
That the Board award the contract for Central Manitoulin Public School, domestic water piping & heating plant upgrades-tender #2021-03 to \_\_\_\_\_ for \$\_\_\_\_\_.00.

4. **Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees** \*Chair

F. **NEW BUSINESS** \*Chair

1. **Revised Estimates 2020-2021** \*SBO

2. **Public Education Symposium (PES) 2021** \*Chair

Motion:

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the Virtual 2021 Public Education Symposium to be held via Zoom on Thursday, January 28, 2021.

3. **Ontario Student Trustee Association - Board Council Conference** \*Chair

Motion:

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Lafrance at the Virtual OSTA-AECO Board Council Conference February 18 to 21, 2021.

4. **Requests for Leave of Absence** \*Chair

Motion:

That \_\_\_\_\_ be granted a leave of absence from the January 26, 2021 Board meeting.

5. **Director's Remarks** \*Director

6. **Other Items** \*Chair

OPSBA Director  
Student Trustee

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** \*Chair

***Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.***

8. **Chairperson's Remarks** \*Chair

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** \*Chair

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Parent Involvement Committee minutes December 1, 2020 (official)

Special Education Advisory Committee minutes Dec 2, 2021 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

\*Chair

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting February 2, 2021 5:00 pm Boardroom  
Special Education Advisory Committee February 3, 2021 12:00 pm  
Student Senate Meeting February 8, 2021 5:00 pm  
Equity & Inclusion Education Committee February 11, 2021 4:00 pm  
Board Meeting February 16, 2021 5:00 pm Boardroom  
First Nation Advisory Committee February 18, 2021 10:00 am  
Parent Involvement Committee Meeting February 23, 2021 7:00 pm  
Environmental Education Committee Meeting March 3, 2021 3:30 pm

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

\*Chair

Motion:

That we do now adjourn at            p.m.

Rainbow District School Board

**MINUTES OF THE  
ORGANIZATIONAL BOARD MEETING**

Held electronically via Google Meet  
from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
in the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury  
on Tuesday, December 8, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: B. Clement, L. Debassige, D. Dewar, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, D. Morrison, K. St. Jean, M. Stringer, Student Trustee A. Lafrance  
Officials: N. Blaseg - Director of Education  
D. Bazinet – Superintendent of Business  
B. Bourget, J. Noble, K. Wachnuk – Superintendents  
N. Charette, H. Thirkill, C. Whitson, D. Kitching, M. McKelvey

1. **Call to Order**

Director Blaseg called the meeting to order.

Director Blaseg completed roll call to establish who was participating in the Google Meet.

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: 21-R01, D.Morrison/M.Stringer

That the agenda for the Organizational meeting of the Board of December 8, 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**

3. **Election of Chair**

Director Blaseg reviewed the process for the upcoming elections and committee placements.

Director Blaseg called for nominations for the position of Chair of Rainbow District School Board.

Dena Morrison nominated Doreen Dewar.

- a) Motion: 21-R02, B.Clement/L.Debassige  
That nominations be closed.

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**

- b) Motion: 21-R03, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly  
That Doreen Dewar be acclaimed Chair of Rainbow District School Board.

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. **In-Coming Chair's Remarks**

Chair Dewar stated: "I consider serving as chair of the Rainbow Board to be an honour and a privilege and for that, I thank you".

5. **Presentation to Outgoing Chair** NIL

6. **Past Chair's Remarks** NIL

Director Blaseg handed the gavel to Trustee/Chair Dewar

7. **Election of Vice-Chair**

Margaret Stringer nominated Dena Morrison for the position of Vice-Chair.

- a) Motion: 21-R04, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly  
That nominations be closed.

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**

- b) Motion: 21-R05, M.Stringer/J.Hunda  
That Dena Morrison be acclaimed Vice-Chair of Rainbow District School Board.

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**

8. **Membership on Standing Board Committees**

- Motion: 21-R06, B.Clement/J.Kosmerly  
That the membership on Standing Board Committees 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**

**Accessibility Planning Committee**

Trustee Kerrie St. Jean

**Audit Committee (year 3 of 4)**

Trustee Judy Hunda

Trustee Dena Morrison

Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Environmental Education Committee**

Trustee Judy Hunda  
Student Trustee Ava Lafrance

**Equity and Inclusive Education Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Linda Debassige  
Trustee Judy Kosmerly

**First Nations Advisory Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Linda Debassige  
Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Labour Relations Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Doreen Dewar  
Trustee Judy Hunda  
Trustee Dena Morrison  
Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Parent Involvement Committee**

Trustee Judy Kosmerly

**School Year Structure Committee**

Trustee Anita Gibson  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean  
Student Trustee Ava Lafrance

**Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**

Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean  
Trustee Dena Morrison (alternate)  
Trustee Margaret Stringer (alternate)

**Strategic Planning Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Linda Debassige  
Trustee Doreen Dewar  
Trustee Anita Gibson  
Trustee Judy Hunda  
Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Dena Morrison  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean  
Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Student Senate**

Trustee Bob Clement  
Trustee Judy Hunda  
Student Trustee Ava Lafrance

9. **OPSBA (Ontario Public School Boards' Association)**

a) **OPSBA Director**

Dena Morrison nominated Bob Clement.

1. **Motion: 21-R07, J.Kosmerly/D.Morrison**

That nominations be closed.

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. **Motion: 21-R08, L.Debassige/M.Stringer**

That Bob Clement be acclaimed Rainbow District School Board's voting delegate to the Ontario Public School Board's Association.

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**

b) **Alternate Director**

Dena Morrison nominated Judy Kosmerly.

1. **Motion: 21-R09, D.Morrison/J.Hunda**

That nominations be closed.

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. Motion: 21-R10, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That Judy Kosmerly be acclaimed Rainbow District School Board's voting alternate to the Ontario School Boards' Association.

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**

10. Board Policy No. GOV-05 Code of Conduct: Board Members

At the Annual Organizational Meeting, two alternate Trustees shall be chosen by the Board to be used when the circumstance warrant that one or both Trustees are needed in place of the Chair and/or Vice-Chair to carry out the duties required under this policy.

a) Call for nominations.

Dena Morrison nominated Judy Hunda.  
Bob Clement nominated Margaret Stringer.  
Linda Debassige nominated herself.  
Anita Gibson nominated herself.

Motion: 21-R11, D.Morrison/B.Clement

That nominations be closed. - **Carried**

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**

Motion: 21-R12, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That Linda Debassige be declared elected first alternate as per Board Policy No. GOV-05 Code of Conduct: Board Members.

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**

b) Call for nominations.

Dena Morrison nominated Judy Hunda.  
Judy Kosmerly nominated M. Stringer  
Anita Gibson nominated herself.

Motion: 21-R13, B.Clement/M.Stringer

That nominations be closed.

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**

Motion: 21-R14, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That Margaret Stringer be declared elected second alternate as per Board Policy No. GOV-05 Code of Conduct: Board Members.

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**

11. **BALLOTS**

Motion: 21-R15, J.Kosmerly/D.Morrison

That the ballots for all positions be destroyed.

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**

13. **Adjournment**

Motion: 21-R16, J.Hunda/M.Stringer  
That we now adjourn (6:25 p.m.). - **Carried**

Unofficial

**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, December 8, 2020 at 6:25 p.m.

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Present: Trustees: D. Dewar (Chair), B. Clement, L. Debassige, 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: D. Kitching, T. Hayes, K. Kozman, C. McDonald, M. McKelvey, N. Mousseau

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

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 21-R17, J.Kosmerly/M.Stringer

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of December 8, 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

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

**C. PRESENTATION NIL**

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

1. Motion: 21-R18, D.Morrison/J.Hunda

That the Board ratify the tentative local agreement between the Rainbow District School Board and the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario Rainbow Designated Early Childhood Educators.

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. Motion: 21-R19, D.Morrison/M.Stringer

That the Board ratify the tentative local agreement between the Rainbow District School Board and the Ontario Public Service Employees Union Local 614 (Educational Assistants) and Communicative Disorder Assistants.

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

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 21-R20 J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on November 17, 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

a) Motion: 21-R21 J.Hunda/D.Morrison

That the Board award the contract for Jean Hanson Public School, window replacement and interior renovations-tender #2021-01 to 510308 Ontario Limited o/a Valley Painting and Construction Services for \$155,033.00.

### 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

b) Motion: 21-R22 B.Clement/D.Morrison

That the Board award the contract for Lansdowne Public School, entrance upgrades and interior renovations-tender #2021-02 to Magnum Constructors Inc. for \$328,000.

### 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

### 3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

#### Audit Committee

i) Audit Committee Annual Report

Trustee Morrison, Chair of the Audit Committee, provided information from the 2019-2020 Audit Committee Report to the Ministry of Education.

ii) 2019/20 Financial Statements

Superintendent Bazinet introduced Derek D'Angelo, Lead Audit Engagement Partner from KPMG, who presented the consolidated financial statements for the 2019-2020 school year and responded to questions from trustees.

Motion: 21-R23 D.Morrison/J.Hunda

That the 2019/20 Financial Statements 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*

– Carried unanimously

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Rainbow International COVID-19 Update**

Superintendent Noble International Program Lead Melanie Bertrand, provided trustees with an update on Rainbow International during the COVID-19 pandemic. Information was shared about the impact on enrolment in the Rainbow International program and the plans for moving forward.

Motion: 21-R24 J.Kosmerly/D.Morrison

That the Board approve the K-12 Designated Learning Institutions (DLI) Framework to ensure readiness to accept international students in Rainbow Schools.

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. Director's Annual Report**

Director Blaseg reviewed the 2019-2020 Annual Report. This will be distributed electronically again this year. Once this is AODA compliant it will be posted on the website. Trustees expressed appreciation to Director Blaseg for the content of the report and to Nicole Charette for the presentation of the material. Chair Dewar also thanked all Rainbow Staff for their creativity in making these “good news stories” in the Annual Report possible during this very difficult time of a pandemic.

**3. Intensive Program in Human Rights for School Board Leaders**

Motion: 21-R25 J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the *Intensive Human Rights Program for School Board Leaders* to be held via video conference at specified dates during December 2020 and January 2021:

Trustee Clement

Trustee Debassige

Trustee Gibson

Trustee Kosmerly

Trustee Morrison

Trustee Stringer

Student Trustee Lafrance

## 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. Requests for Leave of Absence NIL

## 5. Director's Remarks

Director Blaseg advised of Karin Kozman's upcoming retirement "Karin, Manager of Finance, has been with RDSB since 2000. After 20 years here at RDSB, Karin will be retiring with a goal to travel the world. We thank her for her years of service and we will miss her greatly. We welcome our new Manager of Finance, Nancy Cecchetto who will be starting on December 14".

Director Blaseg also advised of an upcoming principal change occurring right after the Christmas break. Lisa Piquette will be replacing Gisele Lalonde at Westmount Public School effective January 4, 2021 as Gisele is retiring. Lisa has just ended her secondment to the Ministry of Education. Director Blaseg wished Gisele all the best in her retirement and welcomed back Lisa Piquette.

Director Blaseg spoke about community support of and for Rainbow students. Every year, especially during the festive season, individuals, businesses, local groups, and anonymous contributors come forward and display tremendous acts of kindness, which makes him very proud to be from this area. Rainbow District School Board resides in a very fortunate geography with many acts of giving and thoughtfulness from Manitoulin Island, Espanola and throughout Greater Sudbury. Director Blaseg acknowledged only a few, as the complete the list is exhaustive.

### A story from Greater Sudbury

Last year, one of our community members and parents, Matt Stillwaugh from Matt's Plumbing, donated 40 turkeys to Lively District Secondary School. He told Principal Leslie Mantle that, "No family should be without a turkey for Christmas dinner." This year, Mr. Stillwaugh has partnered up with other contractors around the city and is looking at donating 300 turkeys to families in need.

The list of contractors included:

- Matt's Plumbing: Matt Stillwaugh
- Barbeau & Gainer Construction: Richard Barbeau and Eldon Gainer
- Plumbing Warehouse: Basilio Trapodi and Carman Tripodi
- Total Personnel Solutions: Kevin Pattison
- Emco Supply: Thomas

At Walden PS, two staff members have made donations of \$500 each totalling \$1000.



At Larchwood PS, one family purchased 30 infrared thermometers to be given to families to support daily checks for student health. 25 families took advantage of this offer.

At Queen Elizabeth PS:

- Sudbury Police Association is donating \$2500 - 10 \$100 grocery gift cards and 10 \$150 Toys R Us gift cards
- Electrical Safety Authority has donated \$50 to go towards a special bagged lunch for each student.
- An anonymous donor has given funds to purchase a pair of Christmas Socks for every student in the school as a Christmas gift.

At Assiginack PS, the Case family of Manitowaning is donating an ice fishing rod to each student (approximately 100) at Assiginack Public School in memory of Ms. Shan Case, whose children are graduates of the school. Shan passed suddenly this fall. Her son Brett Ham, spouse Brad Ham and sister Susan Mackenzie, decided to generously make this donation to share the love of fishing and the outdoors with our students.

Director Blaseg expressed his *thank you* to all.

The Edgar Burton Food drive continues in Rainbow Schools again this year. This year, due to COVID-19, the focus is on monetary donations. Director Blaseg reminded that every dollar donated to the "Kids Helping Kids" campaign (The Edgar Burton canned Food Drive) is the equivalent of \$6 of purchasing power.

The Director advised that he will be hosting a 2021-2022 School Year calendar meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 2021.

Director Blaseg reminded that Public Health would be working on a protocol with School Boards to ensure the return to school in January is safe. Director's next meeting is scheduled for Friday, December 11. Meanwhile he asked that all families and individuals adhere to Public Health advice, especially as it relates to gatherings, remaining at home if feeling ill, wearing masks, physical distancing and washing hands.

#### Itinerary

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| November 19 | Deputy Minister Teleconference<br>First Nations Advisory Committee Meeting |
| November 20 | Public Health Teleconference<br>ETFO Meeting                               |
| November 24 | Executive Council<br>Strategic Planning Committee Meeting                  |
| November 25 | Agenda Setting Meeting   |

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
|             | DECE Meeting   |
| November 26 | Deputy Minister Teleconference<br>OSSTF meeting<br>Minister of Education Teleconference                                |
| November 30 | CODE – Teleconference<br>Minister of Education Teleconference  |
| December 1  | Executive Council  |
| December 3  | Individual Superintendent of Education Meetings<br>Deputy Minister Teleconference<br>Labour Relation Committee Meeting |
| December 4  | Public Health Teleconference<br>Superintendent of Education Meetings   |
| December 7  | Minister of Education Teleconference<br>Audit Committee Meeting  |
| December 8  | Executive Council<br>In-Camera Board Meeting<br>Organizational Board Meeting<br>Board Meeting                          |

6. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Clement advised that he attended the OPSBA Board of Directors meeting via Zoom on November 28, 2020. Topics of discussion included Regulation 274/12 Hiring Practices, the shortage of French language teachers, EQAO, OSSLT and children and youth mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic. OPSBA Northern Boards have put forward a motion regarding the hiring of an external third party to complete an equity/diversity audit.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Lafrance reported that Student Senators continue to work on a survey regarding equity/diversity in Rainbow Schools that is scheduled to be sent out to students in January 2021.

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Morrison wished Happy Holidays to all, recognizing the difficult Christmas season ahead for many as we work through this COVID-19 pandemic.

Trustee Stringer expressed appreciation for the generosity to Rainbow students from many community members including the Little Current Fish and Game Club. Trustee Stringer thanked Karin Kozman (Manager of Finance) for her outstanding services to the Board and wished her well in her upcoming retirement. Trustee Stringer also advised that she attended the Indigenous Trustee Council meeting last week.

Trustee Gibson advised that she attended OPSBA's Indigenous Trustees' Council meeting via Zoom on December 3 and that she looks forward to attending more meetings in the future. She asked about *GOV-04 BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT: GOVERNANCE PERFORMANCE* and remote learning in secondary schools.

Trustee Hunda wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season. She commented on Sudbury Secondary School's unique addition to the on-line telethon this year, thanked teachers for their creativity with Christmas concerts during the COVID pandemic, noted resiliency and suggested there have been many successes this year despite COVID.

Trustee Clement shared Christmas wishes and encouraged all to be generous in their giving this year.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks**

The thought for this month is worth repeating from last year, especially because of the pandemic. I think of the Covid as the Grinch and the quote is from "How The Grinch Stole Christmas", by Dr, Seuss.

Quote: *"It (Christmas) came without ribbons! It came without tags! It came without packages, boxes or bags!... Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! "Maybe Christmas," he thought, "doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas ..... perhaps ..... means a little bit more!"*

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to wish all of our staff, our students, our parents/guardians, and our community partners, a happy and healthy holiday season.

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Parent Involvement Committee minutes May 12, 2020 (official)

Parent Involvement Committee AGM minutes Oct 20, 2020 (official)

Special Education Advisory Committee minutes November 4, 2020 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Student Senate Meeting January 4, 2021 5:00 pm

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting January 5, 2021 7:00 pm

Special Education Advisory Committee January 6, 2021 12:00 pm

Environmental Education Committee Meeting January 6, 2021 3:30 pm

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting January 12, 2021 5:00 pm Boardroom

School Year Calendar Meeting January 13, 2021 3:00 PM Boardroom

Board Meeting January 26, 2021 5:00 pm Boardroom

Equity & Inclusion Education Committee February 11, 2021 4:00 pm

First Nation Advisory Committee February 18, 2021 10:00 am

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 21-R26, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That we now adjourn at 8:32 p.m. – **Carried.**

unofficial



# PUBLIC EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM

January 28, 2021

**VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM** 10:00 AM – 3:30 PM

## 10:00 AM The Way Forward: Deconstructing Systemic Racism

**KERRY-ANN DOUGLAS-POWELL**

Manager of Policy and Systems Transformation,  
Anti-Racism Directorate, Ontario Ministry of the Solicitor General

Kerry-Ann will explore how systemic racism manifests within institutions and the impact on Black, Indigenous and racialized communities. She identifies tools and strategies that can be incorporated to dismantle systemic racism within institutions and talks about the successes and challenges of addressing systemic racism in the Ontario Public Service.

11:15 AM Break

## 11:30 AM CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

### 1. Reframing Governance: Human Rights, Equity, Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression in the Board Room and Beyond

Practical ideas on how effective governance can create positive school and workplace cultures that support student achievement, promote mental health and well-being, are free of bias and full of potential will be explored.

- Jim Spyropoulos, Executive Superintendent  
Human Rights and Indigenous Education, Toronto District School Board

### 2. Lands-based Education and Indigenous Ways of Knowing

Lands-based education, from the perspective and experiences of Indigenous Peoples, is rooted in Indigenous ways of knowing, of doing, is highly relational, is culture-based and is a key factor in shaping the worldview of Indigenous Nations across Turtle Island. Quinn Meawasige will share his experiences and learnings from his research in his undergrad and through carrying out a year-round lands-based language and culture initiative for Indigenous youth, families, communities and peoples in his territory.

- Quinn Meawasige, Project Coordinator, Nimkii Youth Collective

### 3. Unique Challenges of Governance in a Pandemic

Panel of Chairs and Directors:

Greater Essex County District School Board

- Alicia Higgison, Chair and Erin Kelly, Director of Education

Simcoe County District School Board

- Jodi Lloyd, Chair and Steve Blake, Director of Education

MODERATOR: Heather Campbell, Director of Education,

Rainy River District School Board

### 4. How to Engage your Local Community

School board communications staff from four boards across the province will bring their expertise to the table in an engaging panel discussion as we take a dive into reaching diverse communities in a time of ongoing crisis.

- Jonathan Laderoute, Renfrew County District School Board
- Kim Sweeney, District School Board of Niagara
- Tania Testa, Thames Valley District School Board
- Andréanne Denis, District School Board Ontario North East

MODERATOR: T.J. Goertz, OPSBA Senior Communications and Policy Officer

## Program continues

12:30 PM Lunch break

### 1:15 PM Provincial Covid-19 Update

Dr. David Williams, Chief Medical Officer of Health  
for the province of Ontario

### 1:45 PM MINISTER OF EDUCATION

The Honourable Stephen Lecce

### 2:25 PM CONCURRENT WORKSHOPS

#### 1. The Role of Trustee

A clear understanding of a school board trustee's role and responsibilities is fundamental to good governance. This session will review the Role and Responsibilities of Trustees as part of their school boards. Specific topics will include how the role has changed during the pandemic in regards to governance and supporting local communities.

- Sheila MacKinnon, Partner, Shibley Righton LLP
- Jennifer McIntyre, Director of Policy, OPSBA

#### 2. Amplifying Leadership in Student Mental Health in Challenging Times

Many people have helped to promote and protect student mental health during the pandemic. Sometimes these helpers carry formal leadership roles, and sometimes they are everyday heroes doing small things in quiet moments to make things better for the children and youth that we serve. This workshop will focus on leadership in challenging times, raising up the voices and actions of students, educators, school/system leaders, school mental health professionals, and many more who have made a positive difference in schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are, together, the helpers who contribute to the system of care wrapping around students through these challenging times.

- Kathy Short, School Mental Health ASSIST, Canada
- Joyce Erogun, Student Engagement Lead, School Mental Health Ontario

#### 3. A Conversation with two Directors of Education on Equity, Anti-Black Racism, Anti-Oppression and Inclusion

- Camille Taylor, Director of Education,  
Ottawa-Carleton District School Board
- Colleen Russell-Rawlins, Director of Education,  
Peel District School Board

MODERATOR: Judith Nyman, Director Program Policy, OPSBA

#### 4. Students' Perspectives: Racism and a Global Pandemic

- Mahek Dhaliwal, President OSTA/AECO
- Zachary Garbaty, Vice-President, OSTA/AECO

MODERATOR: Alex Johnstone, Trustee, Hamilton-Wentworth DSB

3:30 PM Program ends

**Registration:** [pdevents@opsba.org](mailto:pdevents@opsba.org) **Fee:** No cost

## **Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, December 1, 2020 at 7 pm  
Via Google Meet

### **Attendance**

#### **Sudbury site:**

Tricia Hatfield, Parent, Cyril Varney Public School; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Allison Andlar, Parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Ashley Malley, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School; Cherie Daniels, Parent, Markstay Public School and Lasalle Secondary School; Jennifer Del Papa, Parent, C.R. Judd Public School; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Stacy Paajanen, Parent, Walden Public School; Amanda Yaw, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School; Kerry Loken, Parent, Alexander Public School; Rebecca Coughlin, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Sara Pidgen, ETFO representative; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Espanola High School; Dan Koziar, Principal, Princess Anne Public School; Doreen Dewar, Board Chair; Judy Kosmerly, Trustee; Melanie Bertrand, Vice-Principal, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

#### **Espanola Site:**

N/A

#### **Manitoulin Site:**

Lauren Dewar, Parent, Central Manitoulin Public School; David Wiwchar, Principal, Central Manitoulin Public School; Jamie Mohamed, Principal, Manitoulin Secondary School; Dana Noble McCann, Vice-Principal, Manitoulin Secondary School; Christy Case, Principal, Little Current Public School

#### **Call to Order: 7 pm**

##### **1. Welcome**

Superintendent Judy Noble welcomed everyone to the meeting.

##### **2. Self-Introductions**

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

Due to COVID-19, the meeting was held via Google Meet.

##### **3. Recovery and Resilience Following a Pandemic**

**Presenter: Mary Jago, Mental Health Lead, Rainbow Schools**

What is resilience? What does recovery look like? How can we take care of ourselves? Mary Jago talked about the importance of adapting to change and finding ways to move through challenges, emerging stronger from the experience. She said it's critical to build resiliency because it is rare for individuals to never be confronted with adversity or

challenging circumstances. Our thoughts, attitudes, beliefs and behaviours shape how we view the world. Factors that contribute to resiliency include positive self-regard, internal locus of evaluation (ie. I have ways to judge myself in relation to others), stress management strategies, concepts of freedom and responsibility (ie. how I view myself in the world), and psychological and environmental factors. Mary Jago outlined the difference between stress, which is a natural response to a demand, versus distress, which is a state of great suffering and pain. Strategies to manage stress include good nutrition, exercise, sleep, relaxation, positive affirmation and self-help groups. It's important to move your body, slow down and take a deep breath, make healthy lifestyle choices, express our feelings to others, avoid negative self-talk and experience joy.

#### **4. Discussion based on presentation**

PIC members had an opportunity to ask questions throughout the presentation. A parent asked if the Bounce Back program was available for secondary students. It is not. Another parent asked what she could bring back to her families. Mary Jago indicated there are mental health resources on the board website. The PowerPoint presentation will also be shared with School Council Chairs.

#### **5. Approval of Agenda**

*"That the agenda for the meeting on December 1, 2020 be approved."*

Moved by: Cherie Daniels, Markstay Public School / Lasalle Secondary School

Seconded by: Allison Andlar, R.L. Beattie Public School

Carried

#### **6. Approval of Minutes**

*"That the minutes of the meetings held on May 12, 2020 and the AGM held on October 20, 2020 be approved."*

Moved by: Cherie Daniels, Markstay Public School / Lasalle Secondary School

Seconded by: Allison Andlar, R.L. Beattie Public School

Carried

#### **7. Election for Vacancies**

Superintended Noble presented the parents who were elected to PIC at the AGM on October 20, 2020.

Tricia Hatfield, Cyril Varney Public School

Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Allison Andler, R.L. Beattie Public School

Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Jennifer Del Papa, C.R. Judd Public School  
Cherie Daniels, Markstay Public School  
Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School  
Denise Sheppard, Manitoulin Secondary School

She indicated that there were two positions to be filled. Stacy Paajanen and Melissa Gladu expressed an interest. After asking if any other parents were interested, the following motion was presented:

*“That Stacy Paajanen of Walden Public School and Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School be elected members of PIC for 2020-2021.”*

Moved by: Allison Andlar, R.L. Beattie Public School

Seconded by: Cherie Daniels, Markstay Public School / Lasalle Secondary School

Carried

#### **8. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary**

Superintendent Judy Noble thanked Allison Andlar of R.L. Beattie Public School for serving as Chair of PIC and Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School for serving as Vice-Chair of PIC during the 2019-2020 school year.

After reviewing the role of the Chair and calling for nominations for Chair, the following motion was presented:

*“That Allison Andlar of R.L. Beattie Public School be elected Chair of PIC for 2020-2021.”*

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Carried

After reviewing the role of Vice-Chair and calling for nominations for Vice-Chair, there were two candidates – Stacy Paajanen and Cherie Daniels. After a vote, the following motion was presented:

*“That Stacy Paajanen of Walden Public School be elected Vice-Chair of PIC for 2020-2021.”*

Moved by: Allison Andler, R.L. Beattie Public School

Seconded by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Carried

There were no nominations for secretary.

Nicole Charette and Kristina Rivard Gobbo will share the role of Secretary of PIC for



2020-2021.

**At this point in the meeting, Allison Andlar assumed the role of Chair.**

#### **9. 2020-2021 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants**

Rainbow District School Board has received \$9,083 in PRO grant funding to share with schools in the 2020-2021 school year to engage parents in their children's learning.

PIC considered two applications.

#### **R.L. Beattie Public School**

R.L. Beattie will offer a series of virtual interactive workshops related to gender and family diversity and sexual orientation (from an age-appropriate perspective). Experienced facilitators (Yasmin Owis, Ty Walkland and Joël Dickinson) will be invited to work with the school on developing and implementing appropriate content and context for parents of children in Grades K-6.

#### **Walden Public School**

Walden will provide education for students and parents on special education and well-being. In partnership with LDAS, the school will present virtual information sessions that will include an appreciation of different ways of learning, self-advocacy and positive messages about being unique, how to cope with change and confrontation/resolution, respect and friendship. There will also be a parent session to support the interpretation of the language presented in an IEP and how that IEP relates to their child's success. The school is working with partners to add topics such as ADHD, Mental Health and supports for Indigenous students.

After considering the applications, the following motions were subsequently presented:

*"That the R.L. Beattie Public School PRO grant project be approved."*

Moved by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Carried

Note: Allison Andlar recused herself from voting.

*"That the Walden Public School PRO grant project be approved."*

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Seconded by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Carried

The deadline for PRO Grant applications will be extended to December 18, 2020. Projects will be reviewed at the PIC meeting on January 5, 2021.

## **10. Communications Report**

Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor of Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning, delivered the following communications report:

### **COVID-19 Advisory Section on rainbowschools.ca**

Rainbow District School Board posts information on rainbowschools.ca when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 that involves a student or a staff member in a school setting. We also advise parents/guardians when there is a confirmed case in a child care setting in a school.

If individuals are identified as close contact of a case in a school setting, Public Health will contact them/their parent or guardian directly and provide direction. If Public Health advises that a class, cohort or a school should be closed for a period of time, parents/guardians, students and staff are notified immediately. Notice of any closures of classes, cohorts or schools is posted on the COVID-19 Advisory page. There is a link to the COVID-19 Advisory on all school websites.

### **Snow Days**

On Snow Days this year, Rainbow District School Board will follow past practice. When transportation is cancelled due to inclement weather, schools remain open and staff is expected to report to work. Classes will continue for elementary remote learners. A letter was sent to parents/guardians on November 16, 2020. In person learners who go to school will receive instruction, consolidation and support. There will be no mixing of cohorts or combining of classes on snow days as we continue to follow all health and safety protocols. In secondary schools, students who attend in person and remotely will also receive instruction, consolidation and support. Again, there will be no mixing of cohorts or combining of classes.

### **Lockerby Composite School hosts Virtual Open House on December 2**

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to visit Lockerby Composite School's Virtual Open House website launch on Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 7 pm. The link will be available at lockerby.rainbowschools.ca. All students are invited to visit

the Open House website regardless of which elementary school they currently attend. The virtual presentation will be a combination of video and conversations with staff. Visitors to the website can sign up to speak one-to-one with administration or staff about programming or any other questions they may have.

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to take part in virtual information nights for all Rainbow secondary schools. To ensure safety for all, sessions will be live for families to join online or pre-recorded to access anytime on the school's website. More information will be posted on rainbowschools.ca.

Rainbow District School Board has produced a Guide for Students and Parents "Making the Transition – Finding your way from Grade 8 to Grade 9," with information about course codes, levels of study, timetables and tips. The guide can be accessed online at rainbowschools.ca. Hard copies are also available by emailing info@rainbowschools.ca. Rainbow District School Board is currently working with Eastlink Community TV to produce a Transition Evening on Finding Your Way from Grade 8 to Grade 9. Watch for details!

#### **December 8:**

#### **Parent Presentation on Mental Health airs on Eastlink Community TV**

Why do adults put their oxygen masks on before children on airplanes? How can we talk to children about the pandemic? What are ways to manage the anxiety we may be feeling? Can the pandemic be explained in terms of loss and grief? These are some of the questions the Rainbow District School Board's Mental Health Team will explore in "Life Interrupted: A Pathway Toward Resilience and Growth," which will air on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5 pm on Eastlink Community TV - channel 10 or 610.

The presentation will support parents/guardians whether children are learning in class or online. This presentation was delivered to parents/guardians via Google Meet earlier this fall and was well received. We thank Eastlink Community TV for making this presentation accessible to a broader audience. Participants will learn how to talk and listen to children as they navigate potential grief and loss that may be experienced during a pandemic. We extend a special thanks to our Mental Health Team who continue to engage families creatively with content that is relevant and timely."

#### **11. School Announcements**

Tricia Hatfield of Cyril Varney Public School says the school remains focused on literacy and numeracy. She added that this is a challenging year for fundraising and asked if others were experiencing this as well. She also said students were replacing gifts for teachers with donations for the food drive. Others said they were also encouraging this.

Bernadette Rémillard said Sudbury Secondary School has been very active on Facebook and via emails. She highlighted a few events, including the Virtual Information Night on January 13, 2021. North Star Awards were rolled out. She was very proud her daughter was nominated for North Star Student of the Week. She said students are listening to health and safety protocols and enjoying a positive experience. She sent kudos to Rainbow Schools for being fantastic during these unusual times.

Jennifer Del Papa of C. R. Judd Public School said they are being creative with fundraising events online. She said the school has been very clear about expectations to keep everyone safe and has been quick to share new messaging as the situation evolves.

Cherie Daniels of Markstay Public School said it can be challenging to get parents involved. The school plans to apply for a PRO grant to foster engagement.

Ashley Malley of Redwood Acres Public School said the school had a good turnout for its School Council meeting. Most parents wanted more information related to COVID-19. She added that the staff make Council fun as everyone works together.

Stacy Paajanen of Walden Public School outlined the many activities students have been participating in including Take Me Outside Day, Rock Your Mocs Day, Terry Fox Walk/Run and Superhero Day. The school is now focused on raising funds for the Food Bank, including replacing any possible gifts for teachers with donations in their names.

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said parents are providing input into the school's Dress Code and was looking for feedback. The school is currently producing Christmas ornaments on its laser cutter as a fundraiser. She noted that Northeastern experienced a confirmed case of COVID-19 but exposure was limited due to quick action. The school partnered with Cousin Vinny's on individually packaged meals.

Allison Andlar of R.L. Beattie Public School said they took the pulse of their school community and paused fundraising. This will be revisited in the new year. She said she is impressed with the use of the outdoor space at the school and the creative community engagement through nature walks, etc. She suggested weekly email updates to keep parents engaged in their school. She continues to participate in PIC Chair forums at the provincial level to glean new knowledge and talk about best practices. She will share more information with PIC at future meetings.

Allison Andlar asked if the Board could set up an email for the PIC Chair (ie. [PICChair@rainbowschools.ca](mailto:PICChair@rainbowschools.ca)) Superintendent Noble will follow up.

**12. Adjournment at 9 pm**

*"That the meeting be adjourned."*

Moved by: Stacy Paajanen, Walden Public School

Seconded by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary school

Carried

**Next meeting:**

**Tuesday, January 5, 2021 at 7 pm**

**Via Google Meet**

**Topic: Financial Literacy**

Official

**MINUTES OF THE RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, December 2, 2020**

**Time: 12:00 PM**

**Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing**

**Present:**

**SEAC Members:**

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Julie Contini                | Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury         |
| Natasha Delaney (Vice-Chair) | Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter             |
| Wendy Larouche (Chair)       | Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury |
| Robert Silvestri             | NOARC  |
| Margaret Stringer            | Trustee                                      |
| Daryl Walker                 | N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre          |

**Staff:**

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Gillian Cacciotti | Special Education Coordinator                        |
| Colleen McDonald  | Principal of Special Education Programs and Services |
| Joanne Taillon    | Special Education Consultant                         |
| Kathy Wachnuk     | Superintendent                                       |

**Regrets:**

|               |   |
|---------------|---|
| Julia Ritchie | CCR Parent Advisory/ Ontario Autism Coalition |
| Cereena Rows  | FASD Consultant                               |

**Other:**

|              |                                     |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| Doreen Dewar | Rainbow District School Board Chair |
|--------------|-------------------------------------|

**Absent:**

|                 |         |
|-----------------|---------|
| Kerrie St. Jean | Trustee |
|-----------------|---------|

## **1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

W.Larouche welcomed everyone to our virtual SEAC meeting. All members introduced themselves.

## **2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members**

Quorum was established.

## **3.0 SEAC Mission Statement**

N.Delaney read the mission statement aloud.

## **4.0 Approval of the Agenda**

### **Motion 1:**

Moved by: N.Delaney

Seconded by: D.Walker

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of December 2, 2020 be approved.

Motion carried.

## **5.0 Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest were noted.

## **6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

### **Motion 2:**

Moved by: N.Delaney

Seconded by: J.Contini

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of November 4, 2020 be approved.

Motion carried.

## **7.0 Business Arising**

No business arising.

## **8.0 New Business**

### 8.1 Transition To Secondary Presentation:

Special Education Coordinator, Gillian Cacciotti, shared a "Transition To Secondary" slideshow. She elaborated on the supports that are in place and the various placement options available for students with various exceptionalities.

The presentation also included success stories.

8.2 Update: Special Incidence Portion (SIP):

The Ministry of Education has confirmed that School Boards across the province will not submit Special Incident Portion (SIP) applications this school year. Instead, School Boards will receive last year's allocations plus 5% to recognize new needs. Superintendent Wachnuk explained that this allocation is less money than we would expect to receive. She elaborated on the purpose and the importance of this funding along with the trends at Rainbow.

8.3 Graduation Update:

All of our elementary and secondary schools have shared their virtual graduation plans for the June 2020 graduates. Graduations are taking place the month of December.

8.4 Number of Students by Exceptionality:

Exceptionality counts by elementary and secondary schools (including the Remote Learning School) were shared and highlights were provided.

**9.0** Requests for Leaves of Absence

**Motion 3:**

Moved by: D.Walker

Seconded by: N.Delaney

That the SEAC approve the absences of J.Ritchie and C.Rows from the December 2, 2020 SEAC meeting.

Motion carried.

**10.0 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Wachnuk and Principal McDonald are currently involved in negotiations with the union that represents our Educational Assistants (EAs) and Communication Disorder Assistants (CDAs). An update will be provided at the next SEAC meeting.

Superintendent Wachnuk confirmed that the Empower Reading Program will be offered at four of our high schools during the second semester.

Rainbow will be transitioning to a new Student Information System called ASPEN. Special Education Coordinators and Program Staff will receive and provide the needed training.

**11.0 Special Education Staff Report**

Principal McDonald elaborated on the roll-out of Empower Reading at the



secondary level.

The new Student Information System (ASPEN), is an integrated system that will include the Individual Education Plan (IEP). The merging of the current IEPs to the new system is anticipated for the spring.

Interviews are taking place this week to replace a Speech Language Pathologist (SLP) who has retired.

A Special Education Staff update was provided.

## **12.0 Board Report**

Trustee Stringer shared that built-in community supports to assist with the growing number of people struggling with various addictions and mental health concerns continue to be needed and are essential.

The Manitoulin community is currently grieving the loss of Constable Marc Hovingh.

Chair Dewar expressed gratitude for the on-going work of SEAC members.

## **13.0 Chairperson's Report**

The Right to Read inquiry has reached out to hear from parents, students and educators in some areas of the province about their experiences, challenges and concerns arising from their experiences in Ontario's public education system. A video link is provided in an email that was shared with SEAC members last week.

## **14.0 Association Reports**

### Natasha Delaney: Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter

The Autism Ontario general meeting was held last night. Information regarding upcoming virtual activities and workshop links can be found on the website. ([www.autismontario.com](http://www.autismontario.com))

### Daryl Walker: N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

Christmas turkey dinners will be prepared and packaged for the 150 anticipated recipients that will pick them up. The Centre will be closed from December 23 to January 3. More information can be found on the website. ([www.nfcsudbury.org](http://www.nfcsudbury.org))

### Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

The Coaching Program continues virtually. The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury has teamed up with Regency Bakery to host a Cookies for Christmas

fundraising event. A flyer will be sent to SEAC members this week with additional information.

Robert Silvestri: NOARC

Testing is currently at a stand-still. Early in the new year and in partnership with the Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury (LDAS), Dr. Robert Silvestri will lead a Parent Education Workshop for Families with Children with ADHD.

**15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC**

No new correspondence was received.

**16.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests**

-Update on negotiations

**17.0 Next Meeting Date**

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday January 6, 2021 at noon.

**18.0 Adjournment**

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:23 PM.