

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD  
**Minutes of the**  
**STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING**

held electronically via Google Meet  
from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury  
on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 5:10 pm.

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Present: Trustees: D. Morrison (Chair), B. Clement, L. Debassige, D. Dewar, A. Gibson, J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, M. Stringer, Student Trustee Lafrance  
Absent: K. St. Jean  
Officials: N. Blaseg – Director and Secretary of the Board  
D. Bazinet – Superintendent of Business  
B. Bourget, J. Noble, K. Wachnuk – Superintendents  
Staff: N. Charette, H. Thirkill, C. Whitson, M. McKelvey, S Ackroyd, N. Cecchetto, C. McDonald, C. Runciman, V. Potvin, T. Svalina

Chair Morrison advised that the meeting was being live-streamed.

A. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the agenda for the Strategic Planning Committee meeting for January 12, 2021 be approved. - **Carried**

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

C. **PRESENTATIONS**

Rainbow Secondary Remote Learning

Superintendent Noble introduced Craig Runciman, Principal of Lockerby Composite School, Vicki-Sue Potvin, Science Teacher at Lockerby Composite School and Tina Svalina, Math teacher at Lockerby Composite School.

The two Lockerby Composite School teachers shared their experiences with remote learning. Items presented included enrolment, synchronous learning expectations, asynchronous learning, the system-wide effort, as well as their own personal experiences with their students in their classroom.

The teachers shared information about the steep learning curve for teachers and students, challenges and successes, time management for students, the difficult role of a teacher who is teaching to a group in front of them as well as a group remotely. Both teachers spoke about the many apps they have discovered as well as teaching in a Google Classroom environment.

Trustees were appreciative of the two teachers sharing information about their teaching experiences during these challenging times in the midst of a global pandemic. Trustees had the opportunity to comment and ask questions.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Minutes**

Motion: J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on November 24, 2020 be approved. – **Carried**

2. **Capital and Accommodation Plan Update**

Superintendent Bazinet provided an update regarding the Manitoulin Island Planning area, New Sudbury Planning Area, Sudbury South Planning Area and Valley North Planning Area.

Superintendent Bazinet advised that the information will be posted on the board website.

Trustees had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions of Superintendent Bazinet and Sandi Ackroyd, Manager of Capital Projects.

E. **NEW BUSINESS**

F. **FUTURE ITEMS**

Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)

Poverty

Policy Review

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

Student Senate

G. **TRUSTEES' REMARKS**

Trustee Kosmerly spoke about a recent PIC meeting that she attended where the presentation topic was *Financial Literacy* and suggested this could be a future presentation to the Board.

Director Blaseg spoke about Premier Ford's announcement today regarding the State of Emergency in Ontario for 28 days. Rainbow Schools remain open. The Board is waiting for information from the Ministry of Education regarding Special Education and non-essential staff.

Director Blaseg advised that parents will be sent a survey in the next week (similar to the one done in the fall) regarding moving from face-to-face to remote learning or vice versa. February 8, 2021 will be the final date for movement.

Director Blaseg advised he has a meeting tomorrow with the Ministry of Education and Public Health to discuss surveillance testing, which is not in Northern Ontario yet. Director Blaseg hopes to target rural areas, with a pilot on Manitoulin Island.

Director Blaseg announced the following acting administrators will become permanent effective February 8, 2021:

- Dave St. Amour, principal at A.B. Ellis PS
- Paula Biondi, principal at Monetville PS
- Shelley Tamura, vice-principal at Little Current PS
- Sean Green, vice-principal at Sudbury SS

He further announced that:

- David Bertrim will be vice principal at Sudbury SS upon Principal Heather Downey's return
- Acting vice principal Kyle Gutscher will continue in his role at Lively DSS.
- We wish Linda Goulais much healthy and happiness in her retirement from Sudbury SS

Trustee Debassige was appreciative of the support for possible surveillance testing on Manitoulin Island. She shared statistics, explained how Manitoulin has a vulnerable population (heart disease, diabetes, older population and multi-generational housing) and advised of a shortage of physicians at the two hospitals on Manitoulin Island. Trustee Debassige advised that she is part of a Manitoulin Covid-19 Leadership Coordination Committee along with Trustee Stringer. The committee has been meeting every two weeks since the spring and is made up of mayors/reeves, First Nation chiefs or representatives, Manitoulin Health Centre CEO, PHSD and Trustee Stringer.

Trustee Stringer supported Trustee Debassige's comments regarding asymptomatic surveillance testing in Rainbow Schools adding that if Public Health is going to deem that Rainbow Schools are to be open, asymptomatic surveillance testing should be done to determine if there are cases in schools. This should lower anxiety amongst staff and students and instil a level of confidence in communities.

Chair Morrison stated that she looks forward to information about rapid testing in northern communities and schools and an update on ventilation in Rainbow Schools.

Trustee Dewar reminded that the Premier's message today mandated masks for all students in grades 1 to 12 in the province of Ontario.

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

February 2, 2021  
March 2, 2021  
April 6, 2021  
May 4, 2021  
June 8, 2021

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the meeting be adjourned (6:45 pm). - **Carried**