

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, November 16, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

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

Chair Dewar advised that the meeting was being live-streamed and archived.

Chair Dewar read a declaration of land acknowledgement aloud.

Director Bourget completed roll call to establish who was participating in the Google Meet Board meeting.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 21-R114, J.Hunda/M.Stringer

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of November 16, 2021 be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
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. PRESENTATIONS NIL

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

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 21-R115, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 26, 2021 be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour

Linda Debassige: Absent

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. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees NIL

4. 2021-2022 School Year Update

Director of Education Bruce Bourget provided a detailed update on the 2021-2022 school year.

Director Bourget shared COVID-19 information and data from Public Health Sudbury and District, and included some of Dr. Penny Sutcliff's important messages to slow the spread of the virus. He spoke about bus cancellations, the Ontario Parent Survey results, vaccination attestation, rapid antigen testing, as well as a chronology of events since the last Board Meeting.

Director Bourget reported on the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT).

Director Bourget announced some positives to celebrate:

- Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding for the N'Swakamok Native Alternative School,
- OFSAA success for students of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School and Manitoulin Secondary School,
- Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School's participation in *Soles4Souls*, collecting gently used shoes and distributing around the world,
- *My Best Self: A Youth Mental Health Initiative* developed by Social Worker Christine McInnes,
- Lansdowne Public School was the recipient of a generous donation from the Kiwanis Club of Sudbury,
- Progress on the Strategic Directions 2022-2027 consultations, and
- Anti-Bias, Anti-Racism (ABAC) and Allyship Training focus for the upcoming PA Day

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Honorarium for Trustees 2021/2022

Superintendent of Business Bazinet shared the Honorarium for Trustees spreadsheet.

2. Trustee Expenditures 2020/2021

Superintendent of Business Bazinet shared the Trustee Expenses spreadsheet.

3. Insurance Renewal

Superintendent of Business Bazinet provided a report on the cost of insurance, referring to the documents included with the agenda.

Motion: 21-R116, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the 2022 Renewal of Insurance for liability, property, crime and fleet automobile with the Ontario School Boards' Insurance Exchange for \$283,550.84 be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
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

4. Budget Development Process

Motion: 21-R117, A.Gibson/D.Morrison

That the 2022-23 Budget Development Process be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
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**

Motion: 21-R118, J.Kosmerly/M.Stringer

That Trustee Linda Debassige be granted a leave of absence from the November 16, 2021 Board meeting.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour

Linda Debassige: Absent

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

6. **Director's Remarks**

As we conclude the fall sport season, I would like to express my appreciation for all staff and community members who volunteer to enhance opportunities of our student experience through extracurricular activities. Whether it be Art, Music, Robotics, school club, Mock Trial, Reach for the Top or sports our students appreciate your time and expertise. Parents and guardians appreciate the tremendously positive impact their child's participation has on their physical and mental well-being.

You are difference makers! You build memories, character, skills, fitness, resilience and success. The value of extracurricular activities is unquestionable and cannot be measured and I thank our volunteers, staff, administrators and Trustees for your support of extracurricular activities for our students.

7. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Clement advised that he will be attending a virtual OPSBA Board of Directors meeting on November 26 and 27, 2021. He advised that the Public Education Symposium will be held as a virtual event on Friday, January 28, 2022.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Yao attended the OSTA Fall General Meeting November 4 to 7, 2021 in Toronto. He spoke about this amazing opportunity to meet student trustees from throughout the province. He was interested to learn about the similarities and differences from one Board to another and enjoyed discussions with other student trustees.

Student Trustee Yao spoke about the Instagram posts created by Student Senate last week regarding Remembrance Day. He felt this was a huge success.

Student Trustee Yao also spoke about work done with the OSTA Equity and Inclusion Working Group.

At Student Senate, the senators have started working on the annual *Stand Up Speak Out* conference.

8. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** NIL

9. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Parents/guardians and students in Grades 7 and 8 are invited to tune in to a special presentation on Eastlink Community TV Channel 10, entitled "*Making the Transition - Finding your way from Grade 8 to Grade 9*".

Transitioning from elementary to secondary is an important milestone in a young person's life so with this presentation, we hope to provide students with information to make informed decisions that will help shape their future.

Topics being discussed, include how to read timetables, how to choose courses, how to ease into a new school environment, what resources are available, and the skills students need to be successful.

I invite everyone, especially students and parents/guardians to please circle their calendars as the presentation will air on Monday, November 22, 2021 and again on Monday, November 29, 2021 at 8 pm.

The presentation can be accessed online at rainbowschools.ca.

In addition to learning the path from grade 8 to grade 9, students will discover the many exciting opportunities that await them in Grade 9 in Rainbow Schools by visiting our virtual Secondary School Information Nights. These can be accessed from [school websites](#) on the following dates:

- Espanola High School - Thursday, November 25, 2021
- Lockerby Composite School - Wednesday, December 1, 2021
- Lively District Secondary School - Thursday, December 9, 2021
- Chelmsford Valley District Composite School - Tuesday, January 11, 2022
- Sudbury Secondary School - Thursday, January 13, 2022
- Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School - Thursday, January 13, 2022
- Manitoulin Secondary School - Thursday, February 10, 2022
- Lasalle Secondary School - Wednesday, February 16, 2022
- Confederation Secondary School - Thursday, February 17, 2022

Be sure to visit rainbowschools.ca for all the details.

Not to be outdone at the Secondary level, in January 2022, Kindergarten Information Nights will also be virtual. I invite you to circle your calendars as follows:

Schools offering the English program will post a presentation on their school website on Tuesday, January 11th at 5:30 pm.

Schools offering French Immersion will post theirs on Thursday, January 13th at 5:30 pm.

Schools offering both English and French Immersion will post presentations on Thursday, January 13th.

Once again please visit rainbowschools.ca for details.

The author of the thought for the month is unknown to me but in the chaos of today's life we often lament over lost opportunities and as such it may be helpful to recall that: *"While it may be true that the early bird gets the worm, sometimes it's wise to remember that the second mouse is the one that gets the cheese."*

Thank you and please stay safe.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

First Nations Advisory Committee (FNAC) minutes June 17, 2021 (official)
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes October 6, 2021 (official)

2. Non-Staff Communications

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

First Nation Advisory Committee November 18, 2021 10:00 am
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting November 23, 2021 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee December 1, 2021 12:00 pm
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee December 2, 2021 4:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting December 6, 2021 5:30 pm
Board Meeting (Organizational) December 7, 2021 5:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee December 14, 2021 7:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting January 5, 2022 3:30 pm
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee February 10, 2022 4:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 21-R119, K.St.Jean/M.Stringer

That we now adjourn at 6:36 p.m. – **Carried.**