

**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 25, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

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<b>AGENDA AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS</b>
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**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

\*Chair

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 25, 2022 be approved.

**B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

\*Chair

**C. PRESENTATIONS**

\*Chair

1. Enrolment – Director Bourget
2. Strategic Directions – Director Bourget

**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 7, 2021 be approved.

b) Motion:

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 7, 2021 be approved.

c) Motion:

That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 be approved.

**2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals    NIL**

\*SBO

**3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees    NIL    \*Chair**

4. **2021-2022 School Year Update** \*Director

- F. **NEW BUSINESS** \*Chair

1. **Revised Estimates 2021-2022** \*SBO

2. **Property** \*SBO

**Motion:**

That the property at 1545 Gary Avenue, Sudbury, ON P3A 4G5 (Cyril Varney Public School), be declared surplus to the needs of Rainbow District School Board as of June 30, 2022.

3. **Public Education Symposium (PES) 2022** \*Chair

**Motion:**

That the Board approve the attendance of the following trustees at the virtual 2022 Public Education Symposium to be held via Zoom on Friday, January 28, 2022 for a total registration fee of \$847.50.

*Trustees attending:*    B. Clement    L. Debassige    D. Dewar  
                                 A. Gibson    J. Hunda    J. Kosmerly  
                                 D. Morrison    M. Stringer

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

**Motion:**

That \_\_\_\_\_ be granted a leave of absence from the January 25, 2022 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 May 11, 2021 (official)  
Parent Involvement Committee minutes October 19, 2021 (official)  
Parent Involvement Committee minutes December 14, 2021 (official)  
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes Nov 3, 2021 (official)  
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes Dec 1 2021 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

\*Chair

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting February 1, 2022 5:00 pm  
Special Education Advisory Committee February 2, 2022 12:00 pm  
Student Senate Meeting February 7, 2022 5:30 pm  
Parent Involvement Committee February 8, 2022 7:00 pm  
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee February 10, 2022 4:00 pm  
Board Meeting February 15, 2022 5:00 pm  
First Nation Advisory Committee February 17, 2022 10:00 am  
Environmental Education Committee Meeting March 2, 2022 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 7, 2021 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 M. Yao  
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, M. McKelvey,  
S. Ackroyd, N. Cecchetto, T. Hayes, N. Mousseau

Director Bourget advised that the meeting was being live-streamed and archived.

Director Bourget read a declaration of land acknowledgement aloud.

1. **Call to Order**

Director Bourget called the meeting to order.

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

2. **Approval of Agenda**

Motion: 22-R01, D.Dewar/D.Morrison

That the agenda for the Organizational meeting of the Board of December 7, 2021 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**

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

### 3. **Election of Chair**

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

Bob Clement self-nominated, seconded by Judy Kosmerly.  
Doreen Dewar nominated Dena Morrison, seconded by Judy Hunda.

- a) **Motion: 22-R02, J.Kosmerly/B.Clement**  
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**

Dena Morrison declined the nomination with sincere appreciation.

- b) **Motion: 22-R03, D.Morrison/D.Dewar**  
That Bob Clement 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 Clement stated that he is honoured to be Chair of Rainbow District School Board and acknowledged that he follows many great people in the role of Chair. He thanked trustees for their support.

### 5. **Presentation to Outgoing Chair**

Director Bourget shared a few words as follows:

Doreen Dewar has served as Chair with distinction multiple times, including the past 10 consecutive years, which is a remarkable contribution.

On behalf of all of us, I would like to thank you ... Trustee Dewar... for your tremendous leadership, over and over again. You answered the call to serve, and we are truly grateful.

As staff, we are proud to work with a Board of Trustees that values students and families.

You all recognize that public education has the power to change lives and, in your respective roles, you are helping students unwrap the greatest gift of all.

With Chair Dewar's leadership, and the support of all trustees, Rainbow District School Board enjoys good governance, which has a positive impact on the daily operation of our schools.

Together, we have moved many projects and programs forward, which have benefited teaching and learning. With good governance, we get things done.

Our Board is held in high regard across the province and Trustee Dewar has been a big part of building this strong reputation. In fact, her leadership has been recognized provincially with awards on more than one occasion.

As the longest serving Trustee on the Board - with over 33 years of experience, including nine years on the former Sudbury Board of Education - Doreen Dewar has cultivated a leadership style that is respectful and inclusive, allowing voices to be heard and collective decisions to stand.

She has been an articulate spokesperson for the Board, a Trustee whose political acuity and astuteness have grown sharper with time.

Doreen Dewar makes chairing a meeting look easy, but I, for one, know that is not the case.

A lot of preparation goes into each and every agenda. And there is a great deal of work to do between meetings, including committees, correspondence and conversations.

As Chair, Trustee Dewar has poured her heart and soul into this board. She has been generous with her time and knowledge... and supportive of staff and students. Trustee Dewar, you are a true champion for children, and we know you will continue to make a difference.

As you end your tenure as Chair, please know that we will miss your monthly words of wisdom, which gave us pause to reflect and often made us smile.

Trustee Dewar once said: "I consider serving as Chair of the Rainbow Board an honour and a privilege".

So tonight, as a decade in the Chair comes to a close, I turn the tables on our behalf and say to you, Trustee Dewar: "It has been an honour and a privilege to have you as our Chair." Thank you.

6. **Past Chair's Remarks**

Trustee Dewar stated:

Congratulations Chair Clement.

Albert Einstein when asked to explain "relativity", said, "Put your hand on a hot stove for a minute, and it seems like an hour. Sit with someone you like (or love) for an hour, and it seems like a minute. That's relativity."

Over the past years, one or the other of these situations applies to my tenure as Chair of the Rainbow District School Board. If I have had any degree of success, it has been thanks to the constant support and dedicated efforts of Rainbow District School Board staff and colleagues.

I look forward to making many more hours into minutes as a trustee.

Thank you.

Director Bourget handed the meeting over to Trustee/Chair Clement.

7. **Election of Vice-Chair**

Doreen Dewar nominated Dena Morrison for the position of Vice-Chair, seconded by Judy Hunda.

Judy Kosmerly nominated Linda Debassige for the position of Vice-Chair, seconded by Margaret Stringer.

- a) **Motion: 22-R04, D.Morrison/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 unanimously**

- b) Motion: 22-R05, D.Morrison/M.Stringer  
That Linda Debassige be elected 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: 22-R06, D.Morrison/J.Hunda

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: Abstain*

*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 Judy Kosmerly

**Audit Committee**

Trustee Judy Hunda

Trustee Dena Morrison

Trustee Margaret Stringer

**Environmental Education Committee**

Trustee Judy Hunda

Student Trustee Michael Yao

**Equity and Inclusive Education Committee**

Trustee Bob Clement

Trustee Linda Debassige

Trustee Judy Kosmerly



**First Nation Advisory Committee**

Trustee Linda Debassige  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean  
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 Dena Morrison  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean  
Student Trustee Michael Yao

**Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC)**

Trustee Linda Debassige  
Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
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 Judy Hunda  
Trustee Kerrie St. Jean  
Student Trustee Michael Yao

**Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) Representative**

Trustee Judy Kosmerly  
Trustee Anita Gibson (alternate)

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

a) **OPSBA Director**

Anita Gibson self-nominated, seconded by Kerrie St. Jean.  
Judy Kosmerly self-nominated, seconded by Doreen Dewar.

1. Motion: 22-R07, D.Morrison/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**

2. Motion: 22-R08, M.Stringer/D.Dewar  
That Judy Kosmerly be declared elected 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 unanimously**

b) **Alternate Director**

Anita Gibson self-nominated, seconded by Kerrie St. Jean.

1. Motion: 22-R09, J.Kosmerly/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**

2. Motion: 22-R10, L.Debassige/K.St.Jean  
That Anita Gibson 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 unanimously**

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.

Doreen Dewar self-nominated, seconded by Judy Kosmerly.  
Anita Gibson self-nominated, seconded by Linda Debassige.

Motion: 22-R11, J.Kosmerly/K.St.Jean  
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: 22-R12, J.Kosmerly/L.Debassige

That Doreen Dewar 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 unanimously**

b) Call for nominations.

Margaret Stringer nominated Dena Morrison, seconded by Judy Hunda.  
Anita Gibson self-nominated, seconded by Kerrie St. Jean.

Motion: 22-R13, M.Stringer/K.St.Jean  
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: 22-R14, K.St.Jean/D.Dewar  
That Dena Morrison 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 unanimously**

11. **BALLOTS**

Motion: 22-R15, L.Debassige/J.Kosmerly  
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 unanimously

12. **Adjournment**

Motion: 22-R16, J.Hunda/M.Stringer

That we now adjourn (6:55 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 7, 2021 at 6:55 p.m.

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

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

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 22-R17, D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of December 7, 2021 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. 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: 22-R18, M.Stringer/J.Hunda

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021 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. **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 shared that Public Health Sudbury and District has streamlined their communication for confirmed cases.

Director Bourget reported that invitations for input have been sent to community partners, staff and committees for feedback on the Strategic Directions document.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

5. **Capital Projects Update – New Sudbury**

Superintendent of Business Dennis Bazinet provided an update on the current projects in the New Sudbury area.

Churchill Public School is progressing well and will be ready for September 2022. They will be hosting Kindergarten registration for the English program only for September 2022.

The new French Immersion school on the Lasalle site has been delayed due to soil issues. We are looking at a March 2023 potential opening. Due to this, Kindergarten French Immersion registrations will be held at Ernie Checkeris and Westmount for September 2022.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Director's Annual Report**

Director of Education Bruce Bourget provided a review on the 2020-2021 Annual Report, that will be posted on the board's website next week.

**2. Public Education Symposium (PES) 2022**

Chair Clement advised that all trustees should have received the registration email for the upcoming event on January 28, 2022.

**3. OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium 2022**

OPSBA Director advised the 2022 Education Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium is tentatively planned for April 28 – 29, 2022 and they were hoping to host in person, but no information has been provided as to the format.

**4. Requests for Leave of Absence - NIL**

**5. Director's Remarks**

I would be remiss to let this meeting slip away without recognizing an individual who has been essential to our Board Meetings for many years now.

As Executive Assistant to the Director of Education, Heather Thirkill plays a critical role behind the scenes, preparing and distributing meeting agendas, recording minutes, archiving resolutions, practices and procedures, supporting the Chair/Vice-Chair and all Trustees, and being the primary point of contact in the Director's Office.

She is an important resource for her colleagues, myself included.

She is our resident corporate historian who is well versed on governance and operations.

But we all know that Heather is much more than the whirlwind of energy, efficiency and enthusiasm that she displays in her role each and every day.

Heather is a kind, caring, and compassionate human being. She checks in on others regularly just to make sure everything is OK, offers to lend a helping hand where needed, and puts others before herself. She possesses the qualities that we value and nurture in Rainbow Schools.

This is Heather's last Board Meeting. She is retiring next week after many years of dedicated service.



Before moving to the Board Office, Heather was an Administrative Assistant in various schools, including Churchill Public School, Lasalle Secondary School, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School and Lockerby Composite School.

That experience served her well. She was appointed Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Special Education, and, for more than 10 years, she has worked alongside senior administrators and elected officials.

I am grateful to Heather for staying as I began in this new role. Heather, you have been a pleasure to work with over the years and we will certainly miss your generous spirit, warm smile, kind nature, and wonderful work ethic.

Heather Thirkill received a Rainbow District School Board Award for Excellence this year. It was a most deserving tribute to an employee who has left a lasting legacy on this Board.

Thank you, Heather. We wish you a retirement filled with all the things that make your heart happy. You have certainly earned it. Congratulations!

6. **Other Items**

**OPSBA Director** – Chair Clement advised there is no report since the last meeting.

**Student Trustee** – Student Trustee Yao advised that Student Senate has been busy working on the annual *Stand Up Speak Out* conference.

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustees recognized the hard work of all Rainbow staff and wanted to wish everyone a happy holiday.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Chair Clement said he is honoured to be Chair of the Board.

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

First Nations Advisory Committee (FNAC) minutes October 18, 2021 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Parent Involvement Committee December 14, 2021 7:00 pm

Student Senate Meeting January 3, 2022 5:30 pm

Special Education Advisory Committee January 5, 2022 12:00 pm

Environmental Education Committee Meeting January 5, 2022 3:30 pm

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting January 11, 2022 5:00 pm

Board Meeting January 25, 2022 5:00 pm

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee February 10, 2022 4:00 pm  
First Nation Advisory Committee February 17, 2022 10:00 am

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 22-R19, D.Dewar/K.St.Jean

That we now adjourn at 8:17 p.m. – **Carried.**

unofficial

**RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF THE**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**

held electronically via Google Meet  
in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom  
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive  
on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:20pm  
at the conclusion of the Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

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

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

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

**A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion: 22-R20, A. Gibson/J. Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Special Board meeting of January 11, 2022 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: Absent  
Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

**– Carried**

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

**C. Tenders/Requests for Proposals**

Motion: 22-R21 D. Morrison/A. Gibson

That the Board award the contract for Manitoulin Secondary School, gym HVAC updates-tender #2022-01 to Metal-Air mechanical Systems Ltd. For \$645,435.00

**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: Absent  
Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

**– Carried**

**D. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 22-R22, D.Morrison/A.Gibson

That we do now adjourn at 6:32 pm. - **Carried**

## **Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 7 pm  
Via Google Meet

### **Attendance Sudbury site:**

Allison Andlar, Parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Angelina Kasunich, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Tricia Hatfield, Parent, Cyril Varney Public School; Dan Koziar, Principal, Princess Anne Public School; Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Sara Kitlar-Pothier, Parent, Churchill Public School; Rebecca Coughlin, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Judy Kosmerly, Trustee; Anita Gibson, Trustee; Doreen Dewar, Board Chair; Kerry Lokan, Parent, Alexander Public School; Melanie Bertrand, Vice-Principal, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Espanola High School; Stephanie Leonard, Parent, Adamsdale Public School; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Steffany Bourque, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Ashley Malley, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Daniela Folino, Social Worker; and Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools

**Espanola Site:**  
David Brutto, Social Worker

**Manitoulin Site:**  
Nicole Abotossaway, Parent, Little Current Public School; and Julie Rochefort, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School

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

#### **1. Welcome**

Chair Allison Andlar 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. Approval of Agenda**

*"That the agenda for the meeting on May 11, 2021 be approved."*

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Seconded by: Julie Rochefort, Manitoulin Secondary School

Carried

#### **4. Approval of Minutes**

*"That the minutes of the meeting held on February 23, 2021 be approved."*

Moved by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Seconded by: Sarah Kitlar-Pothier, Churchill Public School

Carried

#### **5. Presentation: Mental Health Survey for Parents – K to 6 and 7 to 12 Social Workers Daniela Folino (Sudbury) and David Brutto (Espanola)**

Parents will be invited to complete a Mental Health Survey to inform the Strategic Plan for Mental Health. The survey will be sent out within the week. Daniela Folino and David Brutto walked parents/guardians through the survey questions, including demographics. The survey will gauge what parents/guardians would like the Mental Health Team to focus on moving forward. Feedback will be presented in aggregate form only. All responses will be confidential. Parents/guardians can share information, concerns and trends to better serve students and families. All parents/guardians will be invited to complete the survey from K to 12. Only students in Grades 7 to 12 will complete the survey during class time.

#### **6. Discussion based on presentation**

PIC members asked a number of questions. Will data be collated by school to determine city versus rural trends? (School names are being excluded from the survey to ensure confidentiality.) Do we have a mechanism to anonymously report mental health concerns at schools, like a wellness check? (An anonymous app was piloted in the past but it did not get broad use. Students tend to speak to caring adults they know.) Will the survey identify aggravators of anxiety for students in COVID, like the current secondary school schedule with two courses in alternate weeks? (The schedule for secondary schools has been mandated to cohort students and limit the spread of COVID-19. General anxiety due to COVID will be captured in the survey results.) Are there funds for mental health? (Examples were provided of mental health supports in schools.)

It was stressed that the survey will focus on the provision of services rather than the way classes are structured and the Ministry guidance related to COVID-19. PIC Chair Allison Andlar, who is a member of the Mental Health Steering Committee and the Sub-Committee for the Mental Health Strategic Plan, indicated that the survey results do not flow to the Ministry for feedback on curriculum choices or structure. The survey is intended to inform the provision of mental health services in Rainbow Schools.

## **7. Brainstorming for 2021-2022**

PIC members engaged in a dynamic discussion on possible topics for presentations for the 2021-2022 school year. A number of suggestions were presented. PIC members voted on the final topics that were selected.

**Tuesday, October 19, 2021**

**Annual General Meeting at 6 pm**

**Featured Speaker at 7 pm**

**Topic: Resilience**

**Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7 pm**

**Topic: How to run a School Council**

**Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 7 pm**

**Topic: Mental Health Strategic Plan Update**

**Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 7 pm**

**Topic: Equity and Inclusion/Census/Survey Results**

**Tuesday, April 12, 2022 at 6:30 pm**

**Topic: Outdoor Classrooms**

**Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 7 pm**

**Topic: Planning for the 2022-2023 school year**

## **9. Communications Report**

Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor of Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning, provided an overview of the School Year Calendar for 2021-2022. The School Year Calendar is posted on the Board website at [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca)

The expert who led the crisis response following the 1999 school shooting in Taber, Alberta – just eight days after the Columbine school shooting – will deliver a special presentation of Schools and Community Safety supported by Community Threat Assessment Protocol on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 at 6:30 pm. This not-to-be missed virtual event with Kevin J. Cameron is being hosted by the Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) Steering Committee. A Community Threat Assessment Protocol has been in place locally since 2011.

Kevin Cameron is a Board Certified Expert and a Diplomate for the American Academy of Experts in Traumatic Stress. After being seconded by the Alberta Government to study the traumatic aftermath of the school shooting in Taber, Kevin Cameron developed the Traumatic Event Systems Model, Canada's first comprehensive, multidisciplinary VTRA training program, in concert with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Behavioural Sciences Unit.

## **10. School Announcements**

Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School focused on the school's art and tech week, Music Monday and changes to the Cancer Drive due to COVID-19.

Ashley Malley of Redwood Acres Public School praised all staff, admin and parents for being amazing in crazy times.

Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School highlighted the school's many initiatives including an LU Art Competition, social media posts on pets and foods, award winners, Music Monday, and music department promotions. She also highlighted a mobile event with Better Beginnings Better Futures to distribute free bags of groceries.

Sara Kitlar-Pothier of Churchill Public School focused on school activities, including a dance flash mob, spirit days and success at an online math competition.

Dan Koziar of Princess Anne Public School talked about a virtual reading event, taking something typically done in the school and moving it online.

Kerry Lokan of Alexander Public School indicated that school fundraising will help support the outdoor classroom coming in the fall.

Kristina Rivard Gobbo of Espanola High School said students are taking part in a Specialist High Skills Major competition in the community.

Melanie Bertrand, Vice-Principal of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, highlighted mental health week and day seminars planned by the student leadership class. She also indicated that three students were participating in the Canada-Wide Science Fair and were recently introduced at the Board's Strategic Planning Committee.

Rebecca Coughlin of Lansdowne Public School said teachers are doing well, offering great opportunities to their students, such as a virtual presentation at the Ontario Science Centre. Students learned how to build a harvest garden. The school also hosted a spirit week.



Steffany Bourque of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School extended kudos to teachers for doing such a great job for kids. With PRO Grant funds, the school is producing banners with positive messages that have received good feedback.

Stephanie Leonard of Adamsdale Public School praised admin and staff for building strong connections online. She also highlighted Better Beginnings, Better Futures giveaways.

Tricia Hatfield of Cyril Varney Public School said the online school day can be very long. She praised admin and staff for adjusting and accommodating individual learning styles and needs. She hopes feedback regarding online learning will be reviewed.

Allison Andlar of R.L. Beattie Public School highlighted the little things that are making online learning manageable and keeping everyone going.

Allison Andlar thanked parents/guardians and staff for participating in PIC this year. Chair Doreen Dewar said “we appreciate your job as Chair”. She extended a special thank you to all School Council Chairs in Rainbow District School Board.

#### **11. Adjournment**

*“That the meeting be adjourned.”*

Moved by: Tricia Hatfield, Cyril Varney Public School

Seconded by Sara Kitlar-Pothier, Churchill Public School

Carried

#### **Next meeting:**

**Tuesday, October 19, 2021**

**Annual General Meeting**

**Topic: Resilience**

**Parent Involvement Committee Annual General Meeting  
Minutes  
Tuesday, October 19, 2021 at 6 pm  
Via Google Meet**

**Attendance**

**Sudbury site:**

Doreen Dewar, Chair, Rainbow District School Board; Dena Morrison, Vice-Chair, Rainbow District School Board; Judy Kosmerly, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Anita Gibson, Trustee, Rainbow District School Board; Judy Noble, Superintendent of Schools; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Bruce Bourget, Director of Education; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Allison Andlar, Parent, R.L. Beattie Public School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Sara Kitlar-Pothier, Parent, Churchill Public School; Noni Perritt, Parent, Lansdowne Public School; Denise Sheppard, Parent, Manitoulin Secondary School; Amanda Fyke, Parent, Walden Public School; Ashley Malley, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School; Jessica Sauvé, Parent, Markstay Public School; Erica Jenkins, Parent, Westmount Avenue Public School; Tricia Hatfield, Parent, Cyril Varney Public School; Shelley Tamura, Principal, Central Manitoulin Public School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Espanola High School; Nadia Berardelli, Principal, Markstay Public School; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning; Michael McKelvey, Information Services.

**Call to order 6 pm**

**1. Welcome from Superintendent of Schools Lesley Fisher**

Superintendent Lesley Fisher welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

She reviewed the agenda for the evening and introduced members of the 2020-2021 PIC Executive. Superintendent Fisher also introduced administrators, teachers and Trustees who participated in PIC. She acknowledged all of the parents who attended PIC meetings and thanked them for their interest and support.

She also review the topics covered during the 2020-2021 School Year:

October 20, 2020:	Education in the Era of COVID-19
December 1, 2020:	Recovery and Resilience
January 5, 2021:	Financial Literacy
February 23, 2021:	Specialist High Skills Major - Red Seal
May 11, 2021:	Planning Meeting for the 2021-2022
June 2, 2021:	Safe Schools and Violence Threat Risk Assessment

**2. Greetings from Board Chair Doreen Dewar**

Board Chair Doreen Dewar extended a warm welcome to parents, guardians, and staff who were joining the meeting online. She delivered greetings on behalf of the Board of Trustees. Chair Dewar thanked parents/guardians for volunteering to serve and commended them for their contribution. In the school community, School Councils provide wonderful opportunities for parents and guardians to support their child's education and the education of all children. At the Board level, the Parent Involvement Committee brings members of School Councils together to network, share ideas and provide input.

Chair Dewar commended Allison Andlar, Chair, and Stacy Paajanen, Vice-Chair, for their leadership. Chair Dewar extended a sincere thank you to parents/guardians involved in School Councils as well as the Parent Involvement Committee. She also acknowledged parents/guardians who have expressed an interest in PIC going forward and thanked them for answering the call to serve.

Chair Dewar indicated that educational partners will have an opportunity to provide input into the Board's five-year strategic plan this fall. Director of Education, Bruce Bourget, will lead the consultations. She encouraged parents/guardians to participate. She thanked parents/guardians for their patience, understanding and support throughout the pandemic, saying you have demonstrated tremendous resiliency which is a life skill we continue to nurture in our students.

Chair Dewar told the story of individual rocks that had gone into a tumbler and came out a lot differently because they worked together to create something special.... something they could not have achieved on their own. She acknowledged that this is the beauty of teamwork. Like polished stones, parents and guardians, caring educators and active community members are partners in education working together for student success.

### **3. Greetings from Director of Education Bruce Bourget**

Director of Education Bruce Bourget welcomed everyone to the first Parent Involvement Committee meeting of the 2021-2022 school year. He began by acknowledging parents and guardians for their ongoing support. As Director of Education, he indicated that it is an honour to work on behalf of children and all students in Rainbow Schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin.

The process of renewing the Board's five-year strategic plan is underway. The document, called Strategic Directions, defines the vision, mission, values and priorities of the Board and its schools. It's an important document because it outlines who we are, what we do, what we value and what we want to achieve.... together.

The Board is seeking input from its many stakeholders, including parents and guardians. Director Bourget invited parents/guardians to attend an upcoming consultation session to provide input - What do you think the Board's priorities should be? How might we further support mental health and well-being, student success and achievement, equity and inclusion, and Truth and Reconciliation? Director Bourget said putting priorities into focus will ensure the Board allocates resources on what matters the most.

Director Bourget said the Board is thrilled to re-open its schools with health and safety protocols. Whether children are learning in person or online, the pandemic has certainly called on all of us to adapt. Resiliency is an important life skill and he is very pleased that Dr. Michael Ungar is the featured speaker this evening. Dr. Ungar is a leading authority on the topic and a great story-teller.

### **4. 2021-2022 Election of PIC Membership**

Superintendent Fisher explained that at the AGM, a slate of up to 10 candidates is approved for the PIC Executive. According to the Terms of Reference for PIC, the membership includes one representative from each of the Espanola and Manitoulin Island areas, and eight representatives from the Sudbury area.

Prior to the meeting, nominees were invited from all schools.

Superintendent Fisher presented the slate of nominees, as follows:

**Sara Kitlar-Pothier – Churchill Public School**  
**Tricia Hatfield – Cyril Varney Public School**  
**Natasha Delaney – Jean Hanson Public School**  
**Noni Perritt – Lansdowne Public School**  
**Denise Sheppard – Manitoulin Secondary School**  
**Melissa Gladu – Northeastern Elementary School**

**Ashley Malley – Redwood Acres Public School**  
**Chalene Sutherland – S. Geiger Public School**  
**Amanda Fyke – Walden Public School**  
**Erica Jenkins – Westmount Avenue Public School**

She noted that the representatives for Northeastern and S. Geiger were not in attendance at the AGM. Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School was added to the slate for the PIC Executive.

The PIC Executive was acclaimed as follows:

**Sara Kitlar-Pothier – Churchill Public School**  
**Tricia Hatfield – Cyril Varney Public School**  
**Natasha Delaney – Jean Hanson Public School**  
**Noni Perritt – Lansdowne Public School**  
**Denise Sheppard – Manitoulin Secondary School**  
**Ashley Malley – Redwood Acres Public School**  
**Bernadette Rémillard – Sudbury Secondary School**  
**Amanda Fyke – Walden Public School**  
**Erica Jenkins – Westmount Avenue Public School**

Superintendent Fisher introduced this year's non-parent PIC members:

**Judy Kosmerly (Trustee)**  
**Lesley Fisher (Superintendent of Schools)**  
**Nicole Charette (Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications)**  
**Kristina Rivard-Gobbo (Principal)**  
**Nadia Berardelli (Principal)**  
**Sheila James (Vice-Principal)**  
**Sherri Conley (Elementary Teacher)**

#### **5. Meeting dates for 2021-2022**

Superintendent Fisher reviewed the schedule of PIC meetings for the remainder of the school year:

<b>October 19, 2021:</b>	<b>Nurturing Resilience with Dr. Michael Ungar</b>
<b>December 14, 2021:</b>	<b>Effective School Councils</b>
<b>January 4, 2022:</b>	<b>Mental Health Strategic Plan</b>
<b>February 8, 2022:</b>	<b>Equity and Inclusion/Census/Survey Results</b>
<b>April 12, 2022:</b>	<b>Outdoor Classrooms</b>
<b>May 10, 2022:</b>	<b>Planning for the 2022-2023 school year</b>

Superintendent Fisher thanked everyone for attending the Annual General Meeting. Participants were invited to stay for a presentation on nurturing resilience through strong family, school and community connections with Dr. Michael Ungar.

Dr. Michael Ungar is a Family Therapist and Professor of Social Work at Dalhousie University where he holds the Canada Research Chair in Child, Family and Community Resilience. His research on resilience around the world and across cultures has made him one of the best-known scholars in the field. He the author of 17 books for parents, educators, mental health professionals, and employers, including his most recent work *Change Your World: The Science of Resilience and the True Path to Success*, a book for adults experiencing stress at work and at home, *Working with Children and Youth with Complex Needs: 20 Skills to Build Resilience*, a book for counselors, and *I Still Love You: Nine Things Troubled Kids Need from their*

Parents, a guide for parents seeking to build their children's resilience. His blog, Nurturing Resilience, can be read on Psychology Today's website.

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

**Next Meeting:**

**Tuesday, December 14, 2021 - 7 pm**

Via Google Meet

**Topic: Strategic Directions and Effective School Councils**

Official

## **Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7 pm  
Via Google Meet

### **Attendance**

#### **Sudbury:**

Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Ashley Malley, Parent, Redwood Acres Public School; Natasha Delaney, Parent, Jean Hanson Public School; Angelina Kasunich, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Steffany Bourque, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Denis Plouffe, Parent, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Juan Wang, Parent, Princess Anne Public School; Kim Plexman, Parent, Algonquin Road Public School; Bridget Erwin, Parent, Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Espanola High School; Dan Koziar, Principal of Program; Judy Kosmerly, Trustee; Anita Gibson, Trustee; Meredith Coulas, ETFO rep; Sheila James, Vice-Principal, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School; Nadia Berardelli, Principal, Markstay Public School; Bruce Bourget, Director of Education; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

#### **Espanola:**

Shannon Ketchabaw, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School

#### **Manitoulin:**

N/A

Call to Order: 7 pm

### **1. Welcome**

Superintendent Lesley Fisher 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. Strategic Directions 2022-2027**

#### **Presenter: Bruce Bourget, Director of Education**

Director Bourget invited PIC members to complete the Strategic Directions survey, if they have not done so already. The link, which was shared with parents/guardians through School Councils earlier this fall, was posted in the chat section of the Google Meet for ease of access.

Director Bourget has been meeting with stakeholders over the past few months to gather input for the Board's five-year strategic plan. More than 20 presentations/conversations

have occurred and over 1,000 survey responses have been received to date as the Board seeks input to define its vision, mission, values, goals and priorities.

Director Bourget reviewed the questions guiding discussions and asked PIC members to consider them from their perspective and what's best for students. He thanked parents/guardians for their input, noting that it will help to determine the priorities that will guide decision-making going forward.

Director Bourget will be meeting with the Ad Hoc Committee of Trustees on Thursday, December 16, 2021. The Board's Strategic Planning Committee will receive an update on the consultations on January 11, 2022. A draft of Strategic Directions 2022-2027 will be presented to the Board on January 25, 2022. These meetings are live streamed. Links will be posted on [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca) prior to the start of each meeting.

#### **4. Effective School Councils**

##### **Presenter: Dan Koziar, Principal of Program**

Principal Koziar provided an overview of some of the legislation and logistics of School Councils. He also highlighted some best practices to ensure equitable representation and opportunities for all families to participate.

Creating connections between schools, students and families is critical to ongoing, sustainable success and achievement. Allowing parents input into school decision-making and direction setting reinforces the importance of the partnership between home and school, and invites involvement and collaboration between the various stakeholders in the educational process.

Principal Koziar covered a number of topics - what is a School Council, how they are formed, membership, roles and responsibilities, encouraging input, removing barriers, effective meeting strategies, etc. He also shared resources, including the Ministry of Education document called [Schools Councils: A Guide for Members](http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/guide.html) available at <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/elemsec/council/guide.html>

#### **5. Discussion based on presentation**

PIC members had an opportunity to ask questions throughout both presentations. PIC members asked if the presentation on Effective School Councils could be shared with School Council Chairs. The presentation was distributed to PIC members and School Council Chairs via email following the meeting.

#### **6. Approval of Agenda**

*"That the agenda for the meeting on December 14, 2021 be approved."*

Moved by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Seconded by: Steffany Bourque, Chelmsford Valley District Composite School

Carried

## **7. Approval of Minutes**

*“That the minutes of the meetings held on May 11, 2021 and the AGM held on October 19, 2021 be approved.”*

Moved by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Seconded by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Carried

## **8. PIC Executive for 2021-2022**

Superintendent Fisher presented the parents/guardians who were acclaimed to PIC at the AGM on October 19, 2021, as follows:

**Sara Kitlar-Pothier – Churchill Public School**

**Tricia Hatfield – Cyril Varney Public School**

**Natasha Delaney – Jean Hanson Public School**

**Noni Perritt – Lansdowne Public School**

**Denise Sheppard – Manitoulin Secondary School**

**Ashley Malley – Redwood Acres Public School**

**Bernadette Rémillard – Sudbury Secondary School**

**Amanda Fyke – Walden Public School**

**Erica Jenkins – Westmount Avenue Public School**

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

Superintendent Lesley Fisher thanked Allison Andlar of R.L. Beattie Public School for serving as Chair of PIC and Stacey Paaanen of Walden Public School for serving as Vice-Chair of PIC during the 2020-2021 school year.

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

*“That Natasha Delaney be acclaimed Chair of PIC for 2021-2022.”*

Moved by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Seconded by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Carried

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

*“That Bernadette Rémillard be acclaimed Vice-Chair of PIC for 2021-2022.”*

Moved by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Seconded by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Carried



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

*“That Nicole Charette serve as Secretary of PIC for 2021-2022.”*

Moved by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Seconded by: Ashley Malley, Redwood Acres Public School

Carried

#### **10. 2021-2022 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants**

Schools can apply for \$2,000 in Parents Reaching Out Grants to engage parents in their children’s learning. PIC will consider applications at its meeting on January 4, 2022.

#### **11. Communications Report**

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

##### **Board Chair and Vice-Chair**

District School Board held its annual organizational meeting on Tuesday, December 7, 2021. Trustee Bob Clement will serve as Chair of the Board. Trustee Linda Debassige will serve as Vice-Chair of the Board. Membership on Board standing committees was also approved.

##### **COVID-19 Advisory Section on [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca)**

Public Health Sudbury & Districts advises Rainbow District School Board when there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 with an impact on a school. This information is posted on the Board’s website at [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca). There is a link to the COVID-19 Advisory Section on all school websites.

##### **Secondary school information nights will be virtual.**

All information nights can be accessed from school websites.

Espanola High School, Lockerby Composite School, and Lively District Secondary School information nights have already taken place. Visit school websites for information.

Upcoming information nights:

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

**Kindergarten Information Nights will also be virtual.**

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. Visit [rainbowschools.ca](https://rainbowschools.ca) for details.

**Climate Change Action Plan**

Rainbow District School Board is on track to have all of its schools EcoSchools Canada Certified by 2022, a commitment made when the Board declared a climate change emergency two years ago. The EcoSchools commitment is the cornerstone of the Climate Change Action Plan that was presented to the Board at its meeting on October 26, 2021. Monthly environmental challenges, which include an Indigenous component, have proven to be an effective way to broaden the scope of education and environmental action. The challenges also include an “Anishinaabe” perspective giving students the opportunity to experience and understand the customs and teachings to place an even greater value on the protection of our planet.

**11. School Announcements**

Natasha Delaney of Jean Hanson Public School said the neighbouring Gatchell Pool is now open for student access, with COVID protocols. Rapid Test Kits have been sent home. Vaccination clinics are taking place at the school. Jean Hanson produced a new pamphlet with school information and resources for parents and caregivers. Wellness Wednesdays are continuing. These sessions have proven to be very popular with families.

Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School highlighted a number of school events, including participating in the local telethon, Spirit Week, turkey dinner, rock painting for relaxation, Virtual Open House on January 13, 2022, donations to the Value Vault, recorded Variety Show, etc.

Ashley Malley of Redwood Acres Public School said the school is in the midst of Spirit Month with festive events, including participating in the Edgar Burton Food Drive. She indicated that Redwood Acres has approximately 340 students with even more wanting to attend and asked if an expansion might be considered. She praised the school for managing the recent COVID outbreak well, adding that everyone is doing the best they can and kids need to be kids.

Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School said the school provides great support to students as they look ahead to future career goals. The school's Friday newsletter keeps parents/guardians well informed about school events and happenings. She indicated that students are doing well in sports locally, regionally and provincially and asked if games could be livestreamed for parents/guardians to enjoy. She also

highlighted school events including the Food Drive, World Fisheries Day, and the Kids Caring for Kids Cancer Drive.

Bridget Erwin of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School indicated that the Lo-Ellen Park School Council has met twice. This week was holiday spirit week. The Neo Kids Council at Lo-Ellen Park recently teamed up with Hot 93.5 for an in-school version of their pay-for-play fundraiser. Neo Kids Council is also selling tote bags and stickers to support NEO Kids. The Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School Open House will be held virtually on January 13, 2021.

Steff Bourque of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School said the school has participated in a shoe box drive for women, students in Grades 7/8 wrote letters to children at NEO Kids, and CVDCS has hosted a few great fundraisers for the school. She also indicated that two students fared well in a math competition. This is Spirit Week at CVDCS as students gear up for the winter break. Rapid Antigen Test kits have gone home for students to screen for COVID over the holidays.

**12. Adjournment at 8:35 pm**

*"That the meeting be adjourned."*

Moved by: Natasha Delaney, Jean Hanson Public School

Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School

Carried

**Next meeting:**

**Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 7 pm - Via Google Meet**

**Topic: School Mental Health Action Plan**

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

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021**

**Time: 12:00 PM**

**Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing**

**Present:**

**SEAC Members:**

Natasha Delaney (Vice-Chair)  
Judy Kosmerly  
Shelly Laronde  
Wendy Larouche (Chair)  
Julia Ritchie  
Robert Silvestri  
Kerrie St. Jean

Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter  
Trustee  
N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre  
Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury  
CCR Parent Advisory/ Ontario Autism Coalition  
NOARC  
Trustee

**Staff:**

Colleen McDonald  
Joanne Taillon  
Kathy Wachnuk

Principal of Special Education Programs and Services  
Special Education Consultant  
Superintendent

**Regrets:**

Julie Contini  
Cereena Rows

Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury  
FASD

**Other:**

Bruce Bourget  
Doreen Dewar

Director of Education  
Chair

**Absent:**

## **1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

W. Larouche introduced and welcomed everyone to the virtual SEAC meeting.

## **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: Trustee Kosmerly

Seconded by: R. Silvestri

That the amended agenda for the SEAC meeting of November 3, 2021 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. Ritchie

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of October 6, 2021 be approved.

Motion carried.

## **7.0 Business Arising**

No business arising

## **8.0 New Business**

### **8.1 Presentation by Director of Education Bruce Bourget**

Director Bourget shared the Strategic Directions for 2022-2027. He elaborated on the priorities, the framework and the engagement process. Sample survey questions were asked and answered. SEAC members are encouraged to complete the on-line survey. A link will be shared via email.

### **8.2 Presentation by Principal of Special Education Colleen McDonald**

Principal McDonald shared a Literacy Resources Presentation highlighting the programs and interventions available in Rainbow Schools. The six facets of

reading were explained. Highlights and an overview of the following programs were shared: Heggerty, Lexia Reading, Empower, Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI), Teach Town and Fast ForWord. Discussion, questions and answers followed the presentation.

## **9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence**

### **Motion 3:**

Moved by: N.Delaney

Seconded by: J. Ritchie

That the SEAC approve the leave of absences of J. Contini and C. Rows from the November 3, 2021 SEAC meeting.

Motion carried.

## **10.0 Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that the Ministry of Education has collected work from School Boards around the province and created a guide of evidence-informed strategies for supporting students with special education needs to learn remotely. These strategies build on local and international best practices. This information and the tip sheets will be forwarded to SEAC members via email.

The Ministry of Education has not yet announced if Boards of Education will be submitting Special Incidence Portion (SIP) funding applications this school year.

Parent-Teacher interviews are being held this afternoon.

## **11.0 Special Education Staff Report**

Principal McDonald provided a Math Pilot Project update. All eight schools involved have now completed their initial team meetings.

## **12.0 Board Report**

Trustee Kosmerly shared that information regarding the transition from grade 8 to grade 9 is now available through Eastlink OnDemand. Parents, guardians and students can tune in to Eastlink Channel 10 on November 15, 22 and 29 at 8 pm to watch "Making the Transition: Finding your Way from Grade 8 to Grade 9". Additional information is also available at [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca)

At this time, school facilities remain closed to the public.

This year's Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) conference will focus on well-being, equity, and success for all. Trustee Kosmerly will forward additional information to the SEAC via email.

### 13.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W. Larouche inquired about the possibility of reviewing the number of students with exceptionalities at our next SEAC meeting.

### 14.0 Association Reports

Julia Ritchie: CCR Parent Advisory/ Ontario Autism Coalition

An update on the Ontario Autism Program was provided along with some of the key elements that still need to be addressed such as wait-lists, wait-times, supports and transparency.

Natasha Delaney: Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter

Stefanie Molica is a new Service Navigator. She can be reached at 1800-472-7789 ext. 242 or via email at [stefanie@autismontario.com](mailto:stefanie@autismontario.com)

Shelly Laronde: N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

Elders sessions are scheduled to begin.

The Children's Mental Health Program provides services and support to children and their families that address behavioural and mental health needs.

Robert Silvestri: NOARC

Assessments are in progress again. Mini-screeners for ADHD, LD and Mental Health will be introduced. Accessibility advisors will meet at the end of the month.

Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

November is all about Individual Education Plans (IEPs). We are encouraging parent engagement while not overwhelming them. Our Coaching Program remains virtual at this time.

### 15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

No correspondence

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

- Math Interventions Presentation (December SEAC)
- Review of the number of Rainbow students with exceptionalities

### 17.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday December 1, 2021 at noon.

### 18.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:27 PM.

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

**Wednesday, December 1, 2021**

**Time: 12:00 PM**

**Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing**

**Present:**

**SEAC Members:**

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Shelly Laronde	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
Cereena Rows	FASD
Natasha Delaney (Vice-Chair)	Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter
Judy Kosmerly	Trustee
Wendy Larouche (Chair)	Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
Robert Silvestri	NOARC

**Staff:**

Daniel Koziar	Principal of Program
Colleen McDonald	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Joanne Taillon	Special Education Consultant
Kathy Wachnuk	Superintendent

**Regrets:**

**Other:**

Doreen Dewar	Chair
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**Absent:**

Julia Ritchie	CCR Parent Advisory/ Ontario Autism Coalition
Kerrie St. Jean	Trustee



## **1.0 Welcome and Introductions**

W. Larouche introduced and welcomed everyone to the virtual SEAC meeting.

## **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: R. Silvestri

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of December 1, 2021 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: Trustee Kosmerly

Seconded by: N. Delaney

That the minutes of the SEAC meeting of November 3, 2021 be approved.

Motion carried.

## **7.0 Business Arising**

The slides from the November Literacy Presentation will be shared with J. Contini.

W. Larouche asked if there is a way to know how many viewers tuned into Eastlink Channel 10 for the “Making the Transition: Finding your Way from Grade 8 to Grade 9” information session. Superintendent Wachnuk will follow-up.

## **8.0 New Business**

### **8.1 Presentation by Principal of Program Daniel Koziar**

Principal Koziar shared a presentation entitled “Math Resources and Interventions at Rainbow District School Board”. Details were provided about the 2020 revisions to the Ontario Mathematics curriculum, instruction and accommodations, a Balanced Math Program and the Responsive Numeracy

Interventions along with sources of assessment data. Questions and answers followed the presentation.

N. Delaney would like a copy of the presentation.

## **9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence**

There were no requests.

## **10.0 Superintendent's Report**

The Ministry of Education has confirmed that School Boards across the province will not submit Special Incidence Portion (SIP) funding applications this school year. Instead, School Boards will receive a 5% increase over last year's allocation.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared exceptionality counts by elementary and secondary schools with SEAC.

## **11.0 Special Education Staff Report**

Principal McDonald provided an update on the Math Pilot project and reported that 57 students are taking part.

Finding a business partner is the next step in the Disabilities Pilot Project. On-going updates will be shared monthly.

## **12.0 Board Report**

Trustee Kosmerly shared agenda items that were discussed at the most recent Board meeting including a Mental Health update, Rapid Antigen Test Kits, the increased numbers of COVID-19 cases and their impact on bussing.

## **13.0 Chairperson's Remarks**

W. Larouche acknowledged the wonderful work of the SEAC members and offered best wishes for a good winter break.

## **14.0 Association Reports**

### Natasha Delaney: Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter

The Autism Ontario December Newsletter was shared with SEAC via email earlier this week. It includes the 2020-2021 Annual Report, registration information for the Autism Ontario OAP Service Navigation Program, Social Learning Opportunities, Workshops and more. Also, Sensitive Santa is back. A link for more information will be shared with SEAC.

Shelly Laronde: N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

Essential services continue to be provided while staff currently rotate in and out of the office. A new Mental Health Peer Support worker has been hired. The office will be closed from December 23, 2021 to January 4, 2022.

Robert Silvestri: NOARC

NOARC hopes to continue with in-person assessments.

Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

The LDAS has teamed up with Amici for a Cookies for Christmas fundraising event. Order forms are available at [ldasudbury.ca](http://ldasudbury.ca)

Julie Contini: Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury

The Sudbury Walk was held in October. New members were welcomed at the Annual General Meeting. Laurie Christison will be the new SEAC alternate. A new Parent Group will be set up virtually.

Cereena Rows: FASD

Michelle Graham has recently been hired as an FASD Consultant at Children's Community Network.

## **15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC**

2021 10 05 letter addressed to the Minister of Education from the Trillium Lakelands District School Board SEAC Chair supporting Bill 172 (FASD)

-Acknowledged as correspondence addressed to SEAC.

2021 10 19 letter addressed to the Minister of Education from Waterloo Region District School Board SEAC Chair regarding Online Learning Supports and Universal Design for learning and the platforms used to access these resources.

-Acknowledged as correspondence addressed to SEAC.

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

-Inquire about the number of viewers that tuned into the "Making the Transition: Finding your Way from Grade 8 to Grade 9" information session.

## **17.0 Next Meeting Date**

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on Wednesday January 5, 2022 at noon.

## **18.0 Adjournment**

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 1:19 PM.