

## **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, January 25, 2022 at 5:03 p.m.

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

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, D. Peristeridis

Others: S. Ackroyd, N. Cecchetto, T. Hayes, M. McKelvey

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

Chair Clement 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: 22-R20 D.Morrison/J.Kosmerly

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 25, 2022 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**

##### **1. Enrolment**

The Director provided an update of the October 31, 2021 enrolment.

The Director explained predicted and actual enrolment, the actual count dates, and spoke specifically about actual 2021 enrolment compared to actual 2020 enrolment for both the elementary and secondary panels. The Director was happy to report our enrolment exceeded our predicted numbers. Trustees had an opportunity to comment and ask questions. Trustees expressed appreciation for the detailed information provided.

2. Strategic Directions

The Director provided a brief update on the progress and next steps for the document and that a more detailed update would be provided at the February 1, 2022 Strategic Planning Meeting.

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

Motion: 22-R21 D.Morrison/M.Stringer

That the motion #22-W04 RE: Labour Relations matter, 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

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

a) Motion: 22-R22 J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the minutes of the Organizational Board Meeting held on Tuesday, 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) Motion: 22-R23 D.Morrison/D.Dewar  
That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, 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

- c) Motion: 22-R24 J.Kosmerly/A.Gibson  
That the minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 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
3. 2021-2022 School Year Update

Director 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. He spoke about Rapid Antigen tests, vaccination status updates and the new guidance on testing and isolation requirements.

Director Bourget advised that Secondary students would be returning to 4 periods a day starting in the second semester.

Director Bourget shared that Parents could access Kindergarten information presentations on individual school websites and virtual Secondary Information nights will be occurring through the month of February.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

**F. NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Revised Estimates 2021-2022**

Superintendent Bazinet reviewed the revised estimate document provided to trustees.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

**2. Property**

**Motion 22-R25 J.Kosmerly/M.Stringer**

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.

**Poll vote**

*Bob Clement: In-favour  
Linda Debassige: Abstain  
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. Public Education Symposium (PES) 2022**

**Motion 22-R26 D.Morrison/D.Dewar**

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*

**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**

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

5. **Director's Remarks**

I would like to thank all staff for their resilience, dedication and courage. We continue to work together to support our students through the current wave of the pandemic. The work that occurs each and every day on behalf of students is very significant and highly commendable.

As you know, we continue to prioritize safety, mental health, wellness and belonging - which provide a strong foundation for learning. I am grateful to the Board of Trustees for your support and advocacy for our students and staff. In the days and weeks ahead we will continue to face new challenges. Being kind, caring and patient goes a very long way in supporting each other. It is a simple, yet powerful way to continue to make a difference each and every day.

I would like to share some appointments:

Neil Debassige - Vice-Principal at Manitoulin Secondary School.

Pablo Gil-Alfau - Interim System Principal of Indigenous Education

Colleen Eberlein - Acting Principal at Levack P.S.

Laura Pogue - Acting Vice-Principal at Queen Elizabeth P.S.

These recent appointments are from February 7th to the end of June and will enable us to focus on priorities and fill temporary vacancies.

6. **Other Items**

**OPSBA Director** – Trustee Kosmerly advised that Project Compass Steering Committee has developed a draft implementation plan that will be brought forward to the OPSBA Executive Council for a vote and reminded Trustees of the upcoming PES conference on January 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Student Trustee** – Student Trustee Michael Yao reported that the Student Senate is discussing plans for the Stand Up Speak Out conference and he will provide a detailed update at a later time.

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Stringer thanked administrators and staff during these extraordinary times for all that they do.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks**

It's Bell Let's Talk Day tomorrow - Wednesday, January 26th. Rainbow District School Board's Mental Health Team has prepared a list of helpful resources, activities and videos for students, staff and families. These resources can be accessed on the Board's website - rainbowschools.ca. In the lead up to Bell Let's Talk Day, resources have also been posted daily on the Board's Facebook page.

A resource guide for parents/guardians is now available online. The guide lists municipal, provincial and federal agencies and programs that support children and families. To access the Guide, visit [rainbowschools.ca](http://rainbowschools.ca). Click Parents then Resources for Parents. This guide was produced by Jean Hanson Public School. It was so well received that Superintendent Wachnuk asked that it be shared online for access by all families.

It's been wonderful to see students returning to school in-person. Educators continue to find interesting ways to engage students - sparking creativity and excitement for learning.

Here are a few examples:

Students from S. Geiger Public School used Play-Doh to make models of the watershed.

Students from Redwood Acres Public School worked cooperatively to build a snow tunnel and also enjoyed "Inside Out and Backwards Day".

Grade 2 students from Cyril Varney Public School in Mrs. Marsh's class read a book called "I am" that discusses positive affirmations. Students created a handprint craft where they wrote something positive about themselves.

The "English: Understanding Contemporary First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Voices" class at Sudbury Secondary School is participating in a Canada-wide outreach initiative called "Feathers for Our Women." The feathers are to show support and raise awareness for the missing or murdered women, girls, transgender, and two-spirit peoples in Canada.

And, Manitoulin Secondary School's SHARE Go-Green Club has set up an Eco-Hero program to encourage and inspire students to become more eco-conscious. The program helps students discover ways they can reduce their ecological footprint by making little changes that, together, have a big impact - for instance, taking shorter showers, not using plastic, and avoiding single-use gift wrap.

And take note of the following dates:

A friendly reminder to families that there is a Professional Development Day on Friday, February 4th. There will be no school for students on that day.

The next PIC meeting will take place on Tuesday, February 8th at 7 pm. The topic will be School Climate Survey Results / Census Survey Consultation

February is "Black History Month"

My quote: I refuse to accept the view that mankind is so tragically bound to the starless midnight of racism and war that the bright daybreak of peace and brotherhood can never become a reality...I believe that unarmed truth and unconditional love will have the final word" - Author Martin Luther King Jr.

**G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

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**

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**

Motion 22-R28 D.Dewar/J.Hunda

That we do now adjourn at 7:20 p.m. – **Carried**