

**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, February 15, 2022 at 5:01 p.m.

---

Present: Trustees: B. Clement (Chair), D. Dewar, A. Gibson, J. Kosmerly,  
D. Morrison, K. St. Jean, M. Stringer, Student Trustee Yao,  
J. Hunda (joined 5:23pm)  
Absent: L. Debassige  
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, N.  
Mousseau, T. Dewit, L. Kolari, E. Mack, N. Taylor

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-R29 M.Stringer/D.Morrison

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of February 15, 2022 be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour*  
*Linda Debassige: Absent*  
*Doreen Dewar: In-favour*  
*Anita Gibson: In-favour*  
*Judy Hunda: Absent*  
*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**

## Strategic Directions

The Director provided an update on the process and the proposed vision, mission, values and priorities for the Strategic Directions of the Board. He expressed his sincere gratitude to all stakeholders in the collaboration process. Once approved a communications campaign to share the plan with staff, students, parents/guardians and school communities will begin.

Trustees had the opportunity to comment and ask questions. Trustees expressed their appreciation for the Director's commitment to putting this together.

### Motion: 22-R30 J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the Vision, Mission, Values and Priorities of the Rainbow District School Board, as presented in Strategic Directions 2022-2027, be approved.

#### Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour*  
*Linda Debassige: Absent*  
*Doreen Dewar: In-favour*  
*Anita Gibson: In-favour*  
*Judy Hunda: Absent*  
*Judy Kosmerly: In-favour*  
*Dena Morrison: In-favour*  
*Kerrie St Jean: In-favour*  
*Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

– Carried

## **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**

#### **a) Motion: 22-R31 D.Morrison/D.Dewar**

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 25, 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: Absent*  
*Dena Morrison: In-favour*  
*Kerrie St Jean: In-favour*  
*Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

– Carried

2. **2021-2022 School Year Update**

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

Director Bourget shared COVID-19 data and information about the revised school screener. He spoke about survey results for the February option for remote or in-person learning and the announcement of the cancellation of winter OFSAA championships. He mentioned that high contact and extra-curricular sports, as well as music activities, were permitted to resume, and that school-based vaccination clinics would continue. The Director shared good news stories and updates of things happening in Rainbow Schools.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions and were very thankful for the uplifting information in the presentation.

3. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**

Motion: 22-R32 J.Kosmerly/D.Morrison

That the Board award the contract for Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, stair replacement-tender #2022-02 to Reasbeck Construction Inc. for \$187,480.00.

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: In-favour*  
*Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

**– Carried**

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

a) **Strategic Planning Committee**

Motion: 22-R33 D.Morrison/M.Stringer

That the Board allocate supplemental capital funding from the Proceeds of Disposition Reserve to complete the construction of the new JK-6 French Immersion elementary school in New Sudbury as recommended by the Strategic Planning Committee.

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) **Labour Relations Committee**

**Motion: 22-R34 D.Morrison/M.Stringer**

That the Board expand the Labour Relations Committee to include the OPSBA Director as a member for the remainder of the year and to include on the Committee going forward at the December organizational meeting as recommended by the Labour Relations Committee.

Poll vote

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

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2022-2023 School Year Structure**

**Motion: 22-R35 D.Morrison/D.Dewar**

That the Board approve the 2022-2023 School Year Structure for elementary and secondary schools.

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. **Ontario Student Trustee Association – Board Council Conference**

**Motion: 22-R36 J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly**

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Yao at the Virtual OSTA-AECO Board Council Conference February 18 to 19, 2022.

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

3. **Requests for Leave of Absence**

**Motion: 22-R37 M.Stringer/D.Dewar**

That Trustee Debassige be granted a leave of absence from the February 15, 2022 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

4. **Director's Remarks**

The Ministry of Education has introduced a new graduation requirement.

Students who entered Grade 9 in 2020-2021 must earn two online learning credits to obtain their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD). (*One secondary school credit completed in 2020-2021 during the period of remote learning from April to June 2021 has been deemed as “earned” towards the new graduation requirement*).

Grade 10 students will be invited to complete a survey during the week of February 28, 2022 to indicate their interest in taking an eLearning course in the 2022-2023 school year.

Parents/guardians and students may choose to not participate in online learning.

Students will be required to complete the “opt out” form in the survey.

Director Bourget continued, “I would like to thank all staff, volunteers, coaches and our athletic administrator Dave Makela for the extensive work being done to reschedule and organize opportunities for our students to learn and grow through participation in extracurricular activities!!

I would like to thank our students, staff, parents and guardians for their hard work, patience and resilience and wish everyone a safe and fun filled Family Day long weekend.”

5. **Other Items**

**OPSBA Director** – Trustee Kosmerly attended the Northern Region Directors meeting In January. The next OPSBA Board of Directors meeting will be held February 25 & 26 via zoom. The OPSBA members website Northern Director tab will be updated to reflect current northern information. Trustee Kosmerly attended a Project Compass Steering Committee meeting and a final recommendation report was reviewed. Applications are open for the Public Property Assessment Network scholarship and details have been shared with all secondary principals.

**Student Trustee** – Student Trustee Yao reported that Senators continue to plan for the upcoming local student conference. Student Trustee Yao thanked the Trustees for the opportunity to attend the OSTA conference this weekend.

6. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Morrison stated that she wanted to clarify her position on e-learning.

7. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

**Join Our Team**

Rainbow District School Board is currently accepting applications for various teaching and non-teaching positions. To learn more, visit the Board’s website and click on Join Our Team.

**Secondary Information Nights**

Two more schools will host Virtual Open Houses:  
Lasalle Secondary School on February 16th at 6:30 pm  
Confederation Secondary School on February 17th at 6 pm

Students can register anytime by contacting their area Rainbow School.

**We adopted our renewed Strategic Directions this evening.**

**Let me give you a few examples of how our vision, mission, values and priorities are coming to life in Rainbow Schools.**

Students at Chelmsford Valley District Composite School Elementary made breathing beads for Bell Let’s Talk Day. With each exhale, students slide the beads down their bracelet, helping to regulate emotions and distract them when they feel overwhelmed.

Kindergarten students from R.L. Beattie celebrated Family Literacy Day with a virtual story read by members of the Sudbury Wolves.

Grade 2 students from MacLeod Public School learned about Chinese New Year - also known as the Lunar New Year.

Students at Little Current Public School have been busy making outdoor bird feeders.

The Grade 4 class at Cyril Varney Public School connected virtually with wildlife scientist Dr. Vanessa Pirotta to uncover the secrets of whales.

Students in the Grade 4/5 class at S. Geiger Public School paid a virtual visit to Killbear Provincial Park to learn about protecting snakes.

At C.R. Judd Public School, Grade 5 students mixed chemicals to see how they interact as part of their science experiment.

Grade 6 students at S. Geiger Public School learned about time in math class.

Wisdom keeper Wayne Southwind was presented with a piece of art that caught his eye during one of his many visits to Espanola High School. The art - a swimming turtle by student Mya White - was framed and gifted to him for his commitment to the school.

Monthly Charger Character Awards were presented to students at Confederation Secondary School in recognition of attendance, effort, kindness, behaviour and academics.

And please take note of the following dates:

### **Family Day**

A friendly reminder that schools are closed on Monday, February 21st for Family Day.

### **Strategic Planning Committee Meeting**

The next Strategic Planning Committee Meeting will take place March 1st. Meetings are livestreamed. The link will be posted on the Board website.

### **Professional Activity Day**

A note to families that there is a Professional Activity Day on Friday, March 11th. There will be no school for students on that day.

### **Mid-Winter Break**

And something staff and students must really be looking forward to... this year's Mid-Winter Break will take place from March 14th to 18th.

In keeping with Black History Month, the quote of the day,

“No one is born hating another person because of the colour of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite.

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.”

- Nelson Mandela

**G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Parent Involvement Committee minutes Jan 4, 2022 (official)

Special Education Advisory Committee minutes Jan 5, 2022 (official)

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

**H. FUTURE MEETINGS**

First Nation Advisory Committee February 17, 2022 10:00 am

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting March 1, 2022 5:00 pm

Special Education Advisory Committee March 2, 2022 12:00 pm

Environmental Education Committee Meeting March 2, 2022 3:30 pm

Student Senate Meeting March 7, 2022 5:30 pm

Board Meeting March 22, 2022 5:00 pm

Equity & Inclusion Education Committee March 24, 2022 4:00 pm

Parent Involvement Committee April 12, 2022 7:00 pm

**I. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 22-R38 D.Dewar/D.Morrison

That we do now adjourn at 6:50 p.m. - **Carried**