

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

held electronically via Google Meet
and livestreamed from the Ernie Checkers Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive
on Tuesday, May 3, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

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

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 22-R61, A. Gibson/M. Stringer

That the agenda for the Special Board meeting of May 3, 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. 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

a) **Motion: 22-R62, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda**

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 19, 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

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals NIL

3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

Audit Committee

i) **Audit Committee Annual Report**

Trustee Morrison, Chair of the Audit Committee, provided information from the 2020-2021 Audit Committee Report to the Ministry of Education

ii) **2020/21 Financial Statements**

Superintendent Bazinet introduced Derek D'Angelo, Lead Audit Engagement Partner from KPMG, who presented the consolidated financial statements from the 2020-2021 school year and answered questions from trustee.

Motion: 22-R63, D.Morrison/M.Stringer

That the 2020/21 Financial Statements 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**

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Requests for Leave of Absence

Motion: 22-R64, J.Kosmerly/M.Stringer

That Trustee Debassige and Trustee St.Jean be granted a leave of absence from the May 3, 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: Absent
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– **Carried**

2. Director's Remarks

Director Bourget thanked our schools, Finance department, Manager Nancy Cecchetto and Superintendent of Business for all of the hard work in finalizing the financial statements during the challenges of a change over to Aspen, and for the continued work on the 2021-2022 school year financials.

Director Bourget pointed out that with June approaching, so are graduations which are being planned as in-person celebrations and Trustees can look forward to receiving invitations to attend.

There has been a lot of hard work on the provincial census and Director Bourget thanked Superintendent Noble, trustees and staff for the ongoing work.

He reminded that at our next meeting, we will be sharing a presentation to celebrate this year's Board award winners.

3. Other Items

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly shared that she attended the OPSBA Board of Directors meeting on April 29 and 30th. At the meeting, OPSBA board's new vision, mission and values was approved. The Board of Directors also approved the OPSBA operating budget for 2022-23, noting that membership dues for school boards will not increase next year. The Board also approved 10 of the recommendations that came from the Equity, Diversity and Inclusion audit. The OPSBA AGM is on June 9-11 in Ottawa where elections will be held for

executive and regional positions. At this meeting there will be 6 member board resolutions brought forward for approval. Trustee Kosmerly will be in discussions with trustees for their input into these motions. OPSBA is not providing virtual options for hybrid meetings, at this time, due to costs.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Yao reported that the Stand Up Speak Out conference is this Thursday at Cambrian College Amphitheatre. Senators have been working very hard in preparation for this in-person conference. The Student Senate has also been working on an initiative that fights for menstrual equity and against period poverty. High schools in Sudbury hosted donation drives and collected a total of 846 period products that will be given to the Sudbury Women’s Centre. Manitoulin Secondary School hosted their own separate events and they will donate to their local centre and to the school’s wellness locker.

4. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Hunda affirmed how hard the student senators have worked and extended an invitation to trustees to join the conference. Trustee Hunda attended a reading picnic at Princess Anne Public School and wanted to thank the staff for the hard work they did during the education week activities.

5. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

As part of the A.B. Ellis Public School Speaker Series

The A.B. Ellis School Council will present “Reading Makes Kids Smart” with local author Paul Toffanelo on May 5, 2022 at 6:30 pm. This online presentation is the second of three in a Speaker Series being presented by the school with a Parents Reaching Out Grant. The link to register is available on the A.B. Ellis website. Everyone is welcome.

Kindergarten Orientation

Throughout this month, Rainbow elementary schools will host in person Kindergarten Orientation sessions for children starting school this fall and their parents/guardians. This is an opportunity for families to meet educators, tour the school, visit the Kindergarten classroom, connect with classmates, and get excited about starting school this fall. A list of dates and times is posted on the board website.

Here are a few ways our vision, mission, values and priorities are coming to life in Rainbow Schools.

Kindergarten students from Chelmsford Valley District Composite School learned about egg incubation and hatching.

Students in Grades 1 to 6 took part in R.L. Beattie Public School’s first-ever chess tournament.

Grade 3 students from Cyril Varney Public School raised \$520 for Bizzzy Bea's Charity through a book sale. This charity provides food for individuals experiencing homelessness.

Canadian women's olympic gold medalist Rebecca Johnston surprised Kindergarten students at MacLeod Public School with a visit before returning to Calgary.

Students from Monetville Public School took a virtual trip to Fanshawe Village to learn about winter life for early settlers, and how important partnerships with First Nations people are to their survival.

All students from Lansdowne Public School joined together in a virtual sing-along of 'Music is Our Medicine' on Music Monday.

Art students from Espanola High School have donated pieces of "neurological art" for auction. Half of the proceeds will support student artists, and the other half will go to charity. Art is available for viewing and bidding on the school's Facebook page.

Grade 10 science students from Lo-Ellen Park applied their knowledge of covalent chemical bonds to make tie-dye shirts in class.

Staff and students from Lockerby Composite School raised \$15,000 for Health Sciences North in support of pediatric cancer care in the north.

IMPORTANT DATES

Rainbow Schools are hosting events for Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week, which started yesterday.

On Thursday, May 5th at 7 pm, parents/guardians can tune in to Parenting for Positive Mental Health presented by Amanda Lamb, Director of the Centre for Family Initiatives at the Pine River Institute. Visit rainbowschools.ca to register.

The final Parent Involvement Committee Meeting of the school year is on May 10 at 7 pm.

The next Board Meeting will take place on May 17, 2022.

The agenda includes an introduction to this year's Board Award recipients. We welcome this opportunity to recognize the valued contributions of our employees and our community partners.

For the piece on Education Week and Children's Mental Health Week I will be using a quote from Fred Rogers everyone knows him from Mr. Rogers neighborhood.

"Anything that's human is mentionable and anything that is mentionable can be more manageable. When we can talk about our feelings, they become less overwhelming, less upsetting, and less scary."

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Special Education Advisory Committee May 4, 2022 12:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting May 4, 2022 3:30 pm
Student Senate *Stand Up Speak Out* conference (Cambrian) May 5, 2022 8:30 am – 2:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee Meeting May 10, 2022 7:00 pm
Equity & Inclusion Education Committee May 12, 2022 4:00 pm
Board Meeting (& Awards) May 17, 2022 5:00 pm Boardroom
First Nation Advisory Committee May 19, 2022 10:00 am
Student Senate Committee Meeting June 6, 2022 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting June 7, 2022 5:00 pm Boardroom

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 22-R65, D.Dewar/J.Hunda
That we do now adjourn at 5:56 p.m. – **Carried**