

## **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 Wednesday, June 29, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

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Present: Trustees: B. Clement (Chair), L. Debassige (joined at 5:32pm),  
D. Dewar, 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, D. Kitching,  
N. Mousseau, 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-R77 D.Dewar/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of June 29, 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: In-favour*  
*Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

**– Carried**

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

## **C. PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. New Sudbury Capital Projects Update – Superintendent Bazinet**

Sandi Ackroyd, Manager of Capital Projects, shared an update of the New Sudbury construction progress over the past year and the plans that will continue over the summer. This included the Churchill addition and the New Sudbury Elementary School on the Lasalle Secondary site. Included in the presentation were funding breakdowns, floor plans and photos of the progress at each location.

Trustees appreciated the report and had the opportunity to discuss and ask questions.

### **2. Summer Programs – Superintendents (Fisher, Noble & Wachnuk)**

Superintendent Fisher provided trustees with information about the kindergarten summer camp, CODE summer learning program for grades K-6 and the Summer support program for newcomers in partnership with the YMCA.

Superintendent Noble spoke about the CODE summer learning program for grades 6-8, secondary summer school, summer co-op opportunities and the summer literacy course through e-learning.

Superintendent Wachnuk provided trustees with information about the Special Education Summer programs taking place during the months of July and August. Special education supports will be provided at the CODE programs, kindergarten camp as well as a summer transition program. In addition, speech and language assessments will be completed during the summer months.

### **3. Outgoing Student Trustee Michael Yao – Director Bourget**

Chair Clement, Trustees....

This is the final board meeting for Student Trustee Michael Yao who led the Student Senate this year and provided a much-valued voice at the board table.

Michael Yao graduated this month from Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School where he has been enrolled in the French Immersion Program.

An active member of his school community, Michael Yao has fostered positive connections within the school.

He has been involved with the Student Council since Grade 9, serving as treasurer this school year. His work on the Student Council led him to the Student Senate, which includes representatives from all of our secondary schools.

Michael would tell you that his high school experience wouldn't be the same without being involved. It has allowed him to share his voice, make a difference in his school community, shape experiences for other students, and, in the process, help him to grow personally.

When he began his role as Student Trustee, he indicated... and I quote: "Student voice provides opportunities for feedback and reflection. It promotes student engagement and creates a positive environment and culture in our schools."

I think we would all concur with that assessment.

As a Student Trustee, Michael has worked alongside members of the Student Senate to make students feel safe and supported.

In his role, he also represented Rainbow District School Board at the provincial level as a member of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association (OSTA).

The Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA) and the Public Board Council of OSTA-AECO named Michael Yao one of two recipients of the 2021-2022 Ontario Public Student Trustee Scholarship.

Congratulations Michael!

This scholarship is based on an outstanding leadership initiative accomplished during the student trustee's term and how the initiative positively impacted the students in their board.

As Chair of the Student Senate, Michael Yao played a leadership role in the Learn to Lead Conference organized by students for students.

And it was particularly significant because it was the first time in two years that this conference was held in person.

Students enjoyed speakers on topics of business, academics, health, reconciliation, and equity and inclusion, with keynote speaker Sunjay Nath – in a face-to-face setting.

While Michael says his year was filled with highlights, one moment at the Student Conference really stood out for him.

As the conference was coming to an end and he held the microphone to say goodbye, it struck him that he was in a room full of student leaders.

"The students in this room are all just equally as passionate about leadership as I am," he recalls thinking. "Being able to inspire other students really was an incredible experience and that feeling is really something that I will never forget."

Michael learned a lot about leadership, communication, and teamwork during his term as Student Trustee and Chair of the Student Senate.

He also learned a lot about student voice and how impactful and important it is. "I learned that whether you are a student from a small school or a big one, your voice matters," he says.

We asked Michael why it's important for students to get involved in their school community?

He told us that it helps build your own character, and also allows you to make amazing connections not only with high school students from your school and across the board, but also with community members. Michael also had an opportunity to network with students from across Ontario.

In the fall, Michael will attend McMaster University where he is enrolled in the Integrated Biomedical Engineering and Health Sciences Program.

He plans to pursue a career in the medical field, as a doctor or a biomedical engineer.

Thank you for your contribution to Rainbow District School Board Michael.

Chair Bob Clement, the Trustees, Superintendent Judy Noble and all members of Executive Council join me in wishing you the very best in your post-secondary studies and beyond.

**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-R78 A.Gibson/D.Morrison

That the minutes of the Board Meeting held on Tuesday, May 17, 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. 2021-2022 School Year Update

Director Bourget began by thanking all the stakeholders for their work on the Strategic Directions of the board. He shared the final document that will be posted on the website this summer.

Director Bourget spoke of the board-wide accomplishment to becoming 100% Eco-School certified, a distinction that only 2 boards across the whole of Canada have attained.

Lastly, a video montage of special events that occurred across the board over the year was shared.

## 3. Tenders/Requests for Proposals

### a) Motion: 22-R79 D.Morrison/D.Dewar

That the Board award the contract for Waste Disposal and Recycling Services–tender #2022-12 to Waste Management of Canada Corporation for \$372,981.00.

#### 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-R80 J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the Board award the contract for Redwood Public School, site redevelopment-phase 1-tender #2022-15 to Interpaving Limited for \$188,679.60.

#### 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-R81 J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the Board award the contract for Redwood Public School, window replacement-tender #2022-16 to Alwind Industries Ltd. for \$188,635.00.

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

a) **2022/2023 Budget**

**Motion: 22-R82 D.Morrison/M.Stringer**

That the Rainbow District School Board 2022/2023 budget 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) **Audit Committee**

**Motion 22-R83 D.Morrison/M.Stringer**

That the 2022-2023 Internal Audit Plan and Multi-Year Internal Audit Plan be approved as recommended by the Audit Committee.

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**

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Short Term Borrowing Bylaw**

**Motion: 22-R84 J.Hunda/L.Debassige**

That the short term borrowing bylaw 2022-02 as attached be deemed to have been read three times and 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. **Requests for Leave of Absence** NIL

3 **Director's Remarks**

### **Balanced budget**

In approving a balanced budget this evening, Trustees... you have provided the financial framework for staff to continue to implement our Strategic Directions for 2022 to 2027 for the benefit of students in Rainbow Schools.

I would like to thank Superintendent Bazinet and the Finance department for their hard work to establish a balanced budget. This is a tremendous accomplishment.

Trustees, tonight I share that Superintendent Bazinet has informed me that he will be retiring from the Board in December. Superintendent Bazinet has been a calm and steady leader of our business departments since assuming this important role in February 2016.

He has led facilities maintenance and operations, information services, and finance. He also oversees the development of the Board's annual budget, long-term capital and accommodation plans, and revitalization projects.

Dennis came to the role with 25 years of experience in the education sector, primarily at the senior level. He also had experience in the private sector. We are fortunate to have a leader of his caliber and character guiding us from a financial perspective. He certainly deserves a wonderful retirement. Congratulations Superintendent Bazinet!

### **Everyone counts. Census 2022**

We are in the final stages of preparing the Student Census that will be administered this fall. I would like to thank the many stakeholders who participated in the input sessions that were held throughout the school year. I would also like to thank the Census Steering Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee of Trustees for your contribution. This summer, we will implement a communications campaign to build understanding and awareness as we get ready to invite our students and families to complete the Census. The data will enable us to gain a deeper understanding of the students that we serve so we can better meet their needs.

### **Special Education Highlights**

In the 2021-2022 school year, Empower Reading was offered in 32 Rainbow Schools! Approximately 180 students participated in this evidenced based reading intervention program that closes achievement gaps in reading. Students gained 1-3 years of growth in their reading in one school year!

61 grade 4-6 students in 8 Rainbow Elementary Schools, along with 23 teachers participated in a Math Pilot Project to support students with special needs to narrow achievement gaps in mathematics. All 61 students increased their academic achievement in mathematics and became more confident math learners!

Over 2000 students from 22 Elementary Schools and 5 Secondary Schools received training on G-suite tools such as google read & write to support their learning!

Families, Staff and students gathered at Laurentian University Track for the 2022 Challenge Meet. More than 300 students from 22 Rainbow Schools participated in track and field events. Participants enjoyed a BBQ lunch provided by the Kinsmen Club of Sudbury.

### **Growth of positive relationships**

At the beginning of the school year, we prioritized the safe return to school for students and staff. We also focused on reconnecting in person and online. The continued growth of positive relationships was certainly evident at the many graduations that we attended recently. It was very gratifying to see our students come forward to accept their diplomas. We also had the pleasure of attending Grade 8 graduations and Stepping Up ceremonies for students going from Grade 6 to Grade 7. Lots of smiles all around which really warmed our hearts. Being surrounded by a strong circle of caring adults and having a positive peer group and collaborative colleagues help to foster mental health and well-being. Over time, there were gains in student achievement as we invested resources in closing learning gaps. There is a renewed sense of public confidence. At this time, we are focused on transitions and succession planning as we look ahead to the start of the new school year. We will continue to provide emotionally and culturally safe, caring and connected places to learn.

### **Truth and Reconciliation**

Last fall, Canada celebrated its first National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Thanks to Hazel Recollet Fox we held a sunrise ceremony here at the Centre for Education. We remain focused on moving beyond commitment to action and will have a strong team leading those efforts as we go forward.

Next year we will welcome System Principal of Indigenous Education Kathy Dokis back from secondment and Nicole Nicolas will be returning to join Tim Nadjiwon as VP's of Indig Education.

I would like to thank the Board of Trustees and staff for your outstanding advocacy and support of our students and staff. It is truly a privilege for me to



work with you. I would also like to share my gratitude to the incredible leadership and staff of our schools. Our Executive Council, Board Office, School Administration and school staff have worked so hard to serve our students and it is inspiring to see their dedication, professionalism and genuine care for our students. It is an honour for us to work collectively to serve the families of Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island as, together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society. In addition, I would like to thank parents/guardians for their patience and support throughout the year.

As you set out to enjoy summer, please remember that the kindness you share each day however big or small makes a positive difference in the lives of others. Thank you for being difference makers. Once again, on behalf of Executive Council, I wish all Rainbow families and all staff an enjoyable, safe and restful summer. Have fun!! We look forward to seeing you this fall!!

4. **Other Items**

**OPSBA Director** – Trustee Kosmerly attended the Board of Director’s meeting June 9<sup>th</sup> and the AGM in Ottawa on June 10-11<sup>th</sup>. She shared that boards across the province were seeing major staffing issues with respect to Teachers, Educational Assistants and ECE’s. On June 10<sup>th</sup>, elections were held and Kathryn Pierroz of the Rainy River DSB was elected the 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president which gives a voice for the northern boards at the executive table. Also at the meeting, Directors approved 6 policy resolutions, one of which was to give consideration for a hybrid meeting model for OPSBA board meetings and another being a call on the government to introduce an Indigenous course requirement in collaboration with the Indigenous Trustee Council. OPSBA’s annual report was approved for release and has been posted on the OPSBA website.

**Student Trustee** - Student Trustee Yao expressed his appreciation to Trustees for all of their support over his term as student trustee. He shared it has been an extremely rewarding experience and it has been a journey he will never forget.

5. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions**

Trustees expressed their pleasure in being able to attend events in person and seeing the joy and pride on the students faces. Attending events like graduations, Challenge Meet, Track and Field and Free To Be Me has been wonderful. The trustees shared their congratulations to graduating students and wish all a relaxing summer.

6. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

Today was the last day of school for students. I want to thank students, families and staff for their patience and understanding as we continued to live and learn with protocols designed to keep everyone safe. Through it all, you remained resilient and we are so proud of you.

This school year marked a turning point in the pandemic as we were able to slowly resume community use and in person gatherings, like graduations. What a wonderful feeling to come together again, to be active, to have fun and to celebrate.

On behalf of the Board, I would like to acknowledge graduates for their hard work and dedication. We wish you the very best in all that you do.

And to the trustees

I want to thank you for your confidence in me as chair of the Board. It has been a learning experience to say the least. Having meetings with Director Bruce Bourget at the beginning solidified my role as a trustee and not administration. The staff always keeps me abreast of board items ahead of time, so I am always in the loop. It makes my job so much easier and thank you Cindy for keeping me on track. I appreciate your reminders.

I would like to thank all trustees for serving our students and families. And thank you for supporting our committed staff. Your dedication to the work of the Board is very much appreciated.

So have a great summer, see you in August.

**Now, let's take a look at a few ways our vision, mission, values and priorities came to life in Rainbow Schools.**

The Kindness Ninjas from Larchwood Public School prepared cards and gifts to brighten the day for Intensive Care nurses at Health Sciences North.

Kindergarten students from Adamsdale Public School witnessed the magical life cycle of caterpillars, which culminated with a butterfly release.

Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 at R.H. Murray Public School took their math outside to measure objects in nature.

Grade 6 students from Walden Public School spent a day at the Lake Laurentian Conservation Area learning about survival skills.

Students in a variety of grades took part in a special outdoor musical presentation at Valley View Public School.

Grade 8 students from MacLeod Public School enjoyed a special field trip at Eagle Lake.

Families from Walden Public School joined together for their annual outdoor booknic.

Princess Anne Public School's Grade 6 students wrote, illustrated, and published their own story books.

Reading buddies from CVDCS enjoyed stories in the schoolyard.

R.L. Beattie Public School celebrated Canadian Multiculturalism Day with a culture carousel. Students moved from class to class to share and learn about diverse cultures.

Grade 11 Physics students at Lo-Ellen Park measured the speed of sound.

Larchwood Public School raised \$2,700 for this year's Jump Rope for Heart campaign.

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Schools will close on Friday, July 8th and will reopen on Monday, August 22nd. Register now for the fall, if you have not done so already.

While schools are closed, parents/guardians are invited to email [info@rainbowschools.ca](mailto:info@rainbowschools.ca) for assistance.

I will end with a tribute to our graduates from Henry David Thoreau:

*"Go confidently in the direction of your dreams.  
Live the life you have imagined."*

Or as Dr. Seuss so eloquently said:

*"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.  
You can steer yourself in any direction you choose."*

*Congratulations!  
To all students and staff...  
Have a healthy and happy summer.*

## **G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

### **1. Reports from Officials and Staff**

First Nations Advisory Committee (FNAC) minutes February 17, 2022 (official)  
Audit Committee minutes May 2, 2022 (official)  
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes May 4, 2022 (official)

### **2. Non-Staff Communications**

June 14, 2022 letter to Chair Allan Tam, York Region District School Board  
RE: Passing of Student Trustee  
June 24, 2022 letter to Premier Ford, Minister of Education, Minister of Health and Minister of Children, Community and Social Services  
RE: Changes to the provision of health support services in schools.

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Board Meeting August 30, 2022 5:00 pm

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting September 13, 2022 5:00 pm

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 22-R85 D.Morrison/D.Dewar

That we do now adjourn at 7:01p.m. – **Carried**

OFFICIAL