

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, August 30, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: B. Clement (Chair), L. Debassige, D. Dewar, A. Gibson,
J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, , M. Stringer, Student Trustee Kuntsi,
Student Trustee Trudeau
Absent: D. Morrison, 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, D. Peristeridis
Others: S. Ackroyd, N. Cecchetto, T. Hayes, 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-R86, J.Hunda/L.Debassige

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of August 30, 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: Absent
Kerrie St Jean: Absent
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

STUDENT TRUSTEE

Director Bourget administered the Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance to Student Trustees Jocelyn Kuntsi and Darcy Trudeau and welcomed them to the board table.

Motion: 22-R87, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That Jocelyn Kuntsi (Manitoulin Secondary School) and Darcy Trudeau (Española High School) be appointed Student Trustees for the school year 2022-2023.

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: Absent

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

Motion: 22-R88, J.Kosmerly/A.Gibson

That the minutes of the Board Meeting held on Wednesday, June 29, 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: Absent

Kerrie St Jean: Absent

Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

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

3. **Continuation of Livestreaming Strategic Planning Committee Meetings**

Motion: 22-R89, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the Strategic Planning Committee meetings held in the Ernie Checkers Boardroom be live streamed.

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: Absent

Kerrie St Jean: Absent

Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

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

5. **September School Reopening Update**

Director Bourget provided a detailed update on the 2022-2023 school year.

Director Bourget spoke about the upcoming professional development for staff, the leadership conference for Administration and that we were entering year one of our five year plan of the Board's Strategic Directions, which is available for viewing on the Board's website.

He shared information about the New Employee Orientation day that was held at Sudbury Secondary School for over 150 participants, and a new transition to work program for special needs students in partnership with Health Sciences North, City of Greater Sudbury and the March of Dimes.

Director Bourget provided a Covid update advising that our June protocols would flow to the start of school in September. There will be no mandatory masking, cohorting or distancing. Ministry provided masks will continue to be available to students along with Rapid Antigen tests upon request. Personal Protective Equipment will continue to be available to staff as well.

Trustees were given the opportunity ask questions and provide comments.

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2022-2023 Guide for Students and Parents/Guardians**

Director Bourget provided details about the publication as well as the School Calendar Card.

Director Bourget thanked Nicole Charette and Jennifer Battah-Chartrand for their outstanding efforts to produce the guide and reminded that these documents are available on the board website and will be distributed electronically through school communication channels the first week of school.

2. **2022-2023 Executive Council Portfolios and Family of Schools**

Director Bourget reviewed the 2022-2023 Executive Council distribution of schools and portfolios.

3. **Current Expenditures Borrowing Resolution**

Motion: 22-R90, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That the Current Expenditures Borrowing Resolution as attached be deemed to have been read three times and 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: Absent
Kerrie St Jean: Absent
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

4. **Easement – City of Greater Sudbury**

Motion: 22-R91, D.Dewar/J.Kosmerly

That the Rainbow District School Board support a request for a permanent easement for the purpose of installation and use of a storm sewer for Churchill Public School on part of Auger Avenue.

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: Absent
Kerrie St Jean: Absent
Margaret Stringer: In-favour

– Carried

5. **2022-2023 In-Year Deficit Elimination Plan**

Motion: 22-R92, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That the 2022-2023 In-year deficit elimination plan 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: Absent
Kerrie St Jean: Absent
Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

– Carried

6. OPSBA Fees

Motion: 22-R93, J.Kosmerly/A.Gibson

That the 2022/23 membership fees in the Ontario Public School Boards' Association 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: Absent
Kerrie St Jean: Absent
Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

– Carried

7. Requests for Leave of Absence

Motion: 22-R94, D.Dewar/M.Stringer

That Trustee Dena Morrison and Trustee Kerrie St. Jean be granted a leave of absence from the August 30, 2022 Board meeting.

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: Absent
Kerrie St Jean: Absent
Margaret Stringer: In-favour*

– Carried

8. Director's Remarks

Chair Clement, Trustees:

I hope that you have all had a wonderful summer.

I look forward to working with you, Superintendents, administrators, staff, students, families, First Nations Chiefs and communities and all of our partners as we continue our journey together.

To begin, I would like to extend a warm welcome to Jocelyn Kuntsi and Darcy Trudeau, and tell you a bit more about our Student Trustees.

Jocelyn Kuntsi is enrolled in the Specialist High Skills Major in Agriculture at Manitoulin Secondary School. This summer, she attended the SHAD Program on a full FIRST Robotics Scholarship. She served as Vice-Chair of the Student Senate in the 2021-2022 school year.

An all-round student, Jocelyn Kuntsi has been actively involved in her school community throughout high school. She will continue to serve in a variety of roles in Grade 12, including Co-Prime on Student Council, Manitoulin Metal Robotics Team Captain, SHARE/Go-Green Committee Member promoting social justice and environmental action, Senior Band Member on Baritone Saxophone, Volunteer Tutor, MSS Musical, Vocal Group, Talent Show Performers, Halloween for Hunger Organizer, Elementary School STEM Outreach, Battery Drive Organizer and Grade 8 Day Organizer. She will also contribute to the Burnswarf Theatre Players Company and Stratford Student Advisory Committee.

Darcy Trudeau is the Rainbow District School Board's first Indigenous Student Trustee. A Grade 12 student at Espanola High School, she is Anishinaabe/Ojibwe from Sagamok Anishnawbek First Nation.

Engaged in school life, Darcy Trudeau values the importance of student participation, noting that extra-curricular activities enrich the school experience. She helped to organize the water walk that took place at Espanola High School last June. This past school year, she was the goalie for the Espanola High School girls' hockey team and played for the girls'/co-ed softball teams. In 2022-2023, she hopes to continue playing hockey and softball. She also plans to help organize cultural events at Espanola High School.

Darcy Trudeau has several goals as Indigenous Student Trustee. She plans to be an advocate for students, encourage more Indigenous students to be more involved in school and the community, foster more Indigenous representation, and organize Board-wide events.

Darcy says that "Involvement in school and school life is important to me because I believe that it shows that you are determined to make a difference in your school and it shows that you are a good role model/student. Being involved in the school will encourage more students to be involved throughout the school year."

According to Jocelyn, the key to success for students is giving them a reason to want to be at school, whether it's through the curriculum, friends, sports, the arts or other extra-curricular activities. "When students are part of shaping the school

culture, they can create events and clubs that make them feel invested in their school and, therefore, in their own education,” she says.

I couldn't agree more with both of our Student Trustees. Well said.

Jocelyn Kuntsi and Darcy Trudeau will co-chair the Student Senate this year which includes representatives from secondary schools across Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin. We look forward to working with you in your roles as Student Trustee.

Our amazing administrative teams have been hard at work preparing for the start of the school year. We are looking forward to the return of our students!

Our dedicated, caring staff will all be back this week for professional learning taking place on September 1st and 2nd in preparation for the start of the school year.

We can't wait to see our students and welcome all our families to Rainbow Schools.

As always, our schools will be safe and supportive places where students have fun while they learn.

We will continue to prioritize reconnecting, mental health and well-being, our teachers will engage with and support students to determine learning needs.

We have an incredible team of administrators, educators and support staff who will nurture student success.

As we know, public education prepares students to be active, confident, capable and contributing members of society.

Rainbow Schools play a critical role in the academic, social, emotional and physical development of children and young adults.

When students feel safe, supported, accepted, respected and connected in school and in their school community - when they have a sense of belonging - they are well on their way towards achieving their full potential.

On behalf of all of our staff, I would like to welcome our students and families to the 2022-2023 school year.

We also would like to welcome our newest school administrators, Travis Corbiere who will serve as Vice-Principal at Manitoulin Secondary School, Rachel Booker who will serve as Vice-Principal of Chelmsford Valley District Composite School and Caitlin Angeloff who will serve as Vice-Principal of Queen Elizabeth Public School, Robyn Best who will serve as Vice-Principal of Little Current Public

School and Sandy MacEwan who will serve as Vice-Principal of Northeastern Elementary School.

Some of our schools will welcome new Principals:

Brenda Carr at Valley View Public School
Christine Chisholm at Alexander Public School
Cori Pitre at Queen Elizabeth Public School
Dave St. Amour at the Rainbow Elementary and Secondary Virtual School
David Bertrim at Confederation Secondary School
Jodie Pakkala at Northeastern Elementary School
Kendra Mihell at A.B. Ellis Public School in Espanola
Kristina Rivard Gobbo at Lasalle Secondary School
Marty Punkari at Cecil Facer Secondary School
Melanie Bertrand at Espanola High School
Melissa Brandon at Central Manitoulin Public School
Nadia Berardelli at Jean Hanson Public School
Patrick Hopkin at Markstay Public School
Paula Mackey at Princess Anne Public School
Shelley Tamura at S. Geiger Public School
Maureen McNamara as Principal of Student Success
Pablo Gil-Alfau as Principal of Safe Schools, Human Rights, Anti-Bullying and Restart/O'Connor Park

Our administrators, like our staff, are excited to work with students and families in their respective schools and school communities.

We can't wait to see you on September 6th.

I will close my comments with appreciation to our dedicated Board of Trustees. Your support and commitment to our students and staff is greatly appreciated. Thank you for all you do!!

9. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly reminded trustees that the first OPSBA Board of Directors meeting will be held in Toronto on September 30-October 1, 2022. She also shared that Rusty Hick, OPSBA Executive Director, announced that he is retiring later this year.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Trudeau shared that she was honoured to be the first Indigenous Student Trustee for the board and looks forward to this school year. Student Trustee Kuntsi shared that she was very honoured and excited to represent the students and is looking forward to collaborate with Student Trustee Trudeau in representing the student voice.

10. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustees welcomed our two new Student Trustees and shared their excitement in working with them this school year.

11. **Chairperson's Remarks**

It's a wonderful time of the year, as the first day of school will soon be upon us.

I hope you all enjoyed the summer break and are ready to get back into a routine.

On behalf of Trustees, I extend a warm welcome to all students and families as we get set to launch the 2022-2023 school year. I encourage everyone to become actively involved in their school community. When parents/guardians value education and take an interest in what's happening in their children's learning, it goes a long way in supporting student success. Parental involvement improves student achievement.

Our youngest learners kicked off the school year with Kindergarten Camp on August 24th. The five-day program ran for three hours per day at a number of Rainbow elementary schools. As Director Bourget mentioned, children starting school became familiar with their surroundings and met some of their classmates, which will make the transition to school that much smoother. So I extend a special welcome to our youngest learners - the class of 2036.

For families who have not already done so, there is still time to register. Parents/guardians are encouraged to contact the Rainbow school in their area as soon as possible, given that the countdown to classes is on. We are one week away.

IMPORTANT DATES

I would like to welcome all staff to another exciting school year. Our teachers and support staff make Rainbow Schools great places to be. Our schools have been humming for the past week and everyone is ready to go.

Staff will participate in Professional Learning on September 1st and 2nd that will focus on priorities that we have established as a Board. Our employees, through their work, bring our vision, mission, and values to life each and every day. They are exceptional role models for young people and we appreciate all that they do on behalf of students.

Labour Day will take place on Monday, September 5th.
The first day of school is Tuesday, September 6th.
There is no early dismissal for students.

Staff and students in Rainbow Schools will wear pink on Thursday, September 15th, as Rainbow District School Board marks its 15th annual “Stand Up Against Bullying Day”. We invite everyone in the community to join us and wear pink on September 15th.

The great philosopher Aristotle once said:

“Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.”

I am proud to be part of a school board where we are leaders in learning, inspiring success for all students by reaching minds and touching hearts.

To staff, students and families: Enjoy the school year!

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

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

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Student Senate meeting September 12, 2022 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting September 13, 2022 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee September 14, 2022 11:30 am
Environmental Education Committee Meeting September 14, 2022 3:30 pm
First Nation Advisory Committee September 15, 2022 10:00 am
Equity & Inclusion Committee September 15, 2022 4:00 pm
Board Meeting September 27, 2022 5:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee AGM October 18, 2022 7:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 22-R95, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That we do now adjourn at 6:34 p.m. – **Carried.**