

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

to be held in person and electronically via Google Meet
in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive
on Tuesday, February 21, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

**AGENDA
AND RECOMMENDED MOTIONS**

Land Acknowledgement

Roll Call

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA *Chair

Motion:

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of February 21, 2023 be approved.

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST *Chair

C. PRESENTATIONS *Chair

Dare to Care – Superintendent Wachnuk

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

E. OLD BUSINESS *Director

1. Previous Minutes *Chair

Motion:

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 be approved.

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals *SBO

Motion:

That the Board award the contract for Alexander Public School, HVAC upgrades – tender #2023-02 to _____ for \$ _____.

Motion:

That the Board award the contract for Lively District Secondary School, partial re-roofing – tender #2023-04 to _____ for \$ _____.

3. **Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees** *Chair
- Strategic Planning Committee**
- Board Governance By-Laws
- Notice of Motion:
That the recommended changes as outlined in Governance By-Law 14: Electronic Meetings, as amended be approved.
4. **2022-2023 School Year Update** *Director
- F. **NEW BUSINESS** *Chair
1. **2023-2024 School Year Structure** *Director
- Motion:
That the Board approve the 2023-2024 School Year Structure for elementary and secondary schools.
2. **Property** *SBO
- a) Motion:
That the property at 1241 Roy Avenue, Sudbury, ON P3A 3M5 (Carl A. Nesbitt Public School), be declared surplus to the needs of Rainbow District School Board as of June 30, 2023.
- b) Motion:
That the property at 1570 Agincourt Avenue, Sudbury ON P3A 3K3 (Ernie Checkeris Public School), be declared surplus to the needs of Rainbow District School Board as of June 30, 2023.
3. **OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium 2023** *Chair
- Motion:
That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2023 OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium in Toronto on April 27-28, 2023.
4. **Requests for Leave of Absence** *Chair
- Motion:
That _____ be granted a leave of absence from the February 21, 2023 Board meeting.
5. **Director's Remarks** *Director
6. **Other Items** *Chair
OPSBA Director
Student Trustee
7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions** *Chair
Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks** *Chair

G. **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS** *Chair

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**

Parent Involvement Committee minutes December 13, 2022 (official)

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

2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS** *Chair

Parent Involvement Committee February 28, 2023 7:00 pm

Special Education Advisory Committee March 1, 2023 12:00 pm

Environmental Education Committee Meeting March 1, 2023 3:30 pm

Student Senate Meeting March 6, 2023 5:30 pm

Strategic Planning Committee Meeting March 7, 2023 5:00 pm

Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee March 23, 2023 4:00 pm

Board Meeting March 21, 2023 5:00 pm

I. **ADJOURNMENT** *Chair

Motion:

That we do now adjourn at p.m.

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held in person and electronically via Google Meet
and livestreamed from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
at the Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: B. Clement (Chair), L. Corbiere-Addison (via google meet),
D. Dewar, D. Farrow, A. Gibson (via google meet),
J. Hunda (via google meet), J. Kosmerly,
Student Trustee Kuntsi (via google meet), Student Trustee
Trudeau (via google meet)

Absent: L. Debassige, D. Morrison

Officials: B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board
D. Bazinet – Superintendent of Business
A. Guilbault – Superintendent of Business
L. Fisher, K. Wachnuk - Superintendents

Staff: S. Ackroyd, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, T. Hayes,
D. Kitching, N. Mousseau, D. Peristeridis, S. Tastula,
C. Whitson

Chair Clement advised that the meeting was being livestreamed 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: 23-R34, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of January 17, 2023 be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– 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

1. Motion: 23-R35, D.Dewar/J.Hunda

That the Board ratify the tentative OCEW provincial central agreement as recommended by the Labour Relations Committee.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– Carried

2. Motion: 23-R36, L.Corbiere-Addison/J.Hunda

That the Board ratify the tentative local agreement between Rainbow District School Board and CUPE local 895 as recommended by the Labour Relations Committee.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– Carried

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 23-R37, D.Farrow/J.Kosmerly

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– Carried

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

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

Governance By-Laws Update

i) **Motion: 23-R38, A.Gibson/D.Farrow**

That the recommended changes as outlined in Governance By-Law 3: Organizational Meeting, point 3.1.1 as amended be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– **Carried**

ii) **Motion: 23-R39, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar**

That the recommended changes as outlined in Governance By-Law 6: Duties of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson, point 6.3 as amended be approved.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– **Carried**

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Revised Estimates 2022-2023**

Superintendent Guilbault reviewed the revised estimate document provided to trustees.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

2. **Special Education Advisory Committee**

Motion: 23-R40, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That Rainbow District School Board Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) membership be approved for the period of January 2023 to November 2026.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– Carried

3. OSTA/AECO – Board Council Conference

Motion: 23-R41, J.Hunda/L.Corbiere-Addison

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Kuntsi and Student Trustee Trudeau at the OSTA/AECO Board Council Conference in Ottawa on February 16-19, 2023.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– Carried

4. Requests for Leave of Absence

Motion: 23-R42, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That Trustee Debassige and Trustee Morrison be granted a leave of absence from the January 17, 2023 Board meeting.

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Dena Morrison: Absent

– Carried

5. Director's Remarks

We are very grateful to work with our amazing staff and on many occasions during my remarks we have shared our gratitude for the incredible work done each and every day.

Today we will recognize and remember a very special recent retiree...

It is with tremendous sadness that we share the following....

Long-time Board employee Michèle Smethurst passed away on Friday, January 13, 2023.

We extend our deepest sympathy to her family and friends.

Michèle worked in Human Resources, Information Services and Administration.

Prior to retiring, she spent 15 years as the Executive Assistant to Superintendents.

Michèle was the consummate professional who will long be remembered for her positive energy, boundless optimism, and wonderful sense of humour.

Those of us who were so fortunate to work with Michele are better people as a result of her positive influence.

She will be remembered and greatly missed by so many.

6. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly reminded of the upcoming PES symposium next week. She shared the conference was full and some trustees have been put on a waitlist. The 2022-2026 Good Governance Guide is available online and hard copies will be distributed to trustees at the symposium and sent to board offices for those unable to attend.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Kuntsi shared that planning has begun for the annual student conference in May. This year's theme is "How do we make change as leaders". Student Senate will be hosting a menstrual product drive in February. Senators are working on a video that will be shared with schools. Student Trustee Trudeau provided an update on events taking place in secondary schools across the board.

7. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Farrow thanked Trustee Kosmerly for the package on health and well-being. He commended the front line staff and administration for all the hard work that was done through a once in a lifetime event (Covid). He also inquired as to when trustees would be advised of graduation dates.

8. **Chairperson's Remarks**

With this being our first regular board meeting of 2023, I would like to wish our trustees, staff, students and parents/guardians a healthy and happy new year.

KINDERGARTEN INFORMATION NIGHTS

We would like to thank all children and parents/guardians who attended our Kindergarten Information Sessions last week. If you were not able to attend, there is still time to register your child. Contact your area Rainbow School.

SECONDARY INFORMATION NIGHTS

Secondary schools have already begun hosting in-person Information Nights. We have a few coming up...

Chelmsford Valley District Composite School on January 18th at 6 pm

Lasalle Secondary School on February 15th at 6 pm

Manitoulin Secondary School on February 16th at 6:30 pm

And Espanola High School also on February 16th but at 7 pm

For the Information Nights that have already taken place, there is still time to register.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE

Rainbow District School Board invites staff and students to go paperless tomorrow - Wednesday, January 18th. This initiative is part of the Environmental Committee's ongoing efforts to encourage sustainable practices. In February, all schools will be challenged to reduce their electricity consumption.

SPECIAL EDUCATION INPUT

Parents/guardians of students with special needs in the Rainbow District School Board are invited to provide input into the Special Education Plan for 2023-2024. The deadline to complete the survey is Friday, March 3rd. The survey is available on the board's website.

SECONDARY EXAMS

A reminder that secondary exams are set to take place between Friday, January 27th and Thursday, February 2nd.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

A Professional Development Day will take place on Friday, February 3rd. There will be no school for students.

FAMILY DAY

Family Day will take place on Monday, February 20th. There will be no school for students.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT COMMITTEE

The Parent Involvement Committee is meeting tonight at 7 pm. There will be a presentation on Inclusion. The next meeting is on Tuesday, February 28th at 7 pm. The topic of that meeting will be Technology and Digital Citizenship.

DAYS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Rainbow District School Board continues to highlight and celebrate days of significance and events on its Facebook page.

During recent presentations... two very important words emerged.

These words are “confidence” and “hope” and they inspired this month’s quote.

The ancient Chinese philosopher Confucius once said:

“Education breeds confidence. Confidence breeds hope. Hope breeds peace.”

And this brings me to our mission:

Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society.

Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

Accessibility Planning Committee minutes June 6, 2018 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes May 10, 2022 (official)
Audit Committee minutes September 26, 2022 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes October 18, 2022 (official)

2. Non-Staff Communications

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Special Education Advisory Committee February 1, 2023 12:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting February 6, 2023 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting February 7, 2023 5:00 pm
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee February 9, 2023 4:00 pm
First Nation Advisory Committee February 16, 2023 10:00 am
Board Meeting February 21, 2023 5:00 pm
Parent Involvement Committee February 28, 2023 7:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting March 1, 2023 3:30 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 23-R43, D.Farrow

That we do now adjourn at 5:48 p.m. - **Carried**

14. Governance By-Law 14: Electronic Meetings

14.1 The Board may provide for the use of electronic means for the holding of meetings of the Board and/or meetings of committees of the Board, including in-Camera meetings.

14.2.1 At every electronic meeting of the Board and/or meetings of committees of the Board, the following persons must be physically present in the meeting room:

- a) the Chair of the Board and/or designate and/or the chair of committees of the Board and/or designate;
- b) at least one additional member of the Board and/or committees of the Board; and
- c) the Director of Education or designate.

14.2.2 The Chair of the Board or of a committee of the Board or his or her designate may participate in a meeting of the Board or of a committee of the Board by electronic means if,

- a) The distance from the Chair's or designate's current residence to the meeting location is 200 kilometers or more;
- b) weather conditions do not allow the Chair or designate to travel to the meeting location safely; or
- c) the Chair or designate cannot be physically present at a meeting due to health-related issues.

14.2.3 It shall provide that the Chair or designate must be physically present for at least half of the meetings of the Board for any 12 month period beginning November 15th.

14.3 At the request of any Board member or student representative, the Board may provide the member or representative with electronic means of participating in one or more meetings of the Board and/or of a committee of the Board, including *in-camera* meetings, except where to do so would not comply with section 14.2.

14.3.1 The electronic means shall permit the Board member or student representative to hear and be heard by all other participants in the meeting.

14.4 A member of the Board or student representative of the Board who participates in a meeting through electronic means shall be deemed to be present at the meeting.

14.5 The rules governing conflict of interest of members shall apply to electronic meetings.

- 14.6 The Board may provide, at one or more locations within its jurisdiction, electronic means to permit participating in meetings by members of the public excluding in-camera meetings.
- 14.7 For the purpose of complete disclosure, at every electronic meeting of the Board, members participating through electronic means shall be made aware of the Board members physically present in the room, the Board members participating electronically and whether or not the public and/or media are present.

Board members who participate in *in-camera* meetings by electronic means, must participate from a room which is closed to any other person so that no other person can hear that member or other members of the Board. Speaker phones, cell phones or portable phones may not be used. Board members must maintain rules of confidentiality and are subject to Board Policy No. GOV-05 Code of Conduct: Board Members.

SAVE THE DATE!

OPSBA INVITES YOU TO THE

2023

EDUCATION LABOUR RELATIONS AND
HUMAN RESOURCES SYMPOSIUM

27 APRIL – 28 APRIL

“It’s Your Future: Labour Relations”

Featuring informative keynote speakers, panels and workshops on:

- Managing HR issues in the Media
- Workplace Investigations and Safe Schools
- Collective Bargaining
- Social Media in the Workplace
- Employment Equity
- Employee Wellness



We Hope To See You There!



ONTARIO PUBLIC
SCHOOL BOARDS'
ASSOCIATION

Leading Education's Advocates

Location:
Sheraton
Centre Hotel,
123 Queen
Street West,
Toronto, ON

**A program
designed for**

Trustees

Labour
Relations
Practitioners

Human
Resources
Practitioners

Supervisory
Officers

Directors of
Education

Parent Involvement Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 7 pm
Via Google Meet

Attendance

Melissa Gladu, Parent, Northeastern Elementary School; Bernadette Rémillard, Parent, Sudbury Secondary School; Angelina Kasunich, Parent, Lockerby Composite School; Shannon Ketchabaw, Parent, A.B. Ellis Public School; Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Principal, Lasalle Secondary School; Meredith Coulas, ETFO rep; Nadia Berardelli, Principal, Jean Hanson Public School; Lisa Puddester, Vice-Principal, Northeastern Elementary School; Maureen McNamara, Principal of Student Success; Lesley Fisher, Superintendent of Schools; Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor, Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning

Regrets: Trustee Dena Morrison

Call to Order: 7 pm

1. Welcome

Superintendent Lesley Fisher welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Self-Introductions

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

3. De-streaming Grade 9

Presenter: Maureen McNamara, Principal of Student Success

Maureen McNamara provided an overview of de-streaming the Grade 9 curriculum which was fully implemented in September 2022. Over time, course and graduation data showed that students in the applied pathway were not succeeding to the same degree as students in the academic pathway. Research concluded that the public education system in Ontario needed to understand and engage all learners as soon as they enter high school, not channel them into different streams based on perceived levels of ability, which limits further studies and career options.

De-streaming Grade 9 respects diversity, promotes inclusive education, and works towards identifying and eliminating barriers in education that may limit the ability of all students to achieve their full potential. Grade 9 students take de-streamed English, Geography and French; de-streamed Math (which began in 2021-2022) and Science;

Open Physical Education; and two elective courses, with course options that vary by school.

According to research, education systems that maintain a cohort containing students of all abilities in Grade 9 tend to produce higher levels of student achievement across the whole student population. All students benefit when they learn together with students of varying abilities and interests. Ontario is the last province in Canada to implement de-streaming.

4. Discussion based on presentation

PIC members were invited to ask questions during and following the presentation. A parent asked if we had any data on the success of the de-streamed Grade 9 math course which was implemented in September 2021. The board has EQAO data for Semester 2 which shows that students achieved the highest success rate among Northern school boards. However, it is too soon to determine any trends. The 2022-2023 school year will provide baseline data with results for both Semester 1 and Semester 2.

Another parent expressed concerns about de-streaming on behalf of her School Council. More advanced students will not be challenged enough by course content that is tailored to all levels of ability. Superintendent Fisher and Principal McNamara said Rainbow Schools are implementing The Thinking Classroom model by Dr. Peter Liljedahl which focuses on collaborative problem-solving, critical thinking, and communication. Parents who have any concerns should follow up directly with teachers. They also indicated that the board is now offering a Bridge Math course for students who require more support with math.

5. Approval of Agenda

“That the agenda for the meeting on December 13, 2022 be approved.”

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Seconded by: Colleen Burns, Lansdowne Public School

Carried

6. Approval of Minutes

“That the minutes of the meeting held on May 10, 2022 be approved.”

Moved by: Kristina Rivard Gobbo, Lasalle Secondary School

Seconded by: Angelina Kasunich, Lockerby Composite School

Carried

“That the minutes of the AGM held on October 18, 2022 be approved.”

Moved by: Colleen Burns, Lansdowne Public School
Seconded by: Lisa Puddester, Northeastern Elementary School
Carried

7. Election of Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

Prior to the meeting, Superintendent Lesley Fisher invited members of the PIC Executive to indicate their interest in serving in a leadership role.
Deadline for nominations was Friday, December 9, 2022.

She indicated that Shannon Ketchabaw had expressed an interest in serving as Chair. After calling for any other nominations for Chair, the following motion was presented:

“That Shannon Ketchabaw be acclaimed Chair of PIC for 2022-2023.”

Moved by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School
Seconded by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School
Carried

Superintendent Fisher indicated that a parent had expressed an interest in the role of Vice-Chair, but was not in attendance at the meeting. According to the Terms of Reference for the Parent Involvement Committee, a parent must be present at the election for their name to be considered.

After calling for nominations for Vice-Chair, the following motion was presented:

“That Melissa Gladu be acclaimed Vice-Chair of PIC for 2022-2023.”

Moved by: Bernadette Rémillard, Sudbury Secondary School
Seconded by: Shannon Ketchabaw, A.B. Ellis Public School
Carried

After calling for nominations for Secretary, it was agreed that Nicole Charette would continue to serve as secretary of PIC for the 2022-2023 school year.

At this point, Shannon Ketchabaw chaired the meeting.

8. Communications Report

Nicole Charette, Senior Advisor of Corporate Communications and Strategic Planning, delivered the following communications report:

Festive Season

Our schools are, once again this year, collecting cash donations and non-perishable food items for the Edgar Burton Food Drive. The generosity of giving at this time of the year warms our hearts. A list of festive events in Rainbow Schools is available at rainbowschools.ca.

2021-2022 Annual Report

The Director of Education presented the Annual Report for the 2021-2022 School Year to the Board of Trustees at the regular meeting on Tuesday, December 6, 2022. The report will be posted online and shared with parents/guardians. During his presentation to the Board, Director Bourget thanked parents/guardians for their ongoing support and talked about the important role parents play as partners in education. Parental involvement improves student achievement.

Kindergarten Information Nights

Do you know a child starting school this fall? Elementary schools in Sudbury, Espanola and Manitoulin Island will host in-person Information Nights for families on Wednesday, January 11th at 5:30 pm for the English program, and Thursday, January 12th at 5:30 pm for schools offering English and French Immersion.

All parents/guardians and children are welcome.

Secondary Information Nights

Secondary schools have already begun hosting in-person Information Nights, including Lively District Secondary School, Confederation Secondary School and Lockerby Composite School.

In the new year...

Sudbury Secondary School will host an Info Night on January 11th at 7 pm.

Lo-Ellen Park will host an Info Night on January 12th at 7 pm.

CVDCS will host an Info Night on January 18th at 6 pm.

Visit rainbowschools.ca for a complete list of schools, dates and times.

For the Information Nights that have already taken place, there is still time to register.

Days of Significance

Rainbow District School Board continues to highlight and celebrate days of significance and events on its Facebook page to raise awareness and build understanding.

Winter Break

A friendly reminder that the winter break will soon be upon us.

This Friday, December 16th is the last day of school before the break.

Monday, January 2nd is a holiday.

Schools will reopen on Tuesday, January 3rd, 2023.

Enjoy the holidays.

We look forward to working with you and your children in the new year.

9. School Announcements

Bernadette Rémillard of Sudbury Secondary School said English classes welcomed an Elder who shared stories and answered questions. Students celebrated 12 days of spirit. The Foods Class joined a local bake shop in making gingerbread cookies for the school's festive feast on December 15, 2022. There was also a bake sale to raise money for a field trip for the arts classes. Students collected warm clothing for individuals who are homeless. Little Skidoo was presented in the Sheridan Auditorium. Dance students performed on the CTV Lions Club Telethon. The swim team competed at a local meet. I'm Glad It's Christmas, a Hallmark movie made in Sudbury, includes scenes filmed at Sudbury Secondary School.

Melissa Gladu of Northeastern Elementary School said there are a lot of great things happening, including sports and feasts. She said it's great to see the energy with the return of in-person activities. New administrators have introduced new events. Thirty families went out into the community for one hour to canvass for the food drive, which was very successful. Parents will be serving during the Christmas Feast on December 14, 2022. She praised the school for maintaining long-held practices and introducing new traditions.

Colleen Burns of Lansdowne Public School says it feels like the school is getting back to normal. Students have been excited to participate in field trips. The Dare to Care program is being implemented in the primary and junior divisions. The intermediate program will be launched in January 2023. Students who are caught being kind are recognized. Students continue to participate in EcoSchools with a compost program, garden maintained by Sudbury Shared Harvest in the summer, and a Good On One Side (GOOS) initiative. She said the school is most appreciative of the community's support of its families and students through the Adopt-a-Family program, the donation of turkeys, and a giving tree. She thanked all partners. She added that Lansdowne contributed over 2,700 cans to the Edgar Burton Food Drive.

Angelina Kasunich of Lockerby Composite School said there are many activities to celebrate. Parents are well informed through a weekly newsletter. The biggest achievement this fall was the return of door-to-door canvassing for the cancer drive

which raised an amazing \$27,000. She thanked all donors for their tremendous support. She also highlighted the holiday concert, curling team, food drive, sports, an upcoming masquerade party, and a successful Open House. She added that students are thinking about careers and applying to post-secondary programs.

Shannon Ketchabaw of A.B. Ellis Public School said the school participated in the Stuff the Bus Food Drive for the Espanola Food Bank in partnership with Veterans Bus Lines. The school held another successful Krispy Kreme fundraiser. Money was also raised to buy toys for local children with matching funds from the local Lions Club. She also highlighted sports, festive events, the school's Platinum EcoSchools certification, and its continued participation in the Terry Fox Run, raising \$6,307.50 this year.

Parents enquired about the Parents Reaching Out Grant applications. Superintendent Fisher indicated that applications will be reviewed at the January PIC meeting. Rainbow District School Board received \$24,000 to share amongst its schools. Maximum amount per project is \$2,000. A total of 12 applications were received by December 13, 2022.

Adjournment at 8:17 pm

"That the meeting be adjourned."

Moved by: Angelina Kasunich, Lockerby Composite School

Seconded by: Melissa Gladu, Northeastern Elementary School

Carried

Next meeting:

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 at 7 pm - Via Google Meet

Topic: Inclusion

**MINUTES OF THE RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, October 5, 2022

Time: 12:00 PM

Virtual meeting via Google Meet Video Conferencing

Present:

SEAC Members:

Julie Contini	Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury
Natasha Delaney (Vice-Chair)	Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter
Judy Kosmerly	Trustee
Shelly Laronde	N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre
Wendy Larouche (Chair)	Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury
Julia Ritchie	Northern Ontario Autism Alliance / Ontario Autism Coalition
Robert Silvestri	NOARC
Stephanie Roussy	CCN Sudbury

Staff:

Gillian Cacciotti	Special Education Coordinator
Brien Managhan	Certified Behaviour Analyst / Manager of ABA
Colleen McDonald	Principal of Special Education Programs and Services
Kathy Wachnuk	Superintendent

Other:

Doreen Dewar	Trustee
--------------	---------

Regrets:

Absent:

Linda Debassige	Trustee
Cereena Rows	Member at Large

1.0 Welcome and Introductions

W. Larouche welcomed SEAC members and guests to the October 5, 2022 meeting.

2.0 Establish Quorum of Voting Members

Quorum was established.

3.0 SEAC Mission Statement

N. Delaney read the mission statement aloud.

4.0 Approval of the Agenda

Motion 1:

Moved by: N. Delaney

Seconded by: Trustee Kosmerly

That the agenda for the SEAC meeting of October 5, 2022 be approved.

Motion carried.

5.0 Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were noted.

6.0 Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Motion 2:

Moved by: Trustee Kosmerly

Seconded by: J. Ritchie

That the amended minutes of the SEAC meeting of September 14, 2022 be approved.

Motion carried.

7.0 Business Arising

Six SEAC members responded to the survey regarding future meetings - 66% voted in favour of keeping future meetings virtual and 100% voted in favour of waiting to resume SEAC until February 2023.

8.0 New Business

Special Education Summer Programs 2022 Presentation

Principal of Special Education Colleen McDonald and Manager of the Applied Behaviour Analysis Team Brien Managhan provided a presentation about the Special Education Summer Programs offered by RDSB in the summer of 2022. There was a wide range of programming offered during the summer, including three special education programs, mental health supports, kindergarten camp, elementary K-8 program, secondary 9-12 program and a program for newcomers to Canada. The Special Education programs provided included a K-12 summer transition program for students with special needs and/or students experiencing anxiety and a skill development program for students with Autism. The Special Education Summer Programs were well received and families are already inquiring about the availability of programs for summer 2023. In addition to programs, Special Education assessments were also completed over the summer. Stephanie Frenette, RDSB Speech-Language Pathologist, conducted 26 Speech/Language Assessments and Dr. Patricia Ross, Clinical Psychologist, completed 10 Psycho-Educational Assessments.

9.0 Requests for Leaves of Absence

There were no requests for leaves of absence from the October 5, 2022 SEAC meeting.

10.0 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wachnuk discussed several upcoming conferences that RDSB Special Education staff will be attending, including the October 27 Inclusion Symposium through OSSTF, the virtual OCASE Symposium for Board and School Special Education Staff in November and the CEC Conference on wellbeing, equity and success for all happening in December.

Superintendent Wachnuk reviewed the upcoming October 24th PA Day. Half of the day will be school improvement planning and the other half day will include virtual learning carousels that are specific to staff in their roles at RDSB.

Superintendent Wachnuk also discussed the return of OLSAT testing, as it has not been done since the start of the COVID pandemic. This test helps to

determine a baseline achievement for RDSB students in grades 4 and 7. OLSAT data will be compared to EQAO scores to ensure achievement is in line.

Superintendent Wachnuk also discussed the resumption of SIP Applications. Since the start of the COVID pandemic, the Ministry of Education has been providing funding based on pre-pandemic student need numbers. SIP funding is used to support students with the most significant need in our schools. Typically this funding helps to pay for Educational Assistants across the board.

Superintendent Wachnuk shared that Laurie-Ann Lielkalns has been hired as the new Vice Principal of Special Education Programs & Services. This is a new position funded through the Ministry of Education. Vice Principal Lielkalns' main role is to oversee all of the Section Programs, including those with HSN, Compass, CTC and Youth Justice. Vice Principal Lielkalns comes to this role with a wealth of Special Education experience as she was previously a Special Education Coordinator with the board. She is currently working hard to finalize Memorandums of Understanding with our community partners.

11.0 Special Education Staff Report

Principal McDonald discussed the upcoming PA Day on October 24, 2022 that will focus on Culturally Responsive Relevant Pedagogy (CRRP). Special Education staff will be offering five or six sessions to teachers covering topics that include social skills, assistive technology, sound walls, Project Search and ways to support Special Education needs in the French Immersion classroom. Educational Assistants will be receiving a full-day of First Aid training on the October PA Day.

Principal McDonald also shared that RDSB Program Staff are working with post-secondary institutions and elementary schools to coordinate possible tutoring opportunities. Tutors will be receiving training from RDSB Program Staff over the next week and then will begin working with students.

Principal McDonald also shared information about a new Special Education job posting for a full-time Transitions Facilitator. This individual will need to work with parents, teachers, students, key staff and community partners to support students with Special Education needs through various transitions.

12.0 Board Report

Trustee Kosmerly shared that the most recent Board Meeting reviewed the summer program offerings.

Trustee Kosmerly also shared that this is census week. RDSB students are completing the government census so we are aware of their needs as learners.

13.0 Chairperson's Remarks

W. Larouche reminded SEAC members that our next meeting will not take place until after the election is finalized. The new SEAC Committee will be meeting next on February 1, 2023.

14.0 Association Reports

Natasha Delaney: Autism Ontario – Sudbury Chapter

The October Newsletter from Autism Ontario will be shared with SEAC members via email. Autism Ontario is now providing online parent support groups to help parents connect to better support children with Autism.

Robert Silvestri: NOARC

NOARC is experiencing an increase in the number of assessments. They are also noticing a rise in mental health struggles in their current cohort of students.

Wendy Larouche: Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury

The Learning Disabilities Association of Sudbury's flag was raised this week at James Jerome Sports Complex to officially mark October as Learning Disabilities Awareness Month in Greater Sudbury. Following the ceremony, 2080 small blue flags representing the total number of students who have been identified with a Learning Disability within our school system were planted along Paris Street.

The LDAS Sudbury Wolves Night will take place on October 14, 2022 at 7:05pm at the Sudbury Community Arena. Tickets must be purchased through LDAS before October 7, 2022.

Julie Contini: Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury

The Sudbury Walk for Down Syndrome Awareness will take place October 22, 2022 at 11:00 am at Lockerby Composite School.

The Canadian Down Syndrome Week will be celebrated from October 22-30, 2022.

The Down Syndrome Association of Sudbury is excited for the return of in-person activities again since reverting to virtual activities throughout the COVID pandemic.

Shelly Laronde: N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre

October events at the N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre will be cancelled as renovations are happening at the office.

The N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre is currently providing a significant amount of Jordan's Principle application support.

The N'Swakamok Native Friendship Centre will be hosting an Indian Taco Sale on October 27, 2022.

15.0 Correspondence Addressed to SEAC

There was no new correspondence addressed to SEAC to share with the committee.

16.0 Other Items/ Future Agenda Items/ Information Requests

- Total numbers of identified students for February SEAC meeting
- Possibility of in-person visit to one of our schools
- Alternative and provincial report cards

17.0 Next Meeting Date

The next SEAC meeting will be held virtually on February 1, 2023 at noon.

18.0 Adjournment

W. Larouche adjourned the meeting at 12:48 PM.