

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**