

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING

held in person and electronically via Google Meet
from Sudbury Secondary School - Library
on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: B. Clement (Chair), L. Corbiere-Addison (via Google Meet),
L. Debassige (via Google Meet), D. Dewar, D. Farrow, A. Gibson,
J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, Student Trustee Kuntsi (via Google Meet),
Student Trustee Trudeau (via Google Meet)
Absent: D. Morrison
Officials: B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board
L. Fisher, J. Noble, K. Wachnuk - Superintendents
Staff: N. Cecchetto, T. Hayes, D. Kitching, K. Mihell, N. Mousseau,
C. Whitson

Chair Clement called the meeting to order.

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-R75, D.Farrow/A.Gibson

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of May 16, 2023 be approved.

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Lighthouse

Superintendent Lesley Fisher introduced Kendra Mihell, Principal, A.B. Ellis Public School, who spoke about how the Lighthouse classroom visits have impacted teacher practice and student learning at A.B. Ellis Public School.

Principal Mihell shared a presentation highlighting the positive growth at her school with pre and post assessment results, student videos and sample classroom lessons.

Trustees shared their appreciation for the presentation and were given the opportunity to ask questions.

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: 23-R76, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 18, 2023 be approved. - **Carried**

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals

Motion: 23-R77, D.Dewar/J.Hunda

That the Board award the contract for C.R. Judd Public School, ventilation upgrades, roof replacement and sitework-tender #2023-08 to Build North Construction Inc. for \$2,275,500.00. - **Carried**

3. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

Special Education Plan 2023-2024

Motion: 23-R78, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the Special Education Plan 2023-2024 as recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) be approved. - **Carried**

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Requests for Leave of Absence

Motion: 23-R79, J.Hunda/D.Farrow

That Trustee Morrison be granted a leave of absence from the May 16, 2023 Board meeting. - **Carried**

2. Director's Remarks

Director Bourget reminded trustees of some upcoming dates:

Board Awards - May 16

Retirement Dinner - May 30

Strategic Planning - June 6 - Budget and By-Laws

Board Meeting - June 13 - Budget and By-Laws Final

Challenge Meet - June 14

He also reminded trustees to share which school graduations they plan to attend, and that the administrative transfers will likely be announced at the June 13th board meeting.

3. Other Items

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly attended the Board of Directors meeting in April and shared her notes with trustees. She reminded trustees that today was the deadline to submit feedback on Bill 98, and the deadline to submit to the Ministry of Education regarding electronic meetings is this Friday. The next Board of Directors meeting is June 8th in Collingwood, which is also the AGM. Trustee Kosmerly was pleased to share, on behalf of OPSBA, 3 Rainbow trustees who are receiving OPSBA awards at this year's AGM. Trustee Judy Hunda and Trustee Dena Morrison will be receiving the OPSBA President's Award for 25 years of service and Trustee Doreen Dewar is this year's recipient of the Dr. Harry Paikin Award of Merit for outstanding service as a public school trustee.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Trudeau shared school updates of events taking place within the high schools such as Espanola’s Music Monday, LoEllen Park and Manitoulin Secondary attending the World Robotics competition and all schools planning proms. Student Trustee Kuntsi provided an update on the senate conference that was held on May 3rd and thanked those trustees who attended along with 90 students from the secondary schools. The day began with a Lego challenge followed by keynote speaker Scott Hammill, lunch and breakout sessions. She also shared that senate applications for the 2023-2024 school year are now open until June 4th.

4. **Trustees’ Remarks/Questions**

Reminder: Trustees who require detailed information on specific questions are encouraged to contact the Director prior to the meeting.

Trustee Kosmerly brought forth a motion from the Special Education Advisory Committee for consideration regarding the Ministry’s proposed changes to the SIP funding allocation:

Motion: 23-R80, J.Kosmerly/D.Farrow

As recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) at its meeting held on May 3, 2023, that Rainbow District School Board write a letter to the Minister of Education expressing its deep concerns over the proposed SIP funding change which will result in a significant loss of revenue for students in Rainbow Schools who require additional support. - **Carried Unanimously**

Superintendent Wachnuk spoke to the changes and trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions and comment. Trustee Dewar suggested sending the letter to OPSBA to share with member boards and the offices of Jamie West and France Gélinas.

Trustee Farrow shared his appreciation for SEAC and the reports included monthly in the board agenda packages. He also congratulated Trustee Corbiere-Addison on putting her name forward for the OPSBA Board Northern Regional Council Educational Program working group.

Trustee Clement brought forth the following motion:

Motion: 23-R81, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar

That the Board approve the attendance of Trustee Clement to the 2023 OPSBA Annual General meeting in Collingwood June 8-10, 2023. - **Carried**

5. **Chairperson’s Remarks**

BOARD SCIENCE FAIR

Four young scientists from Rainbow Schools who captured top honours at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair are currently at the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Edmonton, Alberta. We had the pleasure of meeting them at our last meeting. We wish the students, who are from Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, the best as they compete against the top young scientists in Canada.

LAUNCH OF THE HONOURABLE HARVEST

Students and staff had the pleasure of meeting Robin Wall Kimmerer during a system-wide virtual presentation on May 4th. She is the author of Braiding Sweetgrass. She combines her deep knowledge of science with her lived experience as an Anishinaabe Kwe, inviting us to “*sustain the ones who sustain you and the earth will last forever.*” The presentation served as the launch of Rainbow District School Board’s first school-community Traditional Harvest Celebration and Fall Fair. We look forward to hearing more about this event soon.

ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGE

This month, Rainbow Schools have been challenged to create homes and support structures for various wildlife to survive and thrive. From bat boxes and frog homes, to bee hotels and log piles for insects, students are learning how to support wildlife habitat, particularly in urban environments.

MATH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OLYMPICS

Grade 7 and 8 students in Rainbow Schools will take part in the Math, Science and Technology Olympics at Science North on Friday, May 26, 2023. In the morning students will enjoy challenging questions and activities related to Science North exhibits that also tie in to the curriculum. In the afternoon, students will take part in a technological design challenge. An awards ceremony will take place at 2:30 pm in the Vale Cavern.

ROCK BAND PERFORMANCE

Confederation Secondary School's new rock band, The Noise, will host a concert featuring music of the 60s, 70s, 80s, 90s and 2000s on Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 6 pm in the Confederation Secondary School gymnasium.

KINDERGARTEN CAMP

Parents and guardians of children starting school this fall are invited to register their children for Kindergarten Camp. Rainbow elementary schools will offer the program from Monday, August 28th to Thursday, August 31st from 9 am to 12 pm. The deadline to register is June 26, 2023. Visit rainbowschools.ca to learn more.

BOARD AWARDS

Following the Board meeting, we will continue a rich tradition of honouring excellence in Rainbow Schools with the Board Awards ceremony. The Board of Trustees and Executive Council will be seated on the stage in the Sheridan Auditorium for these presentations.

One of the recipients of the Award for Excellence was recently honoured at the provincial level. Chris Dinnes, Program Leader at Lively District Secondary School, received the 2023 Excellence in Teaching Award - Secondary from the Ontario Council for Technology Education. We congratulate Chris Dinnes and all board award recipients.

Tonight's quote will be shared by Director of Education Bruce Bourget at the awards ceremony:

"The contributions of our award recipients vary, but they all have one thing in common. They are dedicated employees and dynamic educational partners who go above and beyond the call of duty to reach minds and touch hearts in our schools, the communities that we serve and beyond.

Through their collective efforts, they enable us to realize our mission: Together, we prepare students to become lifelong learners, achieving their full potential as confident, caring members of society."

In closing, there is one more honour that I would like to highlight this evening.

Doreen Dewar will be recognized for having dedicated 35 years of service to public education as a Trustee for Rainbow District School Board and the Sudbury Board of Education. Congratulations Trustee Dewar. Thank you for your continued commitment to the Board, its students and its staff. What an impressive contribution.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes April 5, 2023 (official)
2. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

First Nations Advisory Committee May 18, 2023 10:00 am
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee May 18, 2023 4:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting June 5, 2023 5:30 pm
Strategic Planning Committee Meeting June 6, 2023 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee June 7, 2023 12:00 pm
Board Meeting June 13, 2023 5:00 pm
Equity & Inclusion Ed Committee June 15, 2023 4:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 23-R82, D.Dewar/A.Gibson
That we do now adjourn at 6:18 p.m. - **Carried**

OFFICIAL