

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of the STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

held in person and electronically via Google Meet
from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: J. Kosmerly (Chair - designate), B. Clement (via Google Meet),
L. Corbiere-Addison (via phone), L. Debassige (via Google Meet),
D. Farrow, A. Gibson (via Google Meet), J. Hunda (via Google Meet),
Student Trustee Greene, Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink

Absent: D. Dewar

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

Staff: N. Charette, T. Hayes, D. London, L. Mantle, N. Nicholas-Bayer,
S. Tastula, C. Whitson

Chair Kosmerly called the meeting to order.

Chair Kosmerly read a declaration of land acknowledgement aloud.

Director Bourget completed roll call.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: D.Farrow/B.Clement

That the agenda for the Strategic Planning Committee meeting for October 10, 2023 be approved. - **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Truth and Reconciliation / Indigenous Education Updates

Director Bourget welcomed Nicole Nicholas-Bayer, Acting Principal of Indigenous Education who presented an overview of the ongoing work by the Indigenous Education department and recognized Hazel Fox Recollet for her wonderful contributions.

Principal Nicholas-Bayer provided an overview of the board priorities and how they align with the provincial priorities, as part of the Ministry of Education's Student Achievement Plan. With Truth and Reconciliation as a stand-alone priority of the board, it highlights the collective commitment and focus of Indigenous Education across Rainbow Schools.

Principal Nicholas-Bayer shared with the passing of a motion in April 2017, Rainbow District School Board committed to implementing the vision of the 94 Calls to Action listed in the final report with the creation of the Board's own document titled, *Truth and Reconciliation: A Commitment to Action*.

Principal Nicholas-Bayer shared how the Sunrise Ceremony, Fall Fairs and Traditional Harvest Celebration provide opportunities for all staff and students to learn about the richness of Indigenous worldview and cultures, working hand in hand with Indigenous peoples.

The 7 Grandfather teachings are values within the Board's Strategic Directions, which serve as guiding principles for all staff and students. The Indigenous Education department developed and provided monthly resources across the board that offered an overview of the specific teaching with considerations of how to integrate the learning into their school and classrooms.

Through Ministry funding, additional programs and supports like E'Kinomaaget and the Graduation Coach have been made available at Manitoulin Secondary School and Espanola High School. These programs are designed to re-engage, monitor and mentor students to obtain their OSSD. For the elementary panel, a new position of Literacy Consultant is able to support the literacy learning and achievement among Indigenous students while supporting teacher learning and growth.

Trustees were able to ask questions and expressed their gratitude for the excellent presentation and all the hard work of the Indigenous Education department.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

Minutes

Motion: J.Hunda/L.Debassige

That the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on September 12, 2023 be approved. – **Carried**

E. **NEW BUSINESS** NIL

F. **FUTURE ITEMS**

Policy Review

- Policy No. GOV-05: Code of Conduct: Board Members

G. **TRUSTEES' REMARKS**

Trustee Farrow recently toured Princess Anne Public School with Principal Mackey and enjoyed seeing the interesting things taking place. He shared they were doing great work with newcomers. He also attended the Fall Harvest Feast at Monetville Public School that had great community support.

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

November 7, 2023

January 9, 2024

February 6, 2024

March 5, 2024

April 2, 2024

April 30, 2024

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: B.Clement/J.Hunda

That the meeting be adjourned (5:47 pm). – **Carried**