

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
on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

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

Absent: Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink

Officials: B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board
A. Guilbault – Superintendent of Business
L. Fisher – Superintendent

Staff: S. Ackroyd, N. Charette, T. Hayes, N. Mousseau, L. Mantle,
M. McKelvey, D. Peristeridis, P. Potvin, C. Ward, C. Whitson &
students of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School

Chair Farrow called the meeting to order and advised that the meeting was being livestreamed.

Chair Farrow 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: 24-R47, D.Dewar/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of March 19, 2024 be approved.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School – OFSAA – Cross Country Skiing

Director Bourget welcomed Pam Potvin, Principal of Lo-Ellen Park Secondary School, Coach Colin Ward and students from the cross country ski team and commended them on another highly successful season. He called them a “dynasty” built over time which is a testament to all of the hard work put in by both the athletes and coaches.

Principal Pam Potvin thanked the board for the opportunity to recognize the team and shared their success was from a train hard, play hard attitude under coach Ward's leadership.

Coach Ward expressed his appreciation to administrators, community partners, and the school board with the supports provided which are unlike any other board. He spoke about the wonderful season the team had and their amazing accomplishments at OFSAA.

Student members shared their thoughts and experiences from throughout the season and expressed their gratitude to their coaches and teammates.

Trustees congratulated both team members and coaches on another fantastic season.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

Labour Relations

- i) Motion: 24-R48, J.Kosmerly/D.Dewar
That motion #24-W13 RE: Labour Relations, be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Alex McCauley: In-favour*

- Carried

- ii) Motion: 24-R49, L.Corbiere-Addison/J.Kosmerly
That motion #24-W14 RE: Labour Relations, be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Alex McCauley: In-favour*

- Carried

- iii) Motion: 24-R50, A.McCauley/J.Hunda
That motion #24-W15 RE: Labour Relations, be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Alex McCauley: In-favour*

- Carried

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 24-R51, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 20, 2024 be approved.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

2. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

NIL

3. 2023-2024 School Year Update

Director Bourget shared a presentation of events taking place in Rainbow Schools as well as how the board's vision, mission, values and priorities are being promoted across the board. Examples such as Dare to Care, the "I" in kind, growth mindset bulletin boards and honours and awards displays showcase pride and create positive school cultures.

Director Bourget shared highlights from recent events such as the Technological Skills Competition and the Board's Science Fair as well as upcoming events like Go Blue for World Water Day, the Career Fair and the final Parent Involvement Committee meeting.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions.

4. Capital Projects Update

Adam Guilbault, Superintendent of Business, provided an update on the ongoing and upcoming capital projects taking place across Rainbow Schools. There are 62 projects scheduled across 34 facilities. He shared a brief overview of work at various locations such as improvements to the program-related Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) classrooms, AODA (Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act) work, ventilation, parking lot, playground and roofing projects.

F. NEW BUSINESS

**1. Ontario Public School Board Association
Education Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium 2024**

Motion: 24-R52, J.Hunda/D.Dewar

That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2024 OPSBA Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium in Toronto on April 25-26, 2024.
(Trustee Clement, Trustee Debassige, Trustee Gibson, Trustee Hunda, Trustee Kosmerly, Trustee McCauley)

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour

Linda Debassige: In-favour
Doreen Dewar: In-favour
David Farrow: In-favour
Anita Gibson: In-favour
Judy Hunda: In-favour
Judy Kosmerly: In-favour
Alex McCauley: In-favour

- Carried

2. **Notice of Absence**

Chair Farrow stated that Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink was absent.

3. **Director's Remarks**

I hope that all students and staff enjoyed a well deserved March Break.

Elementary predicted enrolment was 9133 last year.
This year, we are predicting 9363 elementary students for this fall.

Secondary school predictions are due this week. These predictions, as you know, inform our staffing levels. Elementary and secondary staffing is underway for the 2024-2025 school year.

We remind parents/guardians that there is still time to register.
Registering now helps us plan for the fall.

We continue to work on succession planning and the support of new administrative candidates.

I would like to thank our Human Resources department and our hiring teams for their tremendous efforts in recruiting employees for teaching positions and support roles.

Rainbow District School Board will pay tribute to its dedicated employees and community partners with the presentation of Board Awards on Tuesday, May 14, 2024. The ceremony will begin at 6:30 pm in the Sheridan Auditorium at Sudbury Secondary school.

Awards for Outstanding Contribution to the Co-Curricular Program, Community Partnership Awards, the Go Green Globe Awards, Awards for Excellence, the Barbara Konarek Memorial Award and the William N. Roman Teacher of the Year Award will be presented. Employees with 25 and 35 years of service will also be recognized.

The Board's Retirement Dinner will take place on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 at the Caruso Club. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate our retirees.

Preparations continue for the upcoming EQAO and OSSLT assessments. Our staff and students are hard at work preparing for both. As you know, successful completion of the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (or course) is a requirement for graduation.

Our winter sport season has concluded, with tremendous successes, and our dedicated coaches and athletes are looking forward to spring sports. We would like to extend our congratulations to all participants and thank our dedicated coaches and supervisors who go above and beyond for our student athletes.

Plans are already underway for in-person graduation ceremonies. We are compiling a list of dates and will reach out to trustees to confirm your attendance. As always, we want to ensure we have a trustee and/or a representative from the senior team at each graduation. This is the most rewarding time of the year as we watch students proudly come forward to accept the diploma they worked so hard to achieve.

I would like to thank our students, staff, parents and guardians for their hard work, patience and resilience. With only three and a half months left in the school year, I encourage our students to work hard to prepare for success in June.

4. **Other Items**

OPSBA Director – Highlights of the last Board of Directors meeting were shared with Trustees with supplementary notes from Trustee Kosmerly. A few topics to highlight were the 3 proposals the Ministry has posted on the Ontario Regulation Registry for public input, 2 for Trustee Code of Conduct and one regarding Electronic Meetings. She encouraged all trustees to review the proposals and provide feedback. She also shared the next North Region meeting, which all trustees are welcome to join, will be on April 6 from 10am to noon via Zoom and the next Board of Directors meeting will be on April 26-27 in Toronto.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Greene shared that preparations are well under way for the Stand Up Stand Out conference taking place in May and was happy to share that elections took place for the 2024-25 Student Trustees who will be Alexandra Wilson-Zegil from Manitoulin Secondary School and Lockerby Secondary School's Tia Nootchtai who will be the Indigenous Student Trustee.

5. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Clement attended A.B. Ellis Public School's concert "Grease" in February and shared everyone did a fantastic job and expressed his gratitude for such a great event.

Trustee Dewar thanked Trustee Kosmerly for her in-depth reports as OPSBA director.

6. **Chairperson's Remarks**

I hope you all had a wonderful March Break.

Registrations are ongoing in Rainbow elementary and secondary schools. To register, please contact your area Rainbow school. If you have already registered, thank you. We look forward to welcoming your child into Rainbow Schools this fall.

The Board held its 17th annual **Technological Skills Competition** on February 29th and March 5th. The event brought together 150 secondary and 160 elementary students to test their skills in various trades. Students were vying for the opportunity to compete at the North East Qualifier on April 13th in North Bay or the Skills Ontario Competition on May 4th and 5th in Toronto. On behalf of the Board, I extend sincere congratulations to all participants, and wish them continued success.

The Board's **Elementary Science Fair** took place on March 5th, where a total of 16 projects from students in Grades 7 and 8 were selected to compete at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair

at Laurentian University on April 6th and 7th. Thirteen secondary school projects will also compete at the regional level. Students will vie for the opportunity to attend the Canada-Wide Science Fair in Ottawa this May. Congratulations to all competitors for letting your instinctive curiosity guide you. Best of luck to all.

This month, schools will **GO BLUE** for Canada Water Week - a national celebration of water that coincides with World Water Day on March 22nd. This initiative is part of the **Environmental Education Committee's** efforts to encourage sustainable practices and increase awareness about water use.

Rainbow District School Board will present **Embrace Diversity: Free to Be Me**, a symposium with workshops for students in Grades 7 and 8 on March 28th and Grades 9 to 12 on April 18th. The educational conference is the ongoing work of the Equity and Inclusive Education Committee which includes community partners.

A friendly reminder that schools will be closed on March 29th for **Good Friday** and April 1st for **Easter Monday**.

As Director Bourget mentioned, the board's second **Career Fair** will take place on Saturday, April 6th from 9 am to 3 pm at Lockerby Composite School. Positions being filled include elementary and secondary occasional teachers, designated early childhood educators, educational assistants, administrative assistants and cleaners. More information is available on the board's website.

The next **Professional Activity Day** will take place on Monday, April 8th - the day of the solar eclipse. There will be no school for students.

The **Parent Involvement Committee Meeting** will meet on Tuesday, April 9th at 7 pm. The topic will be numeracy.

And that concludes my remarks for this evening.
Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. Reports from Officials and Staff

First Nations Advisory Committee minutes September 21, 2023 (official)
First Nations Advisory Committee minutes November 16, 2023 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes January 30, 2024 (official)
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes February 7, 2024 (official)

2. Tenders/Requests for Proposals

RFP - Construction Management Services
Tender 2024-03 – Lasalle Sitework
Tender 2024-05 – Little Current

3. Non-Staff Communications

Board and Strategic Planning Schedule of Meetings 2024-2025 (draft)
OPSPA 2023-2024 Central Bargaining Invoice

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

*Chair

Equity & Inclusion Committee March 21, 2024 4:00 pm

Strategic Planning Committee April 2, 2024 5:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee April 3, 2024 12:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee Meeting April 3, 2024 3:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee April 9, 2024 7:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting April 15, 2024 5:30 pm
Board Meeting April 16, 2024 5:00 pm

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion: 24-R53, L.Corbieri-Addison/J.Hunda
That we do now adjourn at 6:15 p.m. – **Carried**

OFFICIAL