

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of the STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

held in person and electronically via Google Meet
from the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom
Centre for Education, 408 Wembley Drive, Sudbury
on Tuesday, April 30, 2024 at 5:00 PM

Present: Trustees: J. Hunda (Chair), B. Clement, L. Corbiere-Addison (via Google Meet),
D. Dewar, D. Farrow, A. Gibson, J. Kosmerly, A. McCauley, Student
Trustee Greene
Absent: L. Debassige, Student Trustee Jacko-Cywink
Officials: B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board
A. Guilbault – Superintendent of Business
L. Fisher, M. McNamara, K. Wachnuk – Superintendents
Staff: E. Bacon, M. Bertrand, J. Burns, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette,
T. Hayes, J. Jakubo, L. Mantle, D. Peristeridis, D. Pratt, S. Tastula,
C. Whitson

Chair Hunda called the meeting to order.

Director Bourget read a declaration of land acknowledgement aloud.

Director Bourget completed roll call.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: J.Kosmerly/A.McCauley

That the agenda for the Strategic Planning Committee meeting for April 30, 2024 be approved. – **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Census – Superintendent McNamara

Superintendent McNamara shared the results of the first Census of students and staff, which was administered in the 2022-2023 school year, following months of consultations with multiple stakeholders on the questions and process. As this was a Ministry of Education mandate, all boards in Ontario were required to administer a Census. The data collection provided an opportunity to learn more about the students we support and to help identify differences and gaps in our students' experiences and outcomes based on their diverse needs.

There were 2 versions of the student census; one for Kindergarten to grade 8 students, which was completed online, at home with parents/guardians and a

second version for students in grades 9 to 12, which was completed during the school day. Completing the survey was voluntary and confidential for all students.

The Workforce Census for staff was administered last spring, which was also anonymous, confidential and voluntary. The questions aligned with the student census and provided a snapshot of the employee demographics in Rainbow Schools in 2023.

Trustees had the opportunity to ask questions.

Trades – Melanie Bertrand and Eric Bacon

Melanie Bertrand, Principal of Student Success, introduced the team of Eric Bacon, Program Consultant for STEM, Coding and Intermediate Technological Skills Education, Jen Burns, Cooperative Education and Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Recruiter, Jody Jakubo, Coordinator for Specialist High Skills Majors and Experiential Learning and Dana Pratt who is the Dual Credit Coordinator for our Board. They provided a student success pathways update specific to Technological education. They shared the various opportunities for secondary students to explore the trades like the Dual Credit program, Specialist High Skills Major pathway, Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program and co-operative education along with the multiple technology courses available. Other opportunities such as the Jill of all Trades event and Think Trades provide students additional ways to explore.

Students in grades 7 and 8 can participate in several activities like the Level Up Career Fair, Math Science and Tech Olympics, Intermediate Technology Day and Think Trades Trailer visits, which provide the opportunity to learn about the different pathways available in high school while completing a hands-on project.

Trustees were invited to tour the Trades Trailer and join in an interactive activity. They were very appreciative to experience the activity and thanked the team for the event.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

Minutes

Motion: D.Dewar/A.Gibson

That the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee held on April 2, 2024 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 Kosmerly attended OPSBA's Board of Directors meeting last weekend and shared that the interest of other boards knowing we were doing Cricket was a big discussion topic. She was approached by 5 different trustees from different boards

that inquired about funding and shared how impressive it was that we were doing it. She also shared the pupil enrolment for public education in Ontario is 1,370,959.

Trustee Farrow shared his thoughts to a motion that was passed at the recent OBSPA meeting with regards to a 2.9% increase to OPSBA fees for next year, and thanked Trustee Kosmerly for her leadership and for voting against the motion and standing up to this increase, as we were one of the only boards to do so. Boards received very little information in advance of the vote and when asked about considering cost cuts, very vague answers were provided.

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

September 10, 2024

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion:

That the meeting be adjourned (6:44 pm).

OFFICIAL