

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, November 19, 2024
at the conclusion of the Organizational Board Meeting (6:35 p.m.)

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

Absent: L. Debassige, D. Dewar

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

Staff: S. Ackroyd, M. Bertrand, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, D. Koziar,
L. Mantle, M. McKelvey, D. Peristeridis, C. Whitson, D. Williamson

Chair Farrow called the meeting to order.

Director Bourget completed roll call to establish who was participating in the Google Meet.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: 25-R17, A.Gibson/J.Hunda

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

Poll vote

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

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Math Action Plan

Superintendent Lesley Fisher and Principal of Program Dan Koziar provided an update on the Board's Math Achievement Action Plan for 2024-2025, including what has occurred to date and what we hope to accomplish this year.

Since the ministry announcement of the Math Achievement Action Plan in April 2023, part of their rollout was to identify a number of priority schools throughout the province, based on EQAO results from 2021-2022 representing the schools requiring the greatest support. Each priority school has a math coach or consultant/coordinator attached to it that provides direct support to administrators and classroom teachers.

After year one of the Math Achievement Action Plan implementation, nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of priority schools improved in at least one area of the assessment. As a board, our results have improved each year for the past three years in the primary, junior and Grade 9 assessments, which according to the Provincial Math Lead, only a very small group of boards showed improvement in all 3 provincial math assessments.

Principal Koziar shared grade specific resources that have been developed for teachers of math, along with the high yield strategies to improve classroom practice and student outcomes.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 25-R18, J.Hunda/L.Corbriere-Addison

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 be approved.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

2. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

Strategic Planning Committee (By-Law Review)

i.) Notice of Motion: 25-R19, J.Kosmerly

That the changes to By-Law 3, as attached, be approved.

ii.) Notice of Motion: 25-R20, A.McCauley

That the changes to By-Law 6, as attached, be approved.

iii.) Notice of Motion: 25-R21, A.Gibson

That the changes to the Governance By-Law Committee Information page, as attached, be approved.

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Public Education Symposium (PES) 2024-2025

Motion: 25-R22, J.Hunda/J.Kosmerly

That the Board approve the attendance of the following Trustees at the 2025 Public Education Symposium in Toronto on January 24-25, 2025.

(Trustee Kosmerly, Trustee Corbiere-Addison, Trustee Gibson, Trustee Hunda, Trustee Farrow, Trustee Clement, Trustee McCauley)

Poll vote

Bob Clement: In-favour

Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour

Linda Debassige: Absent

Doreen Dewar: Absent

David Farrow: In-favour

Anita Gibson: In-favour

Judy Hunda: In-favour

Judy Kosmerly: Absent

Alex McCauley: In-favour

- Carried

2. Notice of Absence NIL

3. Director's Remarks

Tonight I would like to take a moment to thank our dedicated Math team under the direction of Superintendent Lesley Fisher, for their excellent presentation this evening. We continue to provide incredible leadership and support for continued growth thanks to Superintendent Fisher, Principal Koziar, and school administrators and staff.

Also thank our team for the Next Stop - Grade 9 and the Administrators who attended as well as program staff. Great turnout, engaging presentation and informative and welcoming booths on a variety of topics. I'd like to thank all the principals, system principals and consultants and coordinators for the booths which were great.

Thank you to our fall coaches and volunteers. We wish our teams that advanced to OFSAA the best of luck in competition that mostly takes place this week.

I would conclude my comments by sharing my gratitude to the board of Trustees for your leadership and support of our staff, students and families. Thank you for all you do. We look forward to working with you in your various roles and on committees this year. Our work together is making a difference for our students and our staff. We appreciate your leadership, teamwork and support very much!!

4. Other Items

OPSBA Director – Trustee Kosmerly shared that PES registration is now open and the full agenda can be found on their website. At the award ceremony on January 25th, Trustee Clement will be recognized for 25 years of service. She shared that she will be attending the next Board of Director's meeting which will be held on November 29-30, 2024 in Toronto. OPSBA is working with their legal counsel on finalizing the Trustee Code of Conduct draft document with hopes to share soon, and lastly all trustees should have received the draft minutes from the last Northern Council meeting in late October.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Wilson-Zegil congratulated trustees elected to committees at tonight's meeting. She shared that Student Senate has decided that "Intelligence" will be the theme for this year's Stand Up Speak Out conference in May. She

also shared that Senate have been working on a social media campaign to introduce Senators on Instagram, and expressed her gratitude in attending the OSTA Fall General Meeting.

Student Trustee Nootchtai shared that the Student Senate are working on scripts for schools for days of significance and provided an update on the Kids Caring for Kids Cancer Drive. She also thanked trustees for sending them to the OSTA Fall General Meeting which was a huge success.

5. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee McCauley had the pleasure of visiting Westmount with Director Bourget and Superintendent Wachnuk. He shared the interactions between the staff and students was amazing to witness and enjoyed his experience.

Trustee Kosmerly attended the Confederation Secondary School Craft Fair and congratulated organizer/teacher Jesse Brooks, his 2 staff helpers and 125 student helpers for the wonderful job. This year's event had 147 tables with 104 vendors and 3000 people attended. The money raised is going towards a university-style fitness centre for Confederation students.

Trustee Clement attended the Remembrance Day ceremony at S. Geiger Public School and thanked schools for hosting these events.

6. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Hello everyone... I would like to begin my remarks by expressing that it is an honour for me to serve as Chair. I extend sincere thanks to my fellow Trustees for your vote of confidence.

Sudbury Secondary School will present two more public performances of **Beauty and the Beast Jr.** this week - Friday, November 22nd and Saturday, November 23rd at 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for youth 12 and under, and can be purchased at the door or in advance through School Cash Online.

The fourth **Professional Activity Day** of the 2024-2025 school year will take place next Friday, November 29th. There will be no school for students. Parents/guardians can access a summary of the learning taking place on that day on the board website.

Next Saturday, November 30th, staff will host a **Career Fair** from 9 am to 3 pm at Lockerby Composite School. Positions currently available include Teachers (for English, French and Ojibwe), Administrative Assistants, Cleaners, Designated Early Childhood Educators, Educational Assistants, and a Carpenter. Human Resources staff and hiring Principals and Managers will be on site to conduct interviews, answer questions and accept applications. To ensure an interview time, candidates are encouraged to pre-book by submitting their application to hr@rainbowschools.ca by Tuesday, November 26th.

Grade 8 students and their parents/guardians are invited to **Information Nights** at all Rainbow secondary schools between November and February. Upcoming Information Nights include:

- Lively District Secondary School on Wednesday, November 27th at 6 pm
- Confederation Secondary School on Thursday, December 5th at 6 pm, and
- Lasalle Secondary School also on December 5th at 6:30 pm

A full list of schools, dates and times is available on the board website.

Next month, Rainbow District School Board invites staff and students to bring **litterless lunches** to school. They will also be challenged to **decrease waste and divert textiles** from landfills using the five R's - reduce, reuse, repurpose, repair and recycle. Research suggests that the average person buys three times more clothing than they did in the 80s. With textile waste on the rise, largely due to increased sales of fast fashion items, more garments are ending up in landfill sites.

As the festive season approaches, Rainbow District School Board will once again participate in the **Edgar Burton Kids Helping Kids Food Drive**. Staff and students will work together to collect non-perishable food items and monetary donations to assist area food banks.

The **Parent Involvement Committee** will host their next meeting on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7 pm in the Ernie Checkeris Boardroom. The topic will be Parents Reaching Out Grants and School Success Stories.

And that's it for me this evening. Thank you.

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Special Education Advisory Committee minutes October 2, 2024 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

First Nations Advisory Committee November 21, 2024 10:00 am
Equity and Inclusive Education November 21, 2024 3:30 pm
Accessibility Committee November 25, 2024 10:00 am
Audit Committee December 2, 2024 3:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting December 2, 2024 5:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee December 3, 2024 7:00 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee December 4, 2024 12:00 pm
Board Meeting December 10, 2024 5:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 25-R23, J.Kosmerly
That we do now adjourn at 7:28 p.m.