

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, November 5, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

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

Absent: B. Clement, A. McCauley

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

Staff: N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, T. Hayes, R. Lafraniere, L. Mantle, M. McKelvey, D. Peristeridis, C. Whitson

Chair Corbiere-Addison called the meeting to order.

Chair Corbiere-Addison read a declaration of land acknowledgement aloud.

Director Bourget completed roll call.

A. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion: J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Strategic Planning Committee meeting for November 5, 2024 be approved. – **Carried**

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

i.) Enrolment Update

Director Bourget provided an enrolment update for the 2024-2025 school year, sharing data as of the September 30, 2024 count date.

The board has seen an increase in enrolment over the past four years in elementary and the past 5 years in the secondary panel, as well as a steady decline in the number of homeschooled students over the past four years.

Director Bourget shared our incremental growth over the past four years is due in part to the hard work of our Administrators.

Trustees had an opportunity to comment and ask questions.

ii.) Environmental Education and Eco Schools Update

Superintendent McNamara introduced Principal Ryan Lafraniere, Chair of the Environmental Education Committee, who provided an in-depth presentation on Environmental Education and Sustainability, one of the board's six priorities.

Principal Lafraniere shared a historical perspective of initiatives that have taken place over the past 5 years when the board declared a climate emergency. He discussed School Improvement plans where every school has a goal to maintain or increase their level of Eco-School certification, as well as an overview of the EcoSchools program that students can do in the classroom and school level to support environmental education. There are also monthly environmental challenges, school-based and board-wide events such as the Eco-Summit which will be held on May 8, 2025 at Laurentian University that support student learning throughout the system.

Throughout the presentation, Principal Lafraniere discussed, and demonstrated, Earth Overshoot Day, when our demands for ecological resources and services in a given year exceeds what Earth can regenerate in that year.

Trustees expressed their appreciation for the wonderful presentation and thanked Principal Lafraniere and the Environmental Education committee for all of their work in Rainbow Schools.

D. **OLD BUSINESS**

Minutes

Motion: D.Farrow/L.DeBassige

That the minutes of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting held on October 8, 2024 be approved. – **Carried**

E. **NEW BUSINESS**

By-Law Review

i.) Motion: J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the changes to By-Law 3, as attached, be recommended to the Board as a notice of motion. – **Carried**

ii.) Motion: J.Kosmerly/D.Farrow

That the changes to By-Law 6, as attached, be recommended to the Board as a notice of motion. – **Carried**

iii.) Motion: A.Gibson/J.Hunda

That the changes to the Governance By-Law Committee Information page, as attached, be recommended to the Board as a notice of motion.

Amendment: D.Dewar/J.Hunda

To amend the mandate of the committee, by striking 'revise' and adding 'recommend revisions to'. – **Carried**

Motion: A.Gibson/J.Hunda

That the changes to the Governance By-Law Committee Information page, as attached, be recommended to the Board as a notice of motion, as amended. – **Carried**

F. **FUTURE ITEMS**

Attendance

Governance By-Laws Review

Policy Review

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

G. **TRUSTEES' REMARKS**

Trustee Hunda wished those sporting teams finishing their seasons the best of luck and thanked staff and community coaches who give their time as it is not possible without them.

Trustee Farrow thanked fellow trustees for the great work done in getting the by-law motions passed.

Student Trustee Nootchtai shared that her and fellow Student Trustee Wilson-Zegil are heading to Toronto this weekend for the OSTA Fall General meeting and look forward to sharing a report.

Trustee Corbiere-Addison shared, with Remembrance Day just around the corner, I'd like to recognize and acknowledge the sacrifices and contributions our veterans, past and present, have made. Like so many of our family members, we remember those who have served our country, men like my great uncle Justin Roy who served in the forces. He turned 100 this year and was the oldest living world war II veteran and I'd like to thank him for his service. To friends who have recently retired from the forces, friends who are serving in the forces, thank you. I would also like to acknowledge today's young military enlistments who have gone through basic training and who are in the process of becoming part of the military that serve our country. Thank you all.

I want to acknowledge the hard work of the many teachers in our schools that keep the memory of past wars in the hearts and minds of the young. This is important work. When children are involved in these events they feel the connection to it. I want to acknowledge the support and information given in our schools to recruiting young people into the armed forces. This support is vital to help support peace and justice in Canada and around the world and it helps society progress.

One of those past heroes in Canada passed away yesterday. I'd like to extend sincere condolences to the family and friends of the honorable Justice Murray Sinclair. A former lawyer, senator and appointed judge who presided over several inquiries, one of them being the royal commission for the truth and reconciliation of Canada's residential schools. His work, Our Shared Path, was fundamental to humanity and started the process of reforming our educational system in Canada. His legacy and deep commitment to truth, fairness and dignity for all people, lives on in the hearts and minds of his family, friends and so many across this country. May the ancestors comfort you and greet you with open arms as you make your journey. Baamaapii Justice Sinclair.

H. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

February 4, 2025

April 8, 2025
May 6, 2025

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion:

That the meeting be adjourned (6:30 pm).

OFFICIAL