

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 24, 2026 at 5:00 pm

Present: Trustees: D. Farrow (Chair), B. Clement, L. Corbiere-Addison (via Google Meet),
L. Debassige (via Google Meet), D. Dewar (via Google Meet), A. Gibson (via
Google Meet), J. Hunda, J. Kosmerly, A. McCauley, Student Trustee Cyr,
Student Trustee Guenette
Absent: NIL
Officials: B. Bourget – Director and Secretary of the Board
A. Guilbault – Superintendent of Business
D. Koziar, L. Mantle, M. McNamara, D. Williamson – Superintendents
Staff: G. Bastien, N. Cecchetto, N. Charette, S. Dewit, T. Dewit, T. Hayes, P.
Hopkin, R. Jones, N. Mousseau, D. Peristeridis, C. Whitson,
C. Wilson

Chair Farrow called the meeting to order and 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: 26-R47. J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of March 24, 2026 be approved.

Poll vote

*Bob Clement: In-favour
Lisa Corbiere-Addison: In-favour
Linda Debassige: Absent
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

Math Achievement Action Plan – Superintendent Koziar

Superintendent Dan Koziar, Principal of Program Kate MacKenzie, Math Coach Sarah Dewit, Principal Patrick Hopkin and Principal Carrie Wilson provided an update on the progress of the Board's Math Achievement Action Plan for 2025-2026.

As part of the MAAP framework, all schools are required to develop a Math Action Plan that outlines both school and classroom level strategies, along with measurable outcomes aligned to the Ministry of Education's three priority areas for improving mathematics instruction. Additionally, the Ministry requires the board to collect data on the implementation of the strategies and measure their impact. The board uses a number of metrics including report card data, EQAO achievement and attendance rates to determine whether our actions are having the desired effect.

Math Coach Sarah Dewit highlighted initiatives and practices that she is sharing with educators across the board, with a specific focus on the fact fluency program. This program consists of intentional deliberate practice that is impactful, engaging and motivational.

Principal Patrick Hopkin shared how Chelmsford Valley District Composite School creates weekly math challenges that are posted outside of the main office. The questions have four different levels of difficulty creating a fun and engaging activity designed to get students thinking creatively and critically about math outside of the classroom.

Valleyview Public School Principal Carrie Wilson shared they have introduced engaging "math days" to encourage positive math talk with fun school activities like Math Undercover day and the Math Amazing Race. These whole school events pull together our learning, provide a fun way to apply skills and promote a positive growth mindset.

Along with engaging staff and students, part of the Board's work in math is to engage families in math learning. Through surveys, the Board can collect feedback and information from parents and guardians on their satisfaction with resources provided, the math programs being used and what other resources or activities could help to support their child in math, to ensure every student becomes a successful and confident math learner.

Trustees thanked the team for the wonderful presentation and had the opportunity ask questions.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 26-R48, A.McCauley/D.Dewar

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, February 24, 2026 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**

Governance Policy & By-Law Review Committee

a) **Motion: 26-R49, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda**

That the revised Terms of Reference, as attached, for the Governance Policy and By-Law Review Committee, be approved.

Amendment A26-R01, A.Gibson/A.McCauley

That motion 26-R49 be amended by the removal of “revised”.

Poll vote

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

- Carried

Motion: 26-R49, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda

That the Terms of Reference, as attached, for the Governance Policy and By-Law Review Committee, 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) **Motion: 26-R50, J.Kosmerly/J.Hunda**

That the changes to Governance By-Law 14.12, as attached, 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

F. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Municipal Election 2026**

a) **Motion: 26-R51, A.McCauley/J.Kosmerly**

That in accordance with Section 4 (1) (b) Ontario Regulation 412/00 the Board does not designate any municipality within its jurisdiction as a low population municipality.

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) **Motion: 26-R52, B.Clement/J.Hunda**

That in accordance with Ontario Regulation 412/00 that Appendix A shall form the report of the Determination and Distribution of trustees as required under Section 9 of the regulation and further, that, the municipality with the largest population in each Area and the school board election clerk as referred to in Section 8.1 being identified as follows:

Area 1 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 2 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 3 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 4 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 5 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 6 – Clerk of The City of Greater Sudbury
Area 7 – Clerk of The Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands
Area 8 – Clerk of The Town of Espanola

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

c) **Motion: 26-R53, J.Hunda/L.Corbiere-Addison**

That the vote by integrated internet and telephone services bylaw 2026-01 as attached be deemed to have been read three times and 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. **Notice of Absence**

Chair Farrow stated that Trustee Gibson, Trustee Dewar, Trustee Corbiere-Addison and Trustee Debassige requested to participate electronically, with their requests meeting the criteria in by-law 14.

3. **Director's Remarks**

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

I appreciate the opportunity to share some information with you.

As for our predicted enrolment, this year we have 9324 elementary students. This year, we are predicting 9176 elementary students for this coming fall which is consistent with what we predicted last year. As you know, we take a cautious approach to predicted enrolment in an effort to not over-predict. Secondary predicted enrolment is being finalized later this week.

As discussed in a previous meeting we will have a more detailed report about attendance and pupil spaces at our next meeting in April.

Elementary and secondary staffing is underway for the 2026-2027 school year. These predictions, as you know, inform our staffing levels.

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

We hosted our Career Fair on Saturday, March 7, 2026 from 9 am to 3 pm at Lockerby Composite School. It was a very successful day. Thank you to Tiffany Hayes, our Human Resources department and everyone who assisted with interviews that day. We remind everyone who is interested in working for Rainbow District School Board as a teacher or support staff, please visit rainbowschools.ca to learn more about the great employment opportunities that we provide.

Rainbow District School Board has been working with its insurer and the assigned claims adjustor to develop a plan to restore the Lancer Dome. We have received authorization from the insurer and adjustor on the proposed plan, and have coordinated the necessary resources to begin site work on Thursday morning. Snow and ice needs to be cleared before the restoration process can occur. This work is weather-dependent.

At this early stage of the process, there is no estimate of costs or timelines.

In terms of transportation, as you know, school transportation was paused in Sudbury due to road conditions. Today some bus routes were activated and more will be as work continues to clear stops and widen roads.

Daily meetings are taking place with the Mayor, City staff, the Consortium and school board staff.

The City staff is working with the Consortium to remove snow in identified areas to facilitate passage of buses along routes. We are grateful for the collaboration and support of all parties.

We continue to provide updates to Principals. The Consortium provides daily updates to parents and guardians.

At our meeting today it was confirmed that more routes are in process of verification for start-up. 23 more routes and an additional 45 bus runs are being notified today of start up for tomorrow.

We would like to thank the City and the Consortium for their continued efforts to re-establish bus routes.

Board Awards

Rainbow District School Board will pay tribute to its dedicated employees and community partners with the presentation of Board Awards on Tuesday, May 12, 2026. 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.

Retirement Dinner

The Board's Retirement Dinner will take place on Tuesday, June 2, 2026 at the Caruso Club. We welcome the opportunity to celebrate our retirees for their many years of dedicated service to the Board.

EQAO and OSSLT

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.

Athletics

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.

Graduations

Plans are well underway for graduation ceremonies. We have provided you with a list of dates and will reach out to trustees to plan. As always, we want to ensure we have a trustee and/or a representative from the senior team at each graduation. This is an incredible time of the year as we watch students proudly come forward to accept the diploma they worked so hard to achieve.

Thank you

I would like to thank our students, staff, parents and guardians for their patience and resilience. By staying positive and working together we will overcome the challenge that recent weather has provided us.

4. **Other Items**

OPSBA Representative – Trustee Kosmerly shared that on March 12th, the OPSBA Board of Directors approved changes to its general bylaw, reducing the size of the board from 52 to 19 members, which will allow OPSBA to respond more quickly to issues while continuing to be a strong voice for English schools boards. For our Board, we no longer have a seat at the provincial table but will continue to have voting rights at the Northeast Regional Council table and at the OPSBA Annual meeting. Trustees can run for positions on OPSBA's working groups, special councils and for executive positions on the regional council. The next Northern Regional meeting is currently scheduled for April 11th virtually, and, as this was planned before the changes, it is not known if this meeting will include trustees from both the Northeast and Northwest regions or not, regardless, all Trustees and Student Trustees are welcome to attend. Registration is now open for the OPSBA Annual Meeting on June 4-6 in Ottawa, and registration remains open for the Education, Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium being held in Toronto on April 23-24, 2026.

Student Trustee – Student Trustee Guenette is planning a visit to Espanola High School to promote Student Senate with hopes to recruit as they have not had representation for the past couple of years. At the upcoming Senate meeting, Student Trustee elections will take place with many senators expressing interest. Student Senate is also planning a promotional video of the upcoming conference and planning process and are excited to share once it is finalized. Student sign up for the Stand Up Speak Out conference will be sent to schools at the end of this month. Student Trustee Cyr shared that Senators had an opportunity for professional development at the last senate meeting by working on public speaking skills through impromptu speeches with feedback from fellow student senators. Student Senate are completing the itinerary and breakout room speakers for the upcoming conference and once registrations are complete they can finalize accommodations, catering and student groups for activities.

5. **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Hunda proposed the following motion regarding the upcoming OSTA-AECO Annual General meeting due to the conflict of the deadline to register and our next Board meeting.

Motion: 26-R54, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Cyr, Student Trustee Guenette and the 2 incoming Student Trustees at the 2026 OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting being held on May 21-24, 2026 in Toronto.

Motion: 26-R55, J.Hunda/A.McCauley

To waive the notice of motion requirements.

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

Motion: 26-R54, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the Board approve the attendance of Student Trustee Cyr, Student Trustee Guenette and the 2 incoming Student Trustees at the 2026 OSTA-AECO Annual General Meeting being held on May 21-24, 2026 in Toronto.

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

Trustee Corbiere-Addison expressed her gratitude to Trustee Kosmerly for her dedication, professionalism and devotion as the Board's OPSBA rep.

Trustee Clement thanked the Student Trustees for taking the initiative in promoting the Student Senate at Espanola High School.

6. Chairperson's Remarks

Hello everyone:

Registrations are ongoing in Rainbow elementary and secondary schools. If you have already registered, thank you. If you have yet to register your child for Kindergarten or Grade 9 for the upcoming school year, we encourage you to do so as soon as possible. We look forward to welcoming your child into Rainbow Schools this fall.

The Board held its 19th annual **Technological Skills Competition** on March 4th. The event brought together 165 secondary and 340 elementary students to test their skills in various trades. Students were vying for the opportunity to compete at the Skills Ontario Competition this May in Toronto. On behalf of the Board, I extend sincere congratulations to all participants, and wish them continued success.

This month, schools have been exploring Fisheries, Conservation and Water Awareness in the lead up to **Canada Water Week** - a national celebration of water that takes place from March 21st to 27th and coincides with **World Water Day** which took place on March 22nd. This initiative is part of the Environmental Education Committee's efforts to encourage sustainable practices and increase awareness about water use.

Staff, students and families in Rainbow Schools are encouraged to "switch off" for **Earth Hour** on Saturday, March 28th at 8:30 pm. Hundreds of millions of people around the world will turn their lights off for one hour in a demonstration of support for global action on climate change. Rainbow District School Board will turn off all non-essential interior and exterior lights in its schools and at the Centre for Education.

The Board's **Science Fair** took place on March 10th. A total of 33 projects from students in Grades 7 to 12 were selected to compete at the Sudbury Regional Science Fair set to take place at Laurentian University on April 11th and 12th. Students will vie for the opportunity to attend the Canada Wide Science Fair in Edmonton in May. Congratulations to all students for letting your instinctive curiosity guide you. Best of luck to all.

In keeping with science, some 200 students in Grade 7 and 8 from Rainbow Schools will participate in the board's annual **Math, Science and Technology Olympics** on April 15th at Science North. Our team of dedicated teachers has prepared challenging questions and activities related to Science North exhibits and the curriculum. Students can expect a fun day of learning in the spirit of friendly competition.

Students in Grades 1 to 8 from 18 Rainbow Schools will gather for the 6th annual **Elementary Chess Tournament**. The full-day event will take place on April 16th at the Caruso Club. Chess offers students many benefits, including the opportunity to build on analytical, strategic and concentration skills. Chess also improves self-regulation, patience, logic, creativity, memory and self-confidence. We wish all students the best as they make their strategic moves.

A friendly reminder that schools will be closed on April 3rd for **Good Friday** and April 6th for **Easter Monday**.

The **Parent Involvement Committee Meeting** will meet on Tuesday, April 21st at 7 pm. The topic will be Safe and Caring Schools. Parents/guardians can join in person or online via Google Meet. The link is on the agenda which will be available on the board website.

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 November 20, 2025 (official)
Parent Involvement Committee minutes January 27, 2026 (official)
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**
Graduation Ceremony Dates – Elementary, Secondary & Stepping Up
Letter from Paul Calandra, Minister of Education

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

Special Education Advisory Committee April 1, 2026 12:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting April 13, 2026 5:30 pm
Governance Policy & By-Law Review Committee April 14, 2026 12:00 pm
Equity and Inclusive Education Committee April 16, 2026 3:30 pm
Parent Involvement Committee April 21, 2026 7:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee April 22, 2026 3:30 pm
Board Meeting April 28, 2026 5:00 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 26-R56. A.McCauley

That we do now adjourn at 6:37 p.m. – **Carried**

OFFICIAL