

RAINBOW DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

held in person and electronically via Google Meet
Sudbury Secondary School, Library
154 College Street, Sudbury
on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

Present: Trustees: D. Farrow (Chair), B. Clement, L. Corbiere-Addison, D. Dewar,
A. Gibson, J. Hunda, A. McCauley, Student Trustee Guenette

Absent: L. Debassige, J. Kosmerly, Student Trustee Cyr

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, M. Bertrand, N. Charette, T. Hayes, C. Whitson,

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-R66, J.Hunda.L.Corbiere-Addison

That the agenda for the Regular Board meeting of May 12, 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: Absent
Alex McCauley: In-favour*

- Carried

B. PRELIMINARY DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

NIL

C. PRESENTATIONS

Financial Literacy - Superintendent McNamara

Melanie Bertrand, Principal of Student Success provided an overview of the financial literacy requirement that will be in place for September 2026.

Financial literacy will be part of the diploma requirements for students who will be in Grade 10 in the 2026-2027 school year. Financial literacy is part of a continuum of learning from Grade 1 onward. In Grade 10, students will complete a mandatory assessment of the

accumulated knowledge, as part of the Grade 10 Careers course. During the first few weeks of the course, teachers will deliver learning modules followed by the assessment, all developed by TVO. Students will have two attempts to achieve 70% or higher on the assessment. If students are not successful, there will be an additional opportunity with an in-school support team in the next semester.

In addition to informing students about this new graduation requirement and the details, parents and guardians will receive formal correspondence about the requirement, assessment process and results. Schools will provide parents/guardians with the results of the assessment within 5 days of its administration.

Trustees were given the opportunity to ask questions.

D. REPORT FROM THE CLOSED MEETING OF THE BOARD

No meeting held. No report.

E. OLD BUSINESS

1. Previous Minutes

Motion: 26-R67, A.McCauley/A.Gibson

That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, April 28, 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: Absent
Alex McCauley: In-favour*

- Carried

2. Reports and Recommendations from Board Committees

i.) Special Education Plan 2026-2027

Motion: 26-R68, A.McCauley/D.Dewar

That the Special Education Plan 2026-2027, as recommended by the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), 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: Absent
Alex McCauley: In-favour*

- Carried

ii.) **Audit Committee**

Motion: 26-R69, J.Hunda/B.Clement

That the 2026-2027 Internal Audit Plan and Multi-Year Internal Audit Plan be approved as recommended by the Audit Committee.

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: Absent
Alex McCauley: In-favour

- Carried

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. **Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee**

Motion: 26-R70, D.Dewar/J.Hunda

That the Municipal Election Compliance Audit Committee bylaw 2026-02 as attached be deemed to have been read three times and 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: Absent
Alex McCauley: In-favour

- Carried

2. **Notice of Absence**

Chair Farrow stated that Trustee Debassige, Trustee Kosmerly and Student Trustee Cyr send their regrets.

3. **Director's Remarks**

Retirement Dinner - June 2

Rainbow District School Board will celebrate retirees on Tuesday, June 2, 2026 for their many years of dedicated service. We have 64 retiring staff members this year. This dinner is hosted by Trustees to thank staff. As always, you will be called upon to make presentations to the retirees from your respective school areas.

No Budget details received to date

As you know, the provincial budget was recently announced. At this time, we do not have the details regarding our funding for the upcoming school year. We do expect, however, to receive this information very soon.

Free to Be Me

Approximately 120 Grade 9 to 12 students will explore allyship and identity during the Rainbow District School Board's Free to Be Me Conference on Thursday, May 21, 2026. The Harmony Movement will deliver a keynote presentation and workshops from 10 am to 1 pm at Lockerby Composite School.

The keynote will explore meaningful allyship as an ongoing journey of reflection, responsibility and courageous action. Students will be invited to see allyship as a daily practice rooted in empathy, intentionality and action - helping to build school cultures where every identity is affirmed, celebrated and supported.

EcoSummit

Our third annual EcoSummit was a resounding success. I would like to thank the trustees who joined us on May 4th. The day began with a dynamic keynote address by Canadian Wilderness Explorer Adam Shoalts followed by students' sharing best practices and then various workshops. The summit empowered students to continue to take action within their schools and their communities to make a difference. I extend my gratitude to the Environmental Education Committee for their ongoing leadership.

Eco Schools - 100% Certification

We are well on our way to having all of our schools EcoSchools Canada certified once again this year. When we receive confirmation, we will certainly celebrate the hard work of our students, staff and schools as we continue to make environmental education and sustainability a priority.

Future Leaders - year 1 of 2

Year one of our two-year Future Leaders Program concluded today for the current cohort. The level of engagement was high. We congratulate all participants and thank them for their interest in leadership roles.

System wide VP meetings - PD, best practices

We implemented system-wide Vice-Principal meetings this year that have been very well received. This is an opportunity for professional learning. As instructional leaders with our Principals, VPs also share best practices with staff to improve student achievement. Our next day is June 1.

School visits

Next Wednesday, May 20th, Principals will spend the morning acting as either a host to a colleague or a visitor at another school. As you know, school visits are a weekly part of the Executive team's work as we get into schools and classrooms to engage with administrators, educators, support staff and students. Through these visits, we have witnessed first-hand the wonderful work being done by our staff and students to achieve our priorities. Next week our Principals will participate in visits to share best practices, visit classrooms, discuss School Improvement Plan strategies and reflect. Executive Council and System Principals will join in at various schools. The morning ends in a debrief and a reflection exercise to be submitted.

Graduations

Thank you for sending in your availability dates to participate in elementary and secondary graduations. This really is the most important time of the year as we join with our students, staff and families to celebrate student success.

Administrative Appointments and Transfers

This is the time of the year when we also look at administrative appointments and transfers for the coming school year.

4. **Other Items**

OPSBA Representative - Trustee Corbiere-Addison shared that while Bill 101 received royal assent, none of the regulations stemming from the legislation have been filed or are enforced. The Ontario Regulatory Registry remains open for comments from the public until May 13th. OPSBA has submitted a comprehensive report based on feedback received from Trustees. OPSBA has scheduled a call with Board Chairs and OPSBA delegates for May 13 to discuss the Bill. The annual general meeting will take place in Ottawa on June 4-6, 2026. As it is an election year, Kathleen Woodcock has been acclaimed President and there remains vacant positions to fill at the AGM.

Student Trustee - Student Trustee Guenette was happy to share the Stand Up Speak Out conference was a great success. She thanked her fellow senators for all of their hard work on the event and thanked the Trustees and Director Bourget who attended. She shared it was an honour to meet the inspirational keynote speaker, Sunjay Nath, an incredible speaker that had students well engaged, and was a highlight for many..

5 **Trustees' Remarks/Questions**

Trustee Dewar congratulated the organizers for the hard work on the Eco Summit and shared it was really well done.

Trustee Clement commended the student senators on a wonderful conference. Trustee Clement requested he be approved to attend the OPSBA AGM, as he was absent from the previous meeting to add his name as an attendee.

Motion: 26-R71, A.McCauley/D.Dewar

To amend motion: 26-R64 re: OPSBA AGM attendees, to include Trustee Clement.

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: Absent
Alex McCauley: In-favour

- Carried

6. **Chairperson's Remarks**

Good evening.

Seven students from Rainbow Schools who showcased their talents at the Skills Ontario Competition took home two silver and three bronze medals in aesthetics, heavy duty equipment, horticulture and landscape, and workplace safety. We extend congratulations to all participants. We are so proud of their success at the provincial level.

Kindergarten Orientation sessions for children starting school this fall and their parents/guardians will continue this week. Registrations for September 2026 will also be accepted at the orientation. Families will have an opportunity to connect with Kindergarten teachers, early childhood educators and school personnel. They will also meet other children starting school. A list of dates and times is available on the board website.

In keeping with Kindergarten, Rainbow District School Board will offer Kindergarten Camp for children starting school. The week-long program will run from 9 am to 12 pm from Wednesday, August 26th to Friday, August 28th at all Rainbow elementary schools. The deadline to register is noon on Monday, June 22nd. The registration link is available on the board website.

Hundreds of students with special needs will gather at the Laurentian Track on Tuesday, May 26, 2026 for the All Star Athletic Meet. During the all-day event, students will take part in various track and field events including races, high jump, long jump, softball throw, shot put and more. Best of luck to all participants.

Newcomers are invited to a Welcome Centre Family Social on Thursday, June 4th from 5:30 pm to 7 pm at Sudbury Secondary School. Guests will hear inspiring stories from newcomer families, and a special presentation from YMCA Settlement Workers in Schools about staying connected and active over the summer months. Attendees will enjoy family-friendly games and language acquisition activities. Pizza and popcorn will also be available at no cost.

A few important dates to note...

Schools will be closed next Monday, May 18th for Victoria Day.

June 5th is the final Professional Activity Day for the school year. There is no school for students.

A friendly reminder, Trustees, if you have not already done so, please let the Director's Office know which graduations you will be attending. We look forward to joining our school communities to celebrate student success.

Following our Board meeting, we will continue a rich tradition of honouring excellence in Rainbow Schools with the Board Awards ceremony. The Board of Trustees and Executive Council will be seated on the stage in the Sheridan Auditorium for these presentations. We congratulate all board award recipients and employees with 25 years of service.

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

G. INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

1. **Reports from Officials and Staff**
Audit Committee minutes December 1, 2025
2. **Tenders/Requests for Proposals**
3. **Non-Staff Communications**

H. FUTURE MEETINGS

First Nations Advisory Committee May 14, 2026 10:00 am
Parent Involvement Committee May 19, 2026 7:00 pm
Environmental Education Committee May 20, 2026 3:30 pm
Equity and Inclusive Education Committee May 21, 2026 3:30 pm
Governance Policy & By-Law Review Committee May 28, 2026 12:00 pm
Student Senate Meeting June 1, 2026 5:30 pm
Special Education Advisory Committee June 3, 2026 12:00 pm
Special Board (Budget) Meeting June 9, 2026 5:00 pm
Board Meeting June 30, 2026 3:30 pm

I. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: 26-R72, B.Clement/L.Corbriere-Addison
That we do now adjourn at 6:02 p.m. - **Carried**

OFFICIAL