

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the 2010-2014 Rainy River District School Board on September 2, 2014 at 7:00 p.m., Education Centre, Fort Frances.

Board Members Present Michael Lewis, Dianne McCormack, David Kircher, Marg Heyens, Dan Belluz, Ralph Hill, Earl Klyne (teleconference)

Regrets Jeff Marchuk, Student Trustee

In Attendance Heather Campbell, Laura Mills, Casey Slack, Al McManaman, Travis Enge, Ann Cox, Stephen Danielson

RESOLUTIONS

Res. #473 **KIRCHER-HEYENS** That the Rainy River District School Board approve the agenda for September 2, 2014, Regular Board meeting. CARRIED

Res. #474 **HEYENS-KIRCHER** That the Rainy River District School Board meet, in camera, in Committee of the Whole Board to consider the following:
- Confirmation of Committee of the Whole – In-Camera Minutes, Regular Board Meeting, June 3, 2014.
- Litigation
- Personnel
- Negotiation
and that this meeting shall not be open to the public pursuant to Section 207(2) of the *Education Act*. CARRIED

Res. #475 **KIRCHER-HEYENS** That the Rainy River District School Board rise and report to the regular meeting with the following recommendation therein:
That the Rainy River District School Board approve the Committee of the Whole In-Camera Session Minutes, of the Regular Board Meeting, June 3, 2014. CARRIED

Res. #476 **HEYENS-KIRCHER** That the Rainy River District School Board hereby authorizes OPSBA to act as the Board’s agent for the purposes of provincial discussions on central terms and conditions of employment for Principal/Vice Principal Associations. CARRIED

Res. #477 **KIRCHER-HEYENS** That the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting June 3, 2014 (Session 37), having been typed and distributed, be approved. CARRIED

Res. #478 **HEYENS-KIRCHER** That the Rainy River District School Board approve Policy 3.56 Accessible and Healthy Workplace Program. CARRIED

- Res. #479 KIRCHER-HEYENS That the Rainy River District School Board approve the following policies for stakeholder consultation: CARRIED
6.20 School Attendance Zones
2.14 Student Voice
2.05 Communications and Media Relations
- Res. #480 HEYENS-KIRCHER That the Rainy River District School Board rescind the following policies: CARRIED
3.00 Employee Attendance Support Program
3.95 Modified Work Program
8.34 Advertising
8.11 Five Year Capital Equipment Plan
3.36 Employee Working Alone
- Res. #481 KIRCHER-HEYENS That the Rainy River District School Board hereby appoint the Board's Compliance Audit Committee as Dean Carrie, Superintendent of Business, Keewatin-Patricia DSB, Chris Howarth, Superintendent of Business, Northwest Catholic DSB and Yvon Bolduc, Superintendent of Business, CSDC Aurores Boreales DSB, for the 2014 School Board Trustee Election. CARRIED
- Res. #482 HEYENS-KIRCHER That the Rainy River District School Board renew the Ontario Public School Boards' Association Annual Membership for 2014-15. CARRIED
- Res. #483 KIRCHER-HEYENS That the Rainy River District School Board receive the Personnel Report dated September, 2014. CARRIED
- Res. #484 HEYENS-KIRCHER That the Rainy River District School Board authorize administration to enter into a contract with Kenora-Rainy River Districts Child & Family Services to supply Safe Schools Counselling Services for an annual cost of \$161,875. CARRIED
- Res. #485 HEYENS-KIRCHER That the Rainy River District School Board adjourn at 8:47 p.m. CARRIED

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lewis called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda for the September 2, 2014 Regular Board meeting was approved. (resolution #473)

IN CAMERA SESSION

The Board met In Camera, in Committee of the Whole Board, to consider confirmation of

Committee of the Whole minutes, for the Regular Board meeting held June 3, 2014, and to discuss Litigation, Personnel and Negotiation matters. (resolution #474)

RISE AND REPORT

The Board did rise and report to the Regular Board meeting to approve the Committee of the Whole In Camera Session minutes of the Regular Board meeting June 3, 2014. (resolution #475)

The Board met in camera to discuss Litigation, Personnel and Negotiation matters.

The Board has authorized OPSBA to act as the Board's agent for the purposes of provincial discussions on central terms and conditions of employment for Principal/Vice Principal Associations. (resolution #476)

SILENT REFLECTION

The Chair called for a moment of silent reflection.

OATH OF OFFICE – STUDENT TRUSTEE

The oath of office for the student trustee was deferred to the next regular Board meeting October 7, 2014.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

There was no conflict of interest declared.

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

Mini We Day – Fort Frances High School

Peg Keffer, Principal of Fort Frances High School, spoke about the planning of the Mini We Day and introduced teacher Chris Hill, to speak to the support of the schools' Student Leadership Council, and their goal to create a welcoming, safe, and inclusive environment for all students and staff. This year, the Student Council hosted a Grade 8 Day and merged it with an event called Mini We Day. The main focus of Mini We Day is to challenge each student to, "Be the change you want to see in the world". This combination of events took place on May 9 during Education Week. Presentations and activities took place at Fort Frances High School for incoming Grade 8 students.

Students Chelsey Skirten, Julia Quast and Cameron Penney were in attendance and provided a visual presentation on the activities that took place at Mini We Day. One of the highlights of the event was Molly Burke, a motivational speaker, who promoted the idea of overcoming obstacles and helping others.

Trustees commended the students for their hard work in planning such an event to support all students and to make them feel welcome.

Chair Lewis presented the students with a Recognition of Excellence certificate for their efforts in planning such a successful event that promotes the well-being of students.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

A correction was noted in the minutes.

The Board approved the minutes of the regular Board meeting June 3, 2014 (Session 37).
(resolution #477)

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

SYSTEM – PROGRAM/CURRICULUM SUCCESS

Summer Learning

Dianne Thompson, System Principal for the Board, provided background information on the Summer Learning Program 2014 which was held during the month of July. *(Refer to report p.16 of the agenda.)*

Teachers Priscilla Miller and Claudette Bruyere of the Summer Learning Program spoke about the goal of the Program in providing students an opportunity to work on their literacy and learning skills. It was noted that the Program was offered in six sites this year which has doubled from last year. There was a First Nations Métis Inuit (FNMI) component this year with an itinerant teacher providing resources and activities that reflected Aboriginal culture and history.

Questions by Trustees were addressed.

Chair Lewis thanked the teachers for their hard work and enthusiasm in working with students during the Summer Learning Program.

BOARD REPORTS

Parent Involvement Committee – 2013/14 Annual Report

Board members received the Parent Involvement Committee Annual Report which summarizes activities during the 2013/14 school year. Trustee McCormack reported highlights for the year included the Family Math Nights hosted by the various schools, the School Council Chairs' session held in November and the development of a School Council Handbook. *(Refer to report p.18-19 of the agenda.)*

Special Education Advisory Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held June 11, 2014. *(Refer to minutes p.19-22 of the agenda.)*

Policy Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held June 17, 2014. *(Refer to minutes p.27-39 of the agenda.)*

The Board approved Policy 3.56 Accessible and Healthy Workplace Program. (resolution #478)

The Board approved the following policies for stakeholder consultation: (resolution #479)

- 6.20 School Attendance Zones
- 2.14 Student Voice
- 2.05 Communications and Media Relations

The Board rescinded the following policies: (resolution #480)

- 3.00 Employee Attendance Support Program
- 3.95 Modified Work Program
- 8.34 Advertising
- 8.11 Five Year Capital Equipment Plan
- 3.36 Employee Working Alone

Finance Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held June 19, 2014.

Laura Mills, Superintendent of Business, reported that the Board had to establish a Compliance Audit Committee by October 1, 2014 in order to decide on applications for compliance audits regarding candidate's election campaign expenses. As well, Laura Mills spoke about the composition of the Committee and the term of office. It was noted that the Rainy River DSB's Compliance Audit Committee is made up from neighbouring school boards including Keewatin-Patricia District School Board, Northwest Catholic District School Board and CSDC Aurores Boreales District School Board. *(Refer to report p.44-45 of the agenda.)*

The Board appointed the Board's Compliance Audit Committee as Dean Carrie, Superintendent of Business, Keewatin Patricia DSB, Chris Howarth, Superintendent of Business, Northwest Catholic DSB and Yvon Bolduc, Superintendent of Business, CSDC Aurores Boreales DSB, for the 2014 School Board Trustee Election. (resolution #481)

Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)

Trustee Hill provided the following report:

The OPSBA Annual General Meeting was held jointly with the Canadian School Boards Association Congress July 3-6, 2014 in Niagara Falls. Trustees Hill and McCormack, and Director of Education Heather Campbell, attended the conference. Keynote speakers were Paul Martin and Chris Hatfield.

The OPSBA 2014 elections were held as part of the Annual General Meeting and the results were as follows:

- President – Michael Barrett
- First Vice-President – Laurie French
- Second Vice-President – Mark Bailey

There was no change in the Northern Regional representatives.

Legislative updates can be found on the website at www.opsba.org.

Board members received the invoice from OPSBA for the 2014-15 Annual General Membership. Cost savings were noted in both copyright fees and energy costs.

The Board approved the renewal of the Ontario Public School Boards' Association Annual General Membership for 2014-15. (resolution #482)

Student Trustee Report

There was no Student Trustee report available.

Chair Report

Chair Lewis welcomed all students and staff to the new school year. Chair Lewis spoke about the Operational Plan for the upcoming school year which the Director of Education would be presenting to Board members. The Annual Operational Plan is based on the Board's Strategic Plan which outlines goals for the upcoming school year. Chair Lewis stated that one of the identified goals is about Student Achievement and Well-Being. Chair Lewis stated, "I wish all students and staff every success in working toward reaching and achieving that goal to the satisfaction of all students".

It was also reported by the Chair that the Board will be completing a performance appraisal for the Director of Education. This is the third appraisal for the Director of Education during the term of the current Board of Trustees.

Chair Lewis called for comments by Trustees.

There were no further comments by Trustees.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Director's Update

Board members received a report on activities and events during the months of June, July and August. The Director of Education welcomed everyone and acknowledged the work of the staff in both the IT Department and Maintenance Department during the summer months.

Highlights for the month of June, July and August included:

- Throughout June and July, an exciting opportunity for Mine Centre School was in

development to participate in the Connected North Program through Cisco and their partner, WireE. Cisco has provided enhanced educational opportunities for schools in the far north and is now moving into Ontario. The Connected North Program, which uses “Cisco collaboration technology to close service gaps and strengthen the community’s own resources,” will be implemented at Mine Centre School this fall. This is the first school in Ontario to receive this infrastructure and support. WireE, who previously supported Nestor Falls School by donating laptops and iPads, is part of the initiative in supporting the increase of the Mine Centre School’s bandwidth in order to operate the high definition telepresence equipment. Mine Centre will be provided with access to experts throughout North America to help teach or co-teach lessons to students that focus on science, technology, engineering, and math; virtual tours of institutions, and opportunities for teacher professional development. The “Connected Classroom” program will bring students from Mine Centre School together for a virtual cross-cultural exchange with another school in Canada.

- On August 21 and 22, the Director of Education attended the annual Council of Ontario Directors of Education (CODE) meeting in Toronto where the Deputy Minister spoke about the focuses for education. Highlights from the meeting included the Ministry’s
 - Focus on the Ontario Government and the Ministry of Education’s *Achieving Excellence: A Renewed Vision for Education in Ontario*;
 - Continued focuses on literacy, numeracy, parent engagement, and now, student well-being;
 - Use of the Aboriginal self-identification rates to fund boards within the First Nation Métis Inuit Framework funding. It was noted that the Rainy River DSB sent out communication to community partners regarding voluntary self identification. The self identification rate was adjusted following this communication. Further work is planned.
 - Further collaboration with other ministries with respect to children in care, the mental health strategy and other areas of shared focus;
 - Continued work on its education funding review which will be a focus at the upcoming regional sessions for senior teams in September.

- On August 28, the Director of Education participated in the hiring of the new Aboriginal Education Leader for Seven Generations Education Institute, a position that is shared with the Rainy River District School Board. The Director of Education announced that Donna Chief, previously the Vice Principal of Seven Generations Education Institute’s secondary programming, is the successful applicant and brings a wealth of experience to the Board.

- Board members received the Director of Education’s Work Plan which summarizes accomplishments for 2013-14. In addition, a 2014-15 Work Plan was presented which outlines the Director’s objectives for the upcoming school year. This information will be provided to Trustees to assist them during the Director’s Performance Review.

Personnel Report

The Board received the Personnel Report as presented for September, 2014. (resolution #483)
The Personnel Report included the following:

Appointment

Amanda Blake, 1.0 FTE DECE, CRS, commencing September 2, 2014

Susanne Brielmann Clifford, 1.0 FTE Teacher, RHS, commencing September 2, 2014
Christina Campagna, 1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS, Commencing September 2, 2014
Jennifer Cooper, 1.0 FTE Behavioural Therapist, SSS, commencing September 2, 2014
Kelly Forbes, 1.0 FTE Special Education Administrator/Principal, SSS, commencing
September 2, 2014
Dawn Fraser, 0.83 FTE Library Assistant, NSC, commencing September 2, 2014
Alyssa Holliday, 1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS, commencing September 2, 2014
Christine Jean, 1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS, commencing September 2, 2014
Katlynn Jewell, 1.0 FTE DECE, MCS, commencing September 2, 2014
Gabrielle Langlais, 1.0 FTE DECE, RIV, commencing September 2, 2014
Kari McLean, 1.0 FTE DECE, JWS, commencing September 2, 2014
Marlys Morden, 1.0 FTE Teacher, RIV, commencing September 2, 2014
Heather Robinson, 1.0 FTE DECE, JWS, commencing September 2, 2014
Ian Simpson, 1.0 FTE Principal, AHS (term position), September 2, 2014 to June 26, 2015
Kim Veldhuisen, 0.43 FTE Teacher, CRS, commencing September 2, 2014
Jeff Wiersema, 1.0 FTE Teacher, RIV, commencing September 2, 2014
Katherine Williams, 1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS, commencing September 2, 2014

Change in Assignment

Patti Anderson, 0.2 FTE Secretary, JWS / 0.4 Secretary, SSS, commencing September 2, 2014
Cristol Bailey, 1.0 FTE Teacher, JWS, commencing September 2, 2014
Shane Beckett, 1.0 FTE Technology Leadership Coach, SSS, September 2, 2014 to
June 25, 2015
Andrea Bodnar, 1.0 FTE Teacher, RIV, commencing September 2, 2014
Andrea Coyle, 1.0 FTE Teacher, RMS, commencing September 2, 2014
Bryce Coyle, 1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS, commencing September 2, 2014
Robyn Dalseg, 0.5 FTE Library Assistant / Secretary, NFS, commencing August 25, 2014
Corey Dyck, 0.2 FTE Secretary, RHS and 0.5 FTE Secretary, MCT, commencing August 25, 2014
Sarah Irwin-Gardner, Mental Health Leader (permanent), commencing August 12, 2014
Robert Kinsman, 1.0 FTE Teacher, CRS, commencing September 2, 2014
Jody Labossiere, 1.0 FTE Principal, NSC, commencing September 2, 2014
Melisande Lucas, 1.0 FTE Teacher, DYS, commencing September 2, 2014
Kendall McClain, 1.0 FTE Teacher, Ge-Da-Gi-Binez Youth Centre, commencing
September 2, 2014
Jennifer Meyers, 0.2 FTE Teacher, RMS, commencing September 2, 2014
Angela Petsnick, 1.0 FTE Teacher, JWS, commencing September 2, 2014
Nicole Renberg, 1.0 FTE Teacher, CRS, commencing September 2, 2014
Heather Schram, 1.0 FTE DECE, CRS, commencing September 2, 2014
Jessica Sweigard, 1.0 FTE Teacher, MCS, commencing September 2, 2014
Nicole Thomson, 1.0 FTE Teacher, JWS, commencing September 2, 2014

Leave of Absence

Beth Fairfield, 1.0 FTE Deferred Salary Leave, September 2, 2014 to June 26, 2015
Marla Knutsen, 1.0 FTE Leave of Absence, September 2, 2014 to June 26, 2015
Kent Kowalski, 1.0 FTE Federation Leave of Absence, September 2, 2014 to June 26, 2015
Meghan Spooner, 1.0 FTE Maternity Leave, September 20, 2014 to September 19, 2015

Resignation

Sharla Bjorkman, 0.83 FTE Library Assistant, NSC, effective July 11, 2014

Angela Bradshaw, 1.0 FTE Education Assistant, NSC, effective August 27, 2014
Laurel Evans, 0.5 FTE Secretary/0.5 FTE Library Assistant, NFS, effective June 20, 2014
Kimberly Kaus, Attendance Counsellor, effective August 15, 2014

Retirement

Pam Avis, 1.0 FTE Teacher, FHS, effective June 20, 2014

Procurement

Laura Mills, Superintendent of Business, provided a report on Safe Schools Counselling Services for the Board for the 2014-15 school year. The scope of the work is to provide Counselling Services and the service of two social workers as identified in the 2014-15 budget. As the tender is over \$250,000, it requires Board approval in order to award. The Purchasing Approval Committee met to review the RFP. One bid was received and it met all qualifications. The proposal was received from Kenora-Rainy River Districts Child and Family Services and all requirements were met. The Purchasing Approval Committee was in favor of the award.

Trustee Klyne opposed the recommendation to award the contract to Kenora-Rainy River Child and Family Services, and stated that a shared counselling service with an agency such as Weechi-it-te-win Child and Family Services would be beneficial for First Nation students. It was noted that the tender was available to everyone with a philosophy of providing counselling services to all students. Only one bid was received. Casey Slack, Superintendent of Education stated that the counselling is intended as more of a preventive measure as opposed to crisis intervention.

The Board authorized administration to enter into a contract with Kenora-Rainy River Child and Family Services to supply Safe Schools Counselling Services for an annual cost of \$161,875.
(resolution #484)

Supervised Alternative Learning

Casey Slack, Superintendent of Education, provided a report on the Supervised Alternative Learning Program which is a legal alternative from compulsory attendance at school. Students are provided with individualized programming to promote opportunities for success. The program is intended for students primarily between the ages of 14 to 18. It was noted that there was an increase in enrolment and credits earned during the year. Three students graduated from the program this past year. *(Refer to report p.52 of the agenda.)*

Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee

Board members received the minutes of the Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee meeting held June 5, 2014. *(Refer to report p.54-56 of the agenda.)*

Summer Works Projects

Travis Enge, Manager of Plant Operations and Maintenance, provided a report to Board members which reflects a summary of projects completed at the schools with student and staff safety being a priority for these projects. *(Refer to report p.58-61 of the agenda.)*

Stephen Danielson, Manager of Information Technology, provided a report to Board members on summer projects this year, and ongoing projects planned for 2015 in the Information Technology Department. *(Refer to report p.62-63)*

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no Board correspondence.

Director's Annual Operational Plan

Heather Campbell, Director of Education presented the 2014-15 Director's Annual Operational Plan to Board members, highlighting the activities within each pillar that support the Board's Strategic Plan. The Annual Operational Plan includes reflects the feedback received during the consultations held in the past year. *(Refer to report p.65-81 in the agenda)*

FUTURE MEETINGS

Next Regular Board Meeting – Regular Board Meeting, October 7, 2014, 7:00 p.m., Rainy River High School, Rainy River

Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee – September 8, 2014, 12:00 p.m., Education Centre

Special Education Advisory Committee – September 10, 2014, 12:00 p.m., Education Centre

Joint Occupational Health and Safety Committee – September 18, 2014, 9:00 a.m., Education Centre

Policy Committee – September 23, 2014, 9:30 a.m., Education Centre

Finance Committee – September 23, 2014, 1:30 p.m., Education Centre

Townshend Theatre Advisory Committee – September 24, 2014, 1:30 p.m., Education Centre

WORKSHOPS / CONFERENCES / CONVENTIONS

2014-15 Calendar of Events – Ontario Public School Boards' Association

Public Education Symposium, January 29-31, 2015, Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto

Labour Relations Symposium, March 26-28, 2015, Sheraton Centre Hotel, Toronto

Annual General Meeting, June 11-13, 2015, Westin Trillium House, Blue Mountain, Collingwood

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 8:47 p.m. (resolution #485)

Director/Secretary

Chair