

**RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON February 26, 2019**

**at 4:17 p.m.**

***Chairperson S. Humphries in the Chair.***

**TRUSTEES:** M. Adam; L. Boland; N. Edge (Via Video Conference); M. Guenette; D. Kaiser; B. Morris;  
**Present:** D. Shields; S. McCloskey & S. Abbott (Student Trustees)

**TRUSTEES:**  
**Absent (With Regret):**

**STAFF:** P. Buffone; B. McIntyre; J. Poirier; S. Blok; R. Cousineau; D. Jenkins; J. Laderoute; S. McIntyre

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**1. INVOCATION**

The invocation was read by Trustee L. Boland.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Chairperson S. Humphries asked for declarations of conflict. None were forthcoming.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED BY L. BOLAND seconded by D. Shields that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the agenda for today's meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED BY M. ADAM seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting on January 29, 2019.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**5. PRESENTATION**

**RCDSB Summer School Within a College (SWAC) Program July/Aug 2018**

Superintendent J. Poirier welcomed Alex Harris, OYAP/SCWI Coordinator. As part of the SCWI (School College Work Initiative), RCDSB and Algonquin College Pembroke operated a summer SWAC (School Within a College) program for 15 RCDSB secondary students. The program was the first time Algonquin College and RCDSB had offered a summer SWAC at Algonquin College Pembroke campus. The target audience was students who had been unsuccessful on the OSSLT and who would be scheduled to take an OLC30/40 credit in an upcoming semester. Through this SWAC program, the students attended the College for July and part of August 2018 (110 hours for OSS credit and 45 hours for College credit) and earned an OLC credit, a college credit in Wildlife/Ecology, and the corresponding OSS dual-credit SVA4T. This program is scheduled to run again for summer 2019, and hope to increase the number of students.

**6. BUSINESS ARISING**

None to report.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None to report.

8. **REPORTS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION – SYSTEM**

None to report.

9. **REPORTS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION – COMMITTEES**

**Committee of the Whole**

Vice-Chairperson, B. Morris, presented the Closed Session Report of Committee of the Whole from today's Closed Session meeting.

MOVED BY B. MORRIS, seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board adopts the Closed Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

Vice-Chairperson, B. Morris, presented the Open Session Report of Committee of the Whole from today's Open Session meeting.

MOVED BY B. MORRIS, seconded by D. Shields that the Renfrew County District School Board adopts the Open Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Finance and Resources Committee**

Trustee M. Adam, Acting Chairperson of the Finance and Resources Committee, presented the Report of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on February 12, 2019.

MOVED BY M. ADAM, seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Report of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on February 12, 2019.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Special Education Advisory Committee**

Trustee B. Morris presented the Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on February 20, 2019.

MOVED BY B. MORRIS, seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on February 20, 2019.

**The motion was CARRIED**

10. **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Director of Education, P. Buffone, presented his monthly Director's Report. See Appendix "A"

11. **STUDENT TRUSTEES' UPDATE**

Student Trustees S. McCloskey and S. Abbott gave their Student Trustees' Update. See Appendix "B"

12. **CHAIR'S UPDATE**

Chairperson S. Humphries gave her monthly update. See Appendix "C" .

In addition, Chair Humphries shared news of the recent passing of former Trustee and Chair of the RCDSB, Mr. Roy Reiche. Mr. Reiche served many faithful years on the Board. His passion for students' successful educational experience and overall well-being was paramount. Sincere condolences were expressed to Linda and the Reiche family.

13. **NEW BUSINESS**

None to report.

14. **INFORMATION ITEM(S)**

Chairperson, S. Humphries reminded the Board that Pink Shirt day is tomorrow (Wednesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>). A day marked to raise awareness for putting an end to bullying.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY L. BOLAND, seconded by D. Shields that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of February 26, 2019 be adjourned. Time: 5:27 PM

**The motion was CARRIED**

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
CLOSED SESSION REPORT  
February 26, 2019**

TRUSTEES: B. Morris (Chair); M. Adam; L. Boland; N. Edge (via video conference); M. Guenette;  
(Present) S. Humphries; D. Kaiser; D. Shields; S. McCloskey & S. Abbott (Student Trustees)

TRUSTEES:  
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; S. Blok; R. Cousineau; D. Jenkins; J. Laderoute; S. McIntyre; D. White

STAFF:  
(Regrets) B. McIntyre

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The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on February 26, 2019 and discussed the following items in Closed Session:

1. Finance & Resources Committee Closed Session Report – February 12, 2019;
2. OPSBA Update.

The following recommendation was made:

**1. Finance & Resources Committee Closed Session Report – February 12, 2019**

**THAT the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Closed Session Report of the Finance & Resources Committee regarding Grievances & Arbitrations and X over Y Plans.**

I move that the Board adopts this report.

B. Morris  
Chairperson

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ADOPTED - February 26, 2019

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
OPEN SESSION REPORT  
February 26, 2019**

TRUSTEES: B. Morris (Chair); M. Adam; L. Boland; N. Edge (via video conference); M. Guenette;  
(Present) S. Humphries; D. Kaiser; D. Shields; S. McCloskey & S. Abbott (Student Trustees)

TRUSTEES:  
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone; B. McIntyre (3:05 PM); J. Poirier; S. Blok; R. Cousineau; D. Jenkins; J. Laderoute;  
S. McIntyre; D. White

STAFF:  
(Regrets)

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The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on February 26, 2019 and discussed the following items in Open Session:

1. Mid-Year Update on RCDSB Work Plan for Staff : 2018-2019 School Year;
2. RCDSB School Attendance Boundaries;
3. RCDSB Student Senate Constitution;
4. Teachable Moment;
5. OPSBA Update.

The following recommendation was made:

1. **RCDSB Student Senate Constitution**

**THAT the Renfrew County District School Board approve the revised Student Senate Constitution.**

I move that the Board adopts this report.

B. Morris  
Chairperson



INSPIRE. EMPOWER. ACHIEVE.

## FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Open Session:   X  

Closed Session: \_\_\_\_\_

### REPORT TO BOARD

February 12, 2019

**PRESENT:**

Committee Members:	M. Adam (Acting Chair), N. Edge (via video conference), M. Guenette, B. Morris, D. Shields, S. McCloskey (via teleconference) and S. Abbott (Student Trustees)
Administration:	P. Buffone, S. Blok, D. Jenkins, B. McIntyre, J. Laderoute, S. McIntyre
Guests:	J. Curteis, Baragar Systems B. Grenier, Baragar Systems M. Issa, Baragar Systems

**ABSENT:** (With Regrets) L. Boland, S. Humphries, D. Kaiser, R. Cousineau, J. Poirier

The Finance and Resources Committee met on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 to discuss the following item(s):

1. Baragar Systems District Intelligence Presentation.

No recommendations were made.

M. Adam  
Acting Chairperson

ADOPTED - February 26, 2019



## SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Open Session:   **x**  

Closed Session: \_\_\_\_\_

### REPORT TO BOARD

February 20, 2019

**PRESENT:**      Committee Members:      B. Morris, M. Guenette. C. Smith, T. Williams, L. Hunt,

Administration:      J. Poirier, B. Smith, T. Robinson, H. van der Mark, C. Barber,  
S. Smith, J. Pantuso

Guests:

**ABSENT:**      (With Regrets)      L. Cobb, R. Bernard

The Special Education Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 and discussed the following item:

1. Kindergarten Self-Regulation Pilot Project

No recommendations were made.

C. Smith  
Chairperson

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ADOPTED - February 26, 2019



**Board Meeting**  
**Director's Update - Pino Buffone**  
**26 February 2019**

**Acknowledgement of Students, Staff and School Communities**

There are a number of exciting activities, events and initiatives that have taken place, system-wide, over the past month, including:

- Valentine's Day Spirit at Madawaska Valley District High School... On Thursday 14 February 2019, the school's students and staff wore white, pink and/or red in the spirit of kindness and love...a focus the school community strives to emulate each and every day in their interactions with one another.
- Winter Activity Day at Admaston Public School... On Friday 15 February 2019, the school held an outdoor activity-based day to celebrate the season with athletic and artistic activities such as broomball, painting, skating and tag.
- Adjusted Start to Second Semester... Our sincerest thanks to all secondary students, staff and school communities for their flexibility, patience, focus and perseverance in the adjustments made to schedules/timetables over the past few weeks in order to complete the examination period for the previous semester and start courses for the current semester. Thanks to their collective dedication and effort, we're settled and well into the second semester now!

**Update regarding Senior Staff**

I am pleased to welcome Mr. Renald Cousineau to senior staff as Superintendent of Education, effective 01 February 2019. Superintendent Cousineau has assumed many of the central roles and responsibilities held by Retired Superintendent Gayle Bishop, including: School Effectiveness Lead, Board Improvement Planning, ESL, FSL, Equity and Indigenous Education, as well as the Well-being Strategy. He is also responsible for the Madawaska Family of Schools. Renald has had a busy and productive start to his new role over the past few weeks!

**Update to Principals and Vice-Principal Assignments**

There are no additional principal and vice-principal appointments and/or transfers at this point in the school year.



## **Program Information Nights - Winter 2019**

The District is excited to be expanding program options for parents/guardians at the elementary level over the next five years, including: English with Core French, Early French Immersion (EFI) and Middle French Immersion (MFI). Program Information Nights have been established in the families of schools implicated by the expansion as follows:

- Arnprior FoS - Monday 11 February 2019 (from 6-7 p.m.) at Arnprior District High School;
- Pembroke FoS - Tuesday 19 February 2019 (from 6-7 p.m.) at Champlain Discovery Public School; and,
- Renfrew FoS - Thursday 28 February 2019 (from 6-7 p.m.) at Renfrew Collegiate Institute.

It is important to note that consultations regarding program expansion will take place in Spring 2019 for the Deep River and Madawaska Families of Schools. Dates/times of consultations to be determined...stay tuned!



## **Renfrew County District School Board**

Student Trustees' Report for Tuesday, February 26th, 2019

**This report includes information with regards to:**

- **Student Senate**
- **OSTA BCCs**
- **Executive Council**

**Report Prepared By:  
Sean McCloskey and Sam Abbott**

### **1. Student Senate**

**Due to many snow days during the latter weeks of January and early February, Student Senate has been moved to March 6th. At this meeting we will discuss REN Talks, plans for the upcoming student Trustee election, meet with Lisa and the mental wellness team, as well as discussing what the ideal classroom looks like from a student's perspective.**

### **2. OSTA BCCs**

**Verbal update by Sam.**

### **3. Executive Council**

**Verbal update by Sean.**



**Board Meeting**  
**Chair's Update - Susan Humphries**  
**26 February 2019**

**Inclement weather:**

On behalf of the Board, I want to thank the administration and staff for making some difficult decisions about bussing and school closures while always keeping the safety of our students and staff in mind. This weather was unprecedented and the decisions had to be made daily based on the best information available. We know how disruptive it has been to lose so many days- especially for our secondary students who were ready to write exams. Thank you to our staff, students and parents for their patience and understanding. I know we are all ready for winter to be over but we know that more snowfall could be just around the corner!

**Creativity and innovation initiatives:**

The District Creativity and Innovation Committee met yesterday and I continue to be impressed with the enthusiasm for the work already being done in this area as well as the excitement for the possibilities ahead. A few examples of current initiatives include:

- The development of a partnership between Junior Achievement (JA) Canada, Algonquin College and RCDSB to offer some pilot projects at the Grade 7 and 8 as well as Grade 9 and 10 levels to assist with furthering our work in financial literacy for students.
- Innovation , Creativity and Entrepreneurship (ICE) modules are being woven into many of the existing Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) programs across the district.
- RENTalks is being piloted by our Student Trustees providing a platform for students across the District to share their ideas, strengths, passion and perspectives.
- TechX is a robotics/design competition involving every school in the District with the final event being held April 17th at Fellowes High School.
- And there are several more including Destination Imagination, School design projects( maker spaces) and Framework for Learning.

Amazing things are happening across our District that will prepare our students for careers and community roles in the future.

**Boardroom refresh:**

Thank you to our facilities staff and administrators who have seen a need to refresh our meeting space. The first step has occurred with new tables and chairs- long overdue as the others were 40 years old and were starting to literally fall apart. This room is used a lot by a variety of staff and these new tables will allow for different configurations based on the need. We also look forward to a fresh coat of paint sometime this spring. Thank you for the refresh!

**Submitting a bid for IPM 2021- Renfrew:**

Many of you will remember the success of the 1994 IPM held in the Pembroke area and in fact I expect that many of our Trustees were very involved on key committees. I had the opportunity to host the daily Ladies program for the event along with the late Jim Ferguson.

The town of a Renfrew, the county of Renfrew and the township of Admaston Bromley are submitting a bid to host the IPM in 2021. Their proposed site is attached to Mateway Park and on farmland in Admaston Bromley. We should know more later this spring!