

**RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON MARCH 26, 2024**  
**at 3:17 PM**

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

**TRUSTEES Present:** D. Dobson; K. Dougherty; M. Guenette; J. Primeau; K. Rajamani; C. Ruddy; G. Ding (Student Trustee)

**TRUSTEES Absent (With Regret):** L. Boland; D. Kaiser; A. Beggs (Student Trustee)

**STAFF:** K. Niemi; J. Barnes; J. Poirier; R. Cousineau; J. Smith; K. Riddell; M. Caplan Jamieson; S. McIntyre

**STAFF Absent (With Regret):**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson S. Humphries called the meeting to order.

**2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Trustee K. Ragamani read the Territorial Acknowledgement.

**3. INVOCATION**

The invocation was read by Student Trustee G. Ding.

**4. ATTENDANCE**

Attendance for today's meeting was recorded.

**5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED BY K. RAJAMANI seconded by M. Guenette that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the agenda order for today's meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**6. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

**7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED D. DOBSON seconded by K. Dougherty that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the [minutes of the February 27, 2024 Board Meeting](#).

**The motion was CARRIED**

**8. PRESENTATION – Annual Action Plan for School Effectiveness and Student Success**

Superintendent of Education, K. Riddell, introduced Krista Recoskie (System Principal of Program Services and Student Success; Craig Beattie (Secondary Instructional Coach), Margaret Cruchet (Secondary Instructional Coach), Jana Belleau (Secondary Instructional Coach). During their [presentation](#), the emphasis was placed on district and school-based professional learning opportunities geared towards enhancing instructional strategies. These strategies encompassed universal design for learning, differentiated instruction, and culturally relevant and responsive pedagogy, aiming to cater to diverse student needs. Additionally, the presentation highlighted

strategies for assessment and evaluation to ensure comprehensive understanding and progress tracking. A key aspect of the discussion involved engaging learners based on their individual variability or profiles, fostering inclusive learning environments. Trustees received an update on the district Math Action Plan, illustrating ongoing efforts to improve math within the educational framework.

9. **STAFF REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

None to report.

10. **COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

**Finance & Resources Committee**

Board Chairperson S. Humphries, presented the [Open Session Report](#) of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on March 5, 2024.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by M. Guenette that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on March 5, 2024.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Equity & Inclusion Committee**

Board Chairperson S. Humphries, presented the [Open Session Report](#) of the Equity & Inclusion Committee meeting held on March 5, 2024.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by K. Rajamani that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Equity and Inclusion Committee meeting held on March 5, 2024.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Program & Student Achievement Committee**

Trustee M. Guenette, Chairperson of the Program & Student Achievement Committee, presented the [Open Session Report](#) of the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting held on March 5, 2024.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE, seconded by K. Rajamani that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting held on March 5, 2024.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Committee of the Whole Open Session Report**

Chairperson S. Humphries, Acting Chairperson of Committee of the Whole, presented the [Open Session Report](#) of Committee of the Whole from today's meeting.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by D. Dobson that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Committee of the Whole Closed Session Report**

Chairperson S. Humphries, Acting Chairperson of Committee of the Whole, presented the Closed Session Report of Committee of the Whole from today's meeting.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by M. Guenette that the Renfrew County District School Board adopts the Closed Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

### **Special Education Advisory Committee**

Trustee M. Guenette presented the [Open Session Report](#) of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on March 20, 2024.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE, seconded by K. Rajamani that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on March 20, 2024.

**The motion was CARRIED**

### **Ontario Public School Boards' Association (OPSBA)**

Chairperson S. Humphries and Trustee K. Dougherty stated that the OPSBA Eastern Regional meeting, hosted by Limestone DSB at Kingston Secondary School, is on April 6<sup>th</sup>. There will be presentations by the Limestone DSB and Renfrew County Warden Peter Emon, along with networking opportunities and discussions on OPSBA topics. The Labour Relations and Human Resources Symposium will take place in Toronto on April 25th and 26th, followed by an OPSBA Board of Directors meeting. The CSBA, OPSBA, and National Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education will be held in Toronto from July 3rd to 5th, including various speakers and elections Registration is currently open. Revisions to the Code of Conduct for OPSBA's Board of Directors and committees will be proposed at the upcoming AGM. A new scholarship initiative supported by AMO, offering \$1000 scholarships across five regions, will soon be announced and will focus on student leadership and healthy democracy.

#### 11. **UPDATES**

##### **(a) Director**

Director of Education K. Niemi presented her [Director's Report](#).

##### **(b) Chair**

Chairperson S. Humphries presented her [Chair's Report](#).

##### **(c) Student Trustees**

Student Trustee G. Ding presented the [Student Trustees Report](#).

#### 12. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chairperson S. Humphries shared a [letter](#) received from the Ministry of Education in response to our correspondence that highlighted the need for free menstrual hygiene products in schools.

#### 13. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Each November, Trustees are appointed to [committees](#), based on their requests as much as possible, while attempting to balance the workload with interests. In November 2023, there was a trustee vacancy, necessitating the filling of positions. It was understood that once the trustee vacancy was filled permanently, these positions would be subject to review and potential adjustment.

The following two Committees were discussed:

- (1) Audit Committee: Trustee Guenette was willing to sit on this committee but would prefer to be removed when possible
- (2) SEAC Committee: Trustee Primeau agreed to fill in on this committee until needed.

**MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by D. Dobson THAT the Renfrew County District School Board, Board of Trustees amend the Trustee Committee assignments to add Trustee Karthi Rajamani to the Audit Committee replacing Trustee Mike Guenette and to the Special Education Advisory Committee replacing Trustee Jodie Primeau.**

**The motion was CARRIED.**

#### 14. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by K. Rajamani that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of March 26, 2024 be adjourned. Time: 4:35 PM

**The motion was CARRIED**