

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF SPECIAL BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2023

at 11:34 AM

Chairperson S. Humphries in the Chair.

TRUSTEES Present: L. Boland; D. Dobson; K. Dougherty; M. Guenette; D. Kaiser; J. Primeau; A. Beggs (Student Trustee)

B. Morris; T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)

TRUSTEES Absent (With Regret):

STAFF Present: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; J. Barnes; R. Cousineau; J. Smith; K. Riddell; M. Caplan Jamieson; S. McIntyre; H. MacMillan

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson S. Humphries called the meeting to order.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chairperson S. Humphries read the Territorial Acknowledgement.

3. INVOCATION

The invocation was read by Trustee K. Dougherty.

4. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

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

5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

The motion was CARRIED

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED M. GUENETTE seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting on December 20, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Program & Student Achievement Committee Meeting Open Session Report – December 6, 2022

Trustee M. Guenette, Chair of the Program & Student Achievement Committee, presented the open session report for the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting on December 6, 2022.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE seconded by K. Dougherty that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting held on December 6, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

Equity & Inclusion Committee Meeting Open Session Report – December 6, 2022

Board Chairperson S. Humphries, Acting Chairperson of the Equity and Inclusion Committee, presented the Open Session Report of the Equity & Inclusion Committee meeting held on December 6, 2022.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by M. Guenette that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Equity and Inclusion Committee meeting held on December 6, 2022.

The motion was **CARRIED**

Special Education Advisory Committee Meeting – December 21, 2022

Trustee M. Guenette advised that the Special Education Advisory Committee did not have a quorum for their December 21, 2022 meeting. As such, no report was submitted to the Board.

Program & Student Achievement Committee Meeting Open Session Report – January 10, 2023

Trustee M. Guenette, Chair of the Program & Student Achievement Committee, presented the open session report for the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting on January 10, 2023.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE seconded by D. Kaiser that the Renfrew County District School Board adopts the Open Session Report of the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting held on January 10, 2023.

The motion was **CARRIED**

8. OTHER BUSINESS

None to report.

9. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY J. PRIMEAU seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board Special Board Meeting of January 13, 2023 be adjourned. Time: 11:57 AM.

The motion was **CARRIED**



Program and Student Achievement

Open Session: X

Closed Session: _____

REPORT TO BOARD

December 6, 2022

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	M. Guenette (Chair), D. Dobson, B. Morris, S. Humphries, J. Primeau, K. Dougherty, L. Boland, A. Beggs (Student Trustee), T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)
Administration:	P. Buffone, R. Cousineau, J. Poirier, J. Barnes, K. Riddell, J. Smith, S. McIntyre, H. MacMillan, A. Garcia
Guests:	P. Burnette, P. Brazeau, K. Recoskie, S. Gagne

ABSENT: (With Regrets) D. Kaiser

The Program & Student Achievement Committee met on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 to discuss the following item(s):

1. Fellowes High School Excursion - Request
2. Follow-up related to Exploration of STEM-focused SHSM - Report
3. Overview of Elementary School Review
4. Re-think @ Secondary Initiative – Themes/Topics - Report

No recommendations were made.

Mike Guenette
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 13, 2023



EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Open Session: **x**

Closed Session:

REPORT TO BOARD

DECEMBER 6, 2022

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	D. Dobson, M. Guenette, B. Morris, S. Humphries, J. Primeau, K. Dougherty, L. Boland, A. Beggs (Student Trustee), T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)
Administration:	P. Buffone, R. Cousineau, J. Poirier, J. Barnes, K. Riddell, J. Smith, S. McIntyre, H. MacMillan, A. Garcia
Guests:	A. Johnson

ABSENT: (With Regrets) D. Kaiser (Chair)

The Equity & Inclusion Committee met on Tuesday, December 6, 2022 to discuss the following item(s):

1. Equity, Anti-Racism & Anti-Oppression Action Plan - Report

No recommendations were made.

S. Humphries
Acting Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 13, 2023

PROGRAM AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Open Session: **x**

Closed Session: _____

REPORT TO BOARD

January 10, 2023

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	M. Guenette (Chair), D. Dobson, B. Morris, S. Humphries, J. Primeau, K. Dougherty, L. Boland, T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee), A. Beggs (Student Trustee) (Virtual)
Administration:	P. Buffone, R. Cousineau, J. Poirier, J. Barnes, K. Riddell, J. Smith, M. Jamieson, R. Coleman, S. McCafferty
Guests:	S. Gagne, K. Recoskie, L. Mason, N. Neville, J. Wroe, C. Mantifel, J. Sloan, J. Recoski

ABSENT: (With Regrets)

The Program and Student Achievement Committee met on Tuesday January 10, 2023 to discuss the following items:

1. Annual Action Plan for School Effectiveness and Student Success - Report
2. Secondary School Review: Recommendations by Key Area of Focus for the 'Rethink@Secondary' Initiative - Report

The following recommendations were made:

2. Secondary School Review: Recommendations by Key Area of Focus for the 'Rethink@Secondary' Initiative
 - 2.1 Key Area of Focus: Program Pathways (Page 5)

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education Ontario issued a memorandum entitled '*Next Steps for De-Streaming: Grade 9 Course Codes and Descriptions for the 2022-2023 School Year*' on Wednesday 10 November 2021, as part of the de-stream initiative for the current school year,

AND WHEREAS the Renfrew County District School Board is committed to academic integrity and curricular rigour through the optimization of program pathways to apprenticeship, college, community living, university and the workforce for all of its learners,

Be it resolved THAT the Board of Trustees of the Renfrew County District School Board approve the development and implementation of a 'de-stream framework' for the 2023-2024 school year to support Grade 9 courses (with exception of locally-developed courses), through the establishment of a 'Sub-committee for Program Pathways', as an integral part of the 'Transition Working Group at the Secondary Level' for the period of February-June 2023, with the framework to include:

- cultural shifts in schools and the system to identify and dismantle systemic discrimination and structural inequities;
- enhanced educator capacity for effective instruction, assessment and evaluation in de-streamed, multi-level classrooms; and,
- increased student engagement, achievement and well-being.

AND THAT a French as a Second Language (FSL) certification be established for Grades 9 to 12, system-wide, including certificates in Extended French and French Immersion, as initiated for the current school year (with a multi-year implementation plan for all families of schools).

AND THAT specialized programs, including SHSM Programs and/or Focus Programs, continue to be provided for Grades 11 & 12, system-wide.

AND THAT any other certifications and/or program specializations to be considered (added and/or removed) at the secondary level, beyond those specified in Attachment E (Page 6), must be reviewed and approved by Executive Council and the Board.

2.2 Key Area of Focus: Initiatives for Student Success (Page 7)

WHEREAS the Renfrew County District School Board is committed to the coordination of strategies and structures that allow initiatives of Student Success to move dreams into reality and beliefs into action for all of its learners in order to inspire, empower and achieve, as an integral aspect of its vision,

Be it resolved THAT the Board of Trustees of the Renfrew County District School Board direct staff to create a 'resource guide for educators' regarding the success of students to be in place, system-wide, for the 2023-2024 school year, through the establishment of a 'Sub-committee for Initiatives of Student Success', as an integral part of the 'Transition Working Group at the Secondary Level' for the period of February-June 2023, with the resource guide to include:

- clarity of vision for Student Success at the RCDSB;
- consistency of roles and responsibilities of Student Success Teachers and Teams;
- indicators of system-wide success as tracking and reporting measures (including graduation rates);
- supports for pillars of literacy and numeracy, as well as global competencies (based upon the *Inspired Learning Framework*);
- strategies for engagement and re-engagement; and,
- exploration of possibilities to offer alternative programming for students, including options in-person and on-line, that allow for more flexibility and greater personalization.

2.3 Key Area of Focus: Experiential Learning Opportunities (Page 8)

WHEREAS the Renfrew County District School Board is committed to working together to foster outstanding educational experiences for all of its learners, as an integral aspect of its mission,

Be it resolved THAT the Board of Trustees of the Renfrew County District School Board direct staff to design a 'handbook for experiential learning' that encourages and/or promotes the enhancement of community-connected opportunities, coordinated at both the school and system levels, including:

- integration of career and life planning through all courses offered;
- clarity of parameters for co-operative education placements;
- evolution of job shadowing and job twinning opportunities; and,
- establishment of multi-disciplinary and/or multi-course options to address the diverse needs of learners.

2.4 Key Area of Focus: Virtual Learning Environments (Page 9)

WHEREAS the Ministry of Education Ontario issued a memorandum entitled 'Online Learning Graduation Requirement' on Tuesday 01 February 2022, where students must earn two online learning credits to obtain their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), as outlined in Provincial Policy Memorandum 167: Online Learning Graduation Requirement*, starting with the cohort of students who entered Grade 9 in the 2020-2021 school year,

AND WHEREAS the Renfrew County District School Board is committed to the provision of virtual learning opportunities of the highest possible quality within a modernized education system for all of its learners,

Be it resolved THAT the Board of Trustees of the Renfrew County District School Board approve the deployment of a device (cover-protected chromebook, specifically) to every student in Grades 7-12, system-wide, beginning in the 2023-2024 school year.

AND THAT, taking into consideration both the challenges and opportunities of eLearning and vLearning as modes of delivery which the District relies upon in order to offer viable pathway options, a series of system-wide strategies to support the optimization of virtual learning opportunities for students and staff at each secondary site be established for the 2023-2024 school year.

2.5 Key Area of Focus: Transitions to/from Secondary School (Page 10)

WHEREAS the Renfrew County District School Board is committed to seamless, successful transitions to/from secondary schools, along with all other transitions from pre-kindergarten to adult and continuing education for all of its learners,

Be it resolved THAT the Board of Trustees of the Renfrew County District School Board direct staff to prepare a 'protocol of promising practices' to guide transition planning to be in place, system-wide, for the 2023-2024 school year, through the establishment of a 'Sub-committee for Transitions', as part of the 'Transition Working Group at the Secondary Level' for the period of February-June 2023, with the proposed protocol to include:

- orientation processes for introduction to secondary schools of the District;
- transition planning processes for post-secondary pathways across grades, especially in Grades 11 & 12;
- consistency of roles and responsibilities of Guidance Counsellors and other pertinent staff; and,
- clarity of expectations for graduation/leaving ceremonies.

AND THAT supports for the transition of students as they mature out of compulsory education (18+), and may not yet be on track to fulfill graduation requirements (including PLAR-Prior Learning Assessment & Recognition), be developed and implemented as part of the cyclical review of Adult & Continuing Education scheduled for the 2023-2024 school year.

M. Guenette
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 13, 2023