

**RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 20, 2022**  
**at 5:50 PM**

*Chairperson S. Humphries in the Chair.*

**TRUSTEES Present:** L. Boland; M. Guenette; D. Kaiser; B. Morris; A. Beggs (Student Trustee)

**TRUSTEES Absent (With Regret):** D. Dobson; K. Dougherty; J. Primeau; T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)

**STAFF:** P. Buffone; J. Poirier; J. Barnes; R. Cousineau; J. Smith; K. Riddell; R. Coleman

**STAFF Absent (With Regret):** 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 Chairperson S. Humphries.

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the agenda order for today's meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED S. HUMPHRIES seconded by M. Guenette that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting on November 29, 2022.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**7. PRESENTATION**

Today's presentation was postponed to January 2023.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

**Committee of the Whole Open Session Report – December 20, 2022**

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

MOVED BY L. BOLAND, seconded by S. Humphries 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 – December 20, 2022**

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

MOVED BY L. BOLAND, seconded by S. Humphries that the Renfrew County District School Board adopts the Closed Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Program & Student Achievement Committee**

Trustee M. Guenette, Chairperson of the Program & Student Achievement Committee, advised that the Program & Student Achievement Committee open session report for the December 6, 2022 meeting will be presented in January 2023.

**Equity & Inclusion Committee**

Board Chairperson S. Humphries, Acting Chairperson of the Equity and Inclusion Committee, advised that Equity & Inclusion Committee open session report for the December 6, 2022 meeting will be presented in January 2023.

9. **UPDATES**

**(a) Director**

Director of Education P. Buffone's report is attached. See Appendix "A".

**(b) Chair**

Chairperson S. Humphries' report is attached. See Appendix "B"

**(c) Student Trustees**

Student Trustees T. Novosedlik and A. Beggs' report is attached. See Appendix "C".

**(d) OPSBA**

Chairperson S. Humphries reminded Trustees of OPSBA's annual Public Education Symposium in January 2023 and encouraged members of the Board to attend.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None to report.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

None to report.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of December 20, 2022 be adjourned. Time: 6:30 PM

**The motion was CARRIED**

## RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
OPEN SESSION REPORT  
December 20, 2022**

TRUSTEES: L. Boland (Chair); S. Humphries; D. Dobson; M. Guenette; D. Kaiser; B. Morris;  
J. Primeau; A. Beggs (Student Trustee)

TRUSTEES: K. Dougherty; T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)  
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; J. Barnes; R. Cousineau; J. Smith; K. Riddell; R. Coleman;  
T. Nelson

STAFF: S. McIntyre; H. MacMillan  
(Regrets)

GUEST:

---

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on December 20, 2022 and discussed the following items in Open Session:

1. Annual Action Plan for Indigenous Education 2022-2023;
2. Secondary School Review: Conceptualizations for Consideration for the 'Re-think@Secondary' Initiative.

I move that the Board receives this report.

L. Boland  
Chairperson

---

ADOPTED - December 20, 2022

## RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE  
CLOSED SESSION REPORT  
December 20, 2022**

TRUSTEES: L. Boland (Chair); S. Humphries; D. Dobson; M. Guenette; D. Kaiser; B. Morris;  
J. Primeau

TRUSTEES: K. Dougherty  
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Barnes; J. Smith; K. Riddell; S. McIntyre; R. Coleman; B. Murray

STAFF: J. Poirier; R. Cousineau; H. MacMillan  
(Regrets)

GUEST: Tracy Lyle

---

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on December 20, 2022 and discussed the following items in Closed Session:

1. Finance & Resources Committee Meeting Closed Session Report – December 6, 2022;
2. Keys Building;
3. Legal Matter (*NOTE: Only the Board of Trustees, the Director of Education and Tracy Lyle were in attendance during this agenda item*).

The following recommendations were made:

1. **Finance & Resources Committee Meeting Closed Session Report – December 6, 2022**  
**THAT the Renfrew County DSB adopts the Closed Session Report of the Finance & Resources Committee Meeting on December 6, 2022.**
2. **Keys Building**  
**THAT the Renfrew County DSB adopts the Closed Session Report presented on December 20, 2022 regarding the Keys Building.**
3. **Legal Matter**  
**THAT the RCDSB adopts the closed session report presented on December 20, 2022 regarding the legal matter discussed.**

I move that the Board adopts this report.

L. Boland  
Chairperson

---

ADOPTED - December 20, 2022



**Board Meeting**  
**Director's Update - Pino Buffone**  
**20 December 2022**

As the end of the calendar year and the start of the holiday season approaches... I would like to highlight a number of activities and events, initiatives and/or projects taking place across the system. Of note, the District continues to follow the advice provided by the Chief Medical Officer of Health, as outlined in the guideline for 2022-2023 Health and Safety Measures in Schools, including: optional masking for students, staff and visitors in schools, school board offices, and on student transportation (except in cases where staff are required to perform an Aerosol Generating Medical Procedure); endorsement of appropriate hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette in schools and workplaces; and, the continuation of funding for enhanced cleaning standards and ventilation and filtration improvements at all sites.

**Hour of Code - Week of December 5th-11th, 2022**

The week of December 5th, 2022, served as an inspirational incentive for coding and its implications in real-life contexts, encouraging our students to be creators (not only consumers) of content produced. As a worldwide effort, the Hour of Code (HoC) celebrates and increases participation in computer science. At the RCDSB, over 85+ classrooms participated in coding-related activities during the week!

**Winter Solstice Appreciation Dinner - Thursday 08 December 2022**

On Thursday 08 December 2022, VP of Indigenous Education, Tina Nelson, and the Indigenous Education team coordinated a dinner event at Sands on Golden Lake for community partners who have supported worthy endeavours of Indigenous Education in our schools and system. The evening was one of gratitude for relationships established, the seasons of our planet, and what the land and its original peoples have provided us all.

**Secondary School Review - Fall 2022 & Winter 2023**

Now that the consultative sessions at all secondary sites (seven), as well as consultations with staff of adult and continuing education and centrally-assigned staff, have taken place, 'conceptualizations for consideration' will be shared with the Board of Trustees on Tuesday 20 December 2022, and, ultimately shaped into recommendations for Committee of the Whole on Tuesday 10 January 2023.



**Board Meeting**  
**Chair's Update - Susan Humphries**  
**20 December 2022**

Last week I was pleased to be able to join the “Rethink @ secondary” consultation at our Mary St. site. I appreciated the thoughtful comments and open conversations that occurred and the opportunity to meet with staff is always a positive experience for me. Exciting and interesting times ahead as we move forward on this file. There will be many positive outcomes for our students as we work towards ensuring they are well prepared to be successful in the global community.

The Ontario Public School Board Association ( OPSBA) has just announced their new Executive Director. Stephanie Donaldson will be replacing Rusty Hick who has been with the organization for over 5 years. I was fortunate to be on the interview panel and have every confidence that Stephanie will be very good for our organization. Here is part of the official announcement to outline for you what she brings to the organization. Stephanie brings outstanding experience in the world of public education to OPSBA as a leader and innovator in Ontario’s public sector. As a former elected school board trustee with the Toronto District School Board (an OPSBA member board), a member of OPSBA’s Executive Council, and Vice-Chair of the Toronto Board of Health, Stephanie has worked at both the local and provincial levels to safeguard and enhance the education, health and well-being of young people, their families, and their communities. Stephanie has spent much of her career in the public sector leading large scale change and developing innovative policy. Most recently, she served on the start-up team as Director, Consumer and Industry Relations at Ontario’s newest regulator of the home construction industry. Stephanie’s other recent executive roles in the Ontario Public Service include launching the Ontario Digital Service at Cabinet Office, transforming the collective bargaining system in Ontario’s public education sector at the Ministry of Education, and leading the effective governance and accountability of Ontario’s agencies, boards and commissions at Treasury Board Secretariat. She began her career with the Ontario Association of Youth Employment Centres where she advocated for community-based training programs for youth in local agencies across the province. Improving the lives of children, youth and families has been at the core of all of Stephanie’s work throughout her career and whether it is organizing for a stronger and more equitable education system, re-imagining public policy and delivery, or working

towards more healthy, liveable and just communities – she leads with heart and a trusted voice within community.

Stephanie is a graduate of the Rotman Public Service Leadership Institute, and received a Master's degree from the National University of Ireland and an undergraduate degree from Huron University College.

She is also very personable and has a passion for public education. I am looking forward to working with her!

I have seen many many examples on our social media pages of wonderful thoughtful activities that are happening in our schools to celebrate the various holidays at this time of year! I applaud the creativity of our staff in helping our students understand what these holidays are all about and how we can be thoughtful and considerate of others in our school communities.

Finally wishing each of you some family time and I sincerely hope that each of you can take some time for yourself- to relax and re-energize. Happy holidays and Merry Christmas!



## **Student Trustees' Report for Tuesday, December 20, 2022**

### **Report Prepared By:**

#### **Taylor Novosedlik and Ava Beggs**

Over the past little bit things have been on pause for the both of us. Although no official meetings for the Student Senate have been held, we have been working hard to make sure that our goals for the senate stay intact during this period. At the moment, we are working with Project F.L.Y to try and get some informative presentations put together for our senate and students within the RCDSB, thank you to Director Buffone for introducing everyone. More information regarding that will be shared when we have it.

As exams are approaching soon, we are slowly working on collaborating with Lisa Lariviere to help ease the stress around exam times. For the majority of our highschool students, this will be their first set of exams, and as a Student Senate it is a goal of ours to make sure students thrive and succeed during this period. We are also currently planning an equity council meeting for January after the break to further our plans of anti bullying strategies within schools.

Individually, I have had OSTA meetings where in the Public Board Council we have been discussing how to make holidays more inclusive and finalizing our goals for our terms.

As for the executive council, we had our first retreat December 3rd & 4th in Toronto. That meeting included lots of conversation about team building, team work agreements as well as BCC planning which is fast approaching. We have an agenda done, and I'm currently working on the design of both the agenda and registration package. The plan is to send out this information to boards before the break.