

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 24, 2023
at 4:00 PM

Chairperson S. Humphries in the Chair.

TRUSTEES Present: L. Boland; D. Dobson; K. Dougherty; M. Guenette; B. Morris

TRUSTEES Absent (With Regret): D. Kaiser; P. Primeau; T. Novosedlik & A. Beggs (Student Trustees)

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; J. Smith; K. Riddell; M. Caplan Jamieson; S. McIntyre; R. Coleman

STAFF Absent (With Regret): J. Barnes; R. Cousineau; 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 M. Guenette.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY B. MORRIS seconded by K. Dougherty 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 D. DOBSON seconded by K. Dougherty that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Special Board Meeting on January 13, 2023.

The motion was CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION – RIGHT TO READ AND THE ROLE OF THE LITERACY INTERVENTION SUPPORT TEACHER TEAM

Superintendent J. Smith introduced the Literacy Intervention Support Teacher Team (LIST): Lori MacDonald, Courtney McCollum, Tanya Campbell, Jen Francis, Christel Littau, Natascha O'Brien and Shelley Gagne. The Literacy Intervention Support Teachers presented highlights from their journey in the role since September, including their personal learning, the collection and analysis of data process, the implementation of literacy intervention in schools, as well as sharing plans for capacity building.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

Committee of the Whole Open Session Report – January 24, 2023

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 D. Dobson that the Renfrew County District School Board adopts the Open Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

The motion was CARRIED

Committee of the Whole Closed Session Report – January 24, 2023

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 B. Morris 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 Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on January 18, 2023.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE, seconded by B. Morris that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on January 18, 2023.

The motion was CARRIED

9. **UPDATES**

a) Director

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

(b) Chair

Chairperson S. Humphries presented her Chair's Report. See Appendix "B"

(c) Student Trustees

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

(d) OPSBA

Chairperson S. Humphries and Trustee K. Dougherty will have a report at the next Board Meeting that will include highlights of OPSBA's Public Education Symposium occurring this week.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Chairperson S. Humphries referenced a copy of a letter received from Whitewater Region Township.

11. **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board of Trustees will be drafting a letter to the Renfrew County & District Health Unit acknowledging and expressing gratitude to recently retired Dr. Robert Cushman, Acting Medical Officer of Health. Dr. Cushman was instrumental in guiding the RCDSB through the COVID-19 pandemic.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY B. MORRIS seconded by K. Dougherty that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of January 24, 2023 be adjourned. Time: 5:08 PM

The motion was CARRIED

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OPEN SESSION REPORT
January 24, 2023**

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

TRUSTEES: J. Primeau; T. Novosedlik & A. Beggs (Student Trustees)
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; J. Smith; K. Riddell; M. Caplan Jamieson; S. McIntyre;
R. Coleman; T. Hoffman

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

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on January 24, 2023 and discussed the following items in Open Session:

1. Year to Date Financial Status for 2022-2023;
2. International Excursions:
 - (1) Preliminary Report on International School Excursions
 - (2) School Excursion Request – Fellowes HS
 - (3) l'Académie Clermont-Ferrand (ACF) & RCDSB Partnership

The following recommendation was made:

School Excursion Request – Fellowes HS

THAT the Renfrew County District School Board approve the excursion request from Fellowes High School, in principle, to travel to Berlin, Prague, Krakow and Budapest from March 7-16, 2024.

I move that the Board adopts this report.

L. Boland
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 24, 2023

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
CLOSED SESSION REPORT
January 24, 2023**

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

TRUSTEES: K. Dougherty; J. Primeau; T. Novosedlik & A. Beggs (Student Trustees)
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; J. Smith; K. Riddell; M. Caplan Jamieson; S. McIntyre; E. Scott

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

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on January 24, 2023 and discussed the following items in Closed Session:

1. Personnel Matter;
2. Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Ratification: CUPE 1247 & CUPE 1321.

The following recommendation was made:

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Ratification: CUPE 1247 & CUPE 1321

THAT the Renfrew County District School Board of Trustees adopts the Closed Session Reports presented on January 24, 2023 regarding Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Ratification: CUPE 1247 & CUPE 1321.

I move that the Board adopts this report.

L. Boland
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 24, 2023



SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Open Session: X
Closed Session:

REPORT TO BOARD January 18, 2023

PRESENT: Committee Members: B. Morris, M. Guenette, A. Desrochers, D. Lacombe,
A. MacKenzie, S. Tait, N. Tabbert, C. Brash, L. Rigby,
S. Smith, M. Wagner

ADMINISTRATION: J. Smith, A. McGregor, A. MacDougall-Popke, A. Hilts

GUESTS:

ABSENT: (With Regrets)

The Special Education Advisory Committee met in person and virtually on Wednesday, January 18, 2023 and discussed the following:

1. Staff Updates
2. Report from the Board
3. Association Reports

No recommendations were made.

Amy MacKenzie,
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 24, 2023



Board Meeting
Director's Update - Pino Buffone
24 January 2023

As we begin the new calendar year, I would like to highlight a number of activities and events, initiatives and/or projects taking place across the system as they relate to the achievement, equity and well-being of our students, staff and school communities.

As always, the District continues to follow the advice of the Chief Medical Officer of Health 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; as well as, the continuation of funding for enhanced cleaning standards and ventilation and filtration improvements at all sites.

Update regarding an Initiative of the Parent Involvement Committee - Winter 2023

The Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) is working on a survey for parents/guardians, to be issued over the coming months, with respect to insights on topics/themes they'd like to be in communication with the District about. Details are currently being coordinated through PIC Chair, Danya Pastuszek, Principal Deb Taylor as District Liaison, and Executive Officer of Public Affairs, Meredith Caplan Jamieson.

Ontario Winter Games - 03-05 & 10-12 February 2023

On the first two weekends of February, the county will host the Ontario Winter Games! A number of students and staff will take part... as volunteers and spectators alike... with events taking place at all seven secondary sites as noted below:

Opeongo High School - Fencing - February 3rd-5th
 Mackenzie Community School - Judo - February 3rd
 Renfrew Collegiate Institute - Karate - February 10th-12th
 Valour JK-12 School - Kickboxing - February 10th-12th
 Madawaska Valley District High School - Weightlifting - February 10th
 Fellowes High School - Wrestling - February 10th-11th
 Arnprior District High School - Wushu - February 10th-12th

All members of the District are encouraged to take part - as a spectator and/or a volunteer - in this extraordinary opportunity for the county! Additional details may be found at www.renfrewcounty2023.ca.



Board Meeting
Chair's Update - Susan Humphries
24 January 2023

At the Special Board Meeting earlier this month, the Board of Trustees approved many important recommendations that will impact the direction of our secondary school programming for the next decade. We are particularly pleased to approve the implementation of extended French and French immersion in all of our senior grades- this ensures that a student can begin their French Immersion journey in kindergarten and continue to their graduation at the end of Grade 12. As well we approved a variety of programming that will support our students in whichever pathway they choose keeping academic integrity and curricular rigor as the foundation. Students will also be pleased to know that a device (Chromebook) will be provided to each student in Grades 7-12 to be used during their entire secondary school career. You may review all of the recommendations by reading the minutes of the January 13th Board meeting or watching the YouTube video. Thank you to all staff, students and parents/guardians for their input over the past months and to the Senior Team for their efforts in refining the data to help us finalize the new directions.

Later this week the Ontario Public School Board Association (OPSBA) is hosting their annual **Public Education Symposium(PES)**- the first "in person" event since 2020. Many of the sessions will be especially important to new trustees and the networking with trustees from other Boards is invaluable. I am pleased that the majority of our Board will be able to attend. The keynote speakers include:

- 1) Chief Cadmus Delorme- "What we all inherited and understanding the relationship with Indigenous people and Canada"
- 2) Roda Muse- "Leading the Change in Education"
- 3) Nicholas A. Christakis- "Moving Forward from the Covid 19 Pandemic"
- 4) Minister Stephen Lecce- Minister of Education

The complete agenda is outlined on the OPSBA PES website- looking forward to this event!

January 24th: International Day of Education- the purpose is to raise awareness of the importance of education and encourage collaboration with international solidarity. The date of January 24th was established by the UN General Assembly in 2018. In 2020 over 617 million youth worldwide lacked basic math and literacy skills. Education offers children a way out of poverty and improves their chances of having a promising future.

As a Board of Trustees and all staff in our District, we recognize how important public education is to ensuring the success of the youth in our District.

January 25th: Bell Let's Talk Day which promotes mental health awareness, acceptance and action built on 4 pillars: fighting stigma, improving access to care, supporting world class research and leading by example in workplace mental health.



Student Trustees' Report for Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Report Prepared By:

Taylor Novosedlik and Ava Beggs

With exam season is approaching fast, Taylor and I have been quite busy focusing on our studies. However, we were able to hold an equity meeting, as well as the Student Senate. During our equity meeting we discussed the importance of Black History Month and what individual schools are planning on doing to celebrate black history. The idea of creating display boards within schools came up and everyone seemed to agree that this would be achievable and educational. Every school will be bringing this idea back to their student council and making it their own, focusing on black figures that have changed history, politics, education, music, and art. Next, we covered Pink Shirt Day. Multiple Senate members in the meeting agreed that they have seen an increase in bullying at their schools. To combat this issue, it was suggested that the idea of anti bullying assemblies were brought back to their admin and considered.

During our very productive Senate meeting we covered what schools have been doing to increase participation in activities, prepare for exams, and much more. We spent a large amount of time focusing on the environmental factors of our schools. Making our schools environmentally friendly has been a major goal for the senate this year. Multiple schools are planning on creating environment clubs, gardens, new recycling systems, and even working towards performing waste analysis reports for their schools! Taylor and I are feeling amazing about our senates capabilities and drive this year, we hope to continue running meetings where everyone feels comfortable to speak up and out.