

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD VIRTUALLY ON JANUARY 25, 2022

at 3:31 p.m.

Chairperson B. Morris in the Chair.

TRUSTEES Present: M. Adam; M. Guenette; S. Humphries; D. Kaiser; D. Shields; J. Abbott & T. Novosedlik (Student Trustees)

TRUSTEES Absent (With Regret): L. Boland; N. Edge

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

STAFF Absent (With Regret):

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson B. Morris called the meeting to order.

2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chairperson B. Morris read the Territorial Acknowledgement.

3. INVOCATION

The invocation was read by Student Trustee Jazzlyn Abbott.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by M. Guenette 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 B. Morris asked for declarations of conflict. None were forthcoming.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE seconded by D. Shields that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting on December 7, 2021 and Special Board Meeting of January 13, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION

There was no presentation today.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Committee of the Whole Open & Closed Session Reports – January 25, 2022

D. Kaiser, Chairperson of Committee of the Whole, presented the Open Session Report of Committee of the Whole from today's meeting.

MOVED BY D. KAISER, seconded by M. Adam that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

The motion was CARRIED

D. Kaiser, Chairperson of Committee of the Whole, presented the Closed Session Report of Committee of the Whole from today's meeting.

MOVED BY D. KAISER, seconded by M. Guenette that the Renfrew County District School Board receives 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, presented the Open Session Report of the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting held on January 11, 2022.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE, seconded by S. HUMPHRIES that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Program & Student Achievement Committee meeting held on January 11, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

Finance & Resources Committee

Trustee S. Humphries, on behalf of L. Boland, Chairperson of the Finance & Resources Committee, presented the Open Session Report of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on January 11, 2022.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by D. Kaiser that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on January 11, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee M. Guenette presented the Reports of the Special Education Advisory Committee meetings held on December 15, 2021 and January 19, 2022.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE, seconded by D. Kaiser that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Reports of the Special Education Advisory Committee meetings held on December 15, 2021 and January 19, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Trustee M. Adam announced that the Indigenous Speaker Series would be occurring on February 3rd, 9th and 23rd. Contact Trustee Adam for more information on these online events.

9. UPDATES

(a) Director

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

(b) Chair

Board Chairperson B. Morris presented is Chair's Report. See Appendix "B".

(c) Student Trustees

Student Trustees J. Abbott & T. Novosedlik presented the Student Trustees Report. See Appendix "C".

(d) OPSBA

Trustee S. Humphries shared an update on activities. This Friday, January 28th is OPSBA's annual Public Education Symposium (PES) and will be held virtually again this year. OPSBA continues to gather input on the future of education and what it may look like post-pandemic. Trustees are reminded to contribute to this valuable feedback by completing the survey by week's end. Lastly, the Ministry of Education has recently approved a new Specialist High Skills Major (SHSM) program offering provincially for education (non-profit).

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None to report.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

None to report.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY B. MORRIS seconded by M. Adam that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of January 25, 2022 be adjourned. Time: 4:04PM

The motion was CARRIED

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OPEN SESSION REPORT
January 22, 2022**

TRUSTEES: D. Kaiser (Chair); M. Adam; M. Guenette; S. Humphries; B. Morris; D. Shields;
(Present) J. Abbott & T. Novosedlik (Student Trustees)

TRUSTEES: L. Boland; N. Edge
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; S. Blok; R. Cousineau; J. Barnes; D. Jenkins; J. Laderoute; S. McIntyre;
H. MacMillan; T. Hoffman; B. Murray

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on January 22, 2022 and discussed the following items in Open Session:

1. Year to Date Financial Status 2021-2022;
2. Continuity of Operations Update.

No recommendations were made.

I move that the Board receives this report.

D. Kaiser
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 25, 2022

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
CLOSED SESSION REPORT
January 25, 2022**

TRUSTEES: D. Kaiser (Chair); M. Adam; M. Guenette; S. Humphries; B. Morris; D. Shields
(Present)

TRUSTEES: L. Boland; N. Edge
(Regrets)

STAFF: P. Buffone

GUEST: Michael Naufal – Boyden (Consultant)

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on January 25, 2022 and discussed the following item in Closed Session:

1. Director of Education's Performance Appraisal.

No recommendations were made.

I move that the Board receives this report.

D. Kaiser
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 25, 2022



PROGRAM AND STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE

Open Session: X

Closed Session: _____

REPORT TO BOARD

January 11, 2022

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	M. Guenette (Chair), Leo Boland, M. Adam, D. Shields, B. Morris, D. Kaiser, J. Abbott (Student Trustee), T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)
Administration:	P. Buffone, R. Cousineau, J. Poirier, B. McIntyre, J. Barnes, S. Blok, J. Laderoute, S. McIntyre, H. MacMillan, A. Garcia, S. McCafferty
Guests:	S. Gagne, J. Smith, M. Knockleby

ABSENT: (With Regrets) S. Humphries, N. Edge

The Program and Student Achievement Committee met on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 to discuss the following item(s):

1. School Effectiveness & Student Success Action Plan
2. Update regarding Operation Matters for School and Workplaces

No recommendations were made:

Mike Guenette
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 25, 2022



INSPIRE. EMPOWER. ACHIEVE.

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Open Session: X

Closed Session: _____

REPORT TO BOARD

January 11, 2022

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	L. Boland (Chair), M. Adam, M. Guenette, D. Kaiser, B. Morris, D. Shields, J. Abbott and T. Novosedlik (Student Trustees)
Administration:	P. Buffone, J. Barnes, S. Blok, R. Cousineau, B. McIntyre, J. Poirier, J. Laderoute, S. McIntyre, H. MacMillan, M. Knockleby, B. Murray, J. Smith, M. Knockleby
Guests:	

ABSENT: (With Regrets) S. Humphries, N. Edge

The Finance and Resources Committee met on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 to discuss the following item(s):

1. Facilities Update Report; and
2. Special Acknowledgement.

No recommendations were made.

L. Boland
Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 25, 2022



Open Session: X
 Closed Session:

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORT TO BOARD

December 15, 2021

PRESENT: Committee Members: M. Guenette, B. Morris, A. Bergeron

Administration: J. Poirier, B. Smith, M. Ingram, C. Barber, S. Smith, A. Hiltz, L. Rigby,
 A. Macdougall-Popke

Guests:

ABSENT: (With Regrets) A.MacKenzie, D. Lacombe

The Special Education Advisory Committee met on Wednesday December 15, 2021 and discussed the following:

1. Staff Update;
2. Report from the Board;
3. Association Report.

No recommendations were made.

B. Smith
 Acting Chairperson



Open Session: X
 Closed Session:

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REPORT TO BOARD

January 19, 2022

PRESENT: Committee Members: M. Guenette, B. Morris, A. MacKenzie, D. Lacombe, N. Tabbert

Administration: J. Poirier, B. Smith, M. Ingram, C. Barber, S. Smith, L. Rigby, A. Macdougall-Popke, S. McCafferty

Guests:

ABSENT: (With Regrets) A. Bergeron

The Special Education Advisory Committee met on Wednesday, January 19, 2022 and discussed the following:

1. Staff Update;
2. Report from the Board;
3. Association Report.

No recommendations were made.

A. Mackenzie
 Chairperson

ADOPTED - January 25, 2022



Board Meeting
Director's Update - Pino Buffone
25 January 2022

On January 3rd and 4th, 2022, school-based and centrally-assigned staff worked diligently to plan for the transition to remote learning for a two-week period (January 5th-14th, inclusive). Key highlights of the planning include...

- organization of approximately 3600 devices to elementary and secondary sites for distribution to students, system-wide, along with over 400 MiFi devices for students with low connectivity - coordinated (before the holiday break!) by the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Department;
- preparation of 'paper packets' of learning materials for students with no connectivity - led by the Instructional Coaches/Consultants of Program Services;
- provision of in-person learning at the vast majority of sites across the system for this two-week period - with oversight of the dedicated and diligent staff in schools and Special Services; as well as,
- steadfast support of the transitions over this period through the caring and committed staff in Corporate Services and Employee Services, respectively.

On Monday 17 January 2022, the vast majority of students across the system returned to in-person learning. In order to ensure the continuity of operations, moving forward, members of Senior Staff have coordinated a multi-stage protocol to manage the potentially greater fluidity of absences for students and staff alike, in collaboration with principals and vice-principals, as well as senior managers, and in consultation with federation/union partners. Key stages of the protocol include: qualified replacements; unqualified replacements; re-organization on site; central support; and, school closures (potential). Staff in school sites will endeavour to keep schools open and ensure the continuity of learning to the greatest extent possible.

In order to stabilize school sites for the next two-week period, staff in central buildings have been permitted to work from home, with coverage on site in central departments for essential roles and responsibilities. Staff in central departments will return to work in-person on Monday 31 January 2022.

My sincerest thanks to all students, staff and school communities for their continued patience and professionalism in this ongoing, extraordinary period. We'll see our way through this together!



**Board Meeting
Chair's Update - Bryon Morris
25 January 2022**

We all are getting pretty good at this - switching at a moment's notice from in-person to virtual learning or vice-versa. This month provides a perfect example of that. As the Christmas holidays were drawing to a close we all were expecting to begin school January 3rd with students back in the classroom, learning in an in-person environment. The very rapid rate of Omicron COVID-19 infection caused a quick shift to virtual learning starting the first day back in January and lasting a period of two weeks. Classes indeed were to open for in-person learning on Monday, January 17th but Mother Nature intervened with 'Snowmageddon'. A massive snowfall caused the cancellation of student bus transportation for two days. Finally, on January 19th, schools opened for in-person learning.

To say we're living in unprecedented times is an understatement. What we can say for sure is that all School Board staff have risen to the challenge and done a great job in trying to meet the educational needs of the 9200 students in our schools.

Thank you to all staff for being so diligent in making sure that the needs of our students come first. Thank you also to our students and their families for the resiliency they have shown and for maintaining a clear focus on learning. None of us expected to have a pandemic disrupt our lives. It was - and still is - a trying experience, but we are focused on the main job at hand for school staff, students and families, teaching and learning. Well done!



Student Trustees' Report for Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Report Prepared By:

Jazzlyn Abbott and Taylor Novosedlik

At our last Senate meeting we discussed an array of things. We went over plans for May's mental health week, the upcoming Student Trustee orientation, ideas for a board wide social media challenge in February, the Senate's social media, a quick update regarding our Equity Council and just overall individual school updates.

For the mental health week in May we wanted to have a mix of synced days across the District, along with personalized days that each school can come up with, we settled on two board wide activities which will be "Sidewalk chalk" art on Monday and "Outdoor Yoga" on Tuesday. We also want to try to incorporate mental health-related information in our school's announcements, social media and buildings.

As our Student Trustee elections are coming up we went over some goals we would like the Student Senate to do, this includes things like reaching out to students and teachers, making posts on their schools social media and showing presentations to classrooms. Our goal is for each school to bring at least 3 people who are interested. There was also some discussion about changing the Senate dynamic to only one grade 12 and one younger grade representative. Our senate recently made a Twitter account in the hopes they can target a different audience.

We recently have partnered with [Lisa Lariviere](#) Regarding our instagram posts, we also have started posting important dates for students such as deadlines, school information, education updates, and more.