

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON MAY 24, 2022

at 4:53 p.m.

Chairperson B. Morris in the Chair.

TRUSTEES

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

TRUSTEES

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

STAFF:

P. Buffone; J. Barnes; J. Poirier; R. Cousineau; D. Jenkins; S. McIntyre; H. MacMillan;
J. Smith; M. Belsher; A. McGregor; K. Carr

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 Vice-Chairperson D. Kaiser.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY M. ADAM 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 S. HUMPHRIES seconded by D. Kaiser that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting on April 26, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

7. PRESENTATION – Supporting Grade 8 to 9 Transition

Superintendent J. Poirier introduced Jenny Smith (Principal of Student Success and Program Services 7-12), Michelle Belsher (Valour JK-12 School), Kate Carr (Valour JK-12 School), and Angela McGregor (Opeongo HS) who shared their strategies for supporting the transition of students from Grade 8 to Grade 9. The group provided examples of processes related to student orientation as well as supporting students as individual learners. They explained the layers to transitioning that includes establishing positive relationships and connections to make students feel welcome and safe in the building. On-going social and academic activities will continue throughout the school year.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

Committee of the Whole Open Session Report – May 24, 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. Guenette 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 – May 24, 2022

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. Adam that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Closed Session Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

The motion was CARRIED

Equity & Inclusion Committee

Trustee S. Humphries, on behalf of Trustee D. Shields, Chairperson of the Equity & Inclusion Committee, presented the Open Session Report of the Equity & Inclusion Committee meeting held on May 10, 2022.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by D. Kaiser that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Equity & Inclusion Committee meeting held on May 10, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

Finance & Resources Committee

Trustee S. Humphries, on behalf of Trustee L. Boland, Chairperson of the Finance & Resources Committee, presented the Open Session Report of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on May 10, 2022.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by M. Adam that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Open Session Report of the Finance and Resources Committee meeting held on May 10, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

Special Education Advisory Committee

Trustee M. Guenette presented the Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on May 18, 2022.

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE, seconded by D. Kaiser that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the Report of the Special Education Advisory Committee meeting held on May 18, 2022.

The motion was CARRIED

9. **UPDATES**

(a) Director

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

(b) Chair

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

(c) Student Trustees

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

(d) OPSBA

Trustee S. Humphries indicated that OPSBA's Annual General Meeting will be held June 9-11, 2022 in Ottawa. If there is interest for anyone to be part of either the Policy or Program Working Group to reach out to Trustee Humphries.

Applications for the Eastern Regional Public Property Assessment Network Scholarship have been received and will be reviewed on June 1st. The successful applicant from the eastern region will be awarded \$1,000.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

None to report.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee M. Adam shared that the theatre arts company in Deep River will present this Friday, May 27, 2022 at Mackenzie Community School. The theme will be student reflections of their high school experience during a global pandemic.

12. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY M. ADAM seconded by S. Humphries that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of May 24, 2022 be adjourned. Time: 6:00 PM

The motion was CARRIED

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
CLOSED SESSION REPORT
May 24, 2022**

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

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

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

GUEST:

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on May 24, 2022 and discussed the following items in Closed Session:

1. Audit Committee Meeting Closed Session Report – May 11, 2022;
2. Equity & Inclusion Committee Meeting Closed Session Report – May 10, 2022.

No recommendations were made.

I move that the Board receives this report.

D. Kaiser
Chairperson

ADOPTED - May 24, 2022

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
OPEN SESSION REPORT
May 24, 2022**

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

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

STAFF: P. Buffone; J. Poirier; R. Cousineau; J. Barnes; D. Jenkins; S. McIntyre; H. MacMillan;
T. Hoffman; D. White; J. Smith

GUEST:

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on May 24, 2022 and discussed the following items in Open Session:

1. Audit Committee Meeting Open Session Report – May 11, 2022;
2. Year to Date Financial Status for 2021-2022;
3. Budget 2022-2023;
4. Long-Term Enrolment Report;
5. Student Success Review Update;
6. STEM-related Initiative;
7. Voting Delegate at OPSBA's AGM.

The following recommendation was made:

Voting Delegate at OPSBA's AGM

THAT the Board of Trustees appoint Trustee Susan Humphries as the Voting Delegate Member at OPSBA's Annual General Meeting in June 2022.

I move that the Board adopts this report.

D. Kaiser
Chairperson

ADOPTED - May 24, 2022



EQUITY AND INCLUSION COMMITTEE

Open Session: X

Closed Session:

REPORT TO BOARD

Date

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	D. Shields (Chair) , B. Morris, M. Guenette, S. Humphries, D. Kaiser, M. Adam, D. Jenkins, N. Edge, L. Boland, J. Abbott (Student Trustee), T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)
Administration:	P. Buffone, R. Cousineau, J. Poirier, J. Barnes, S. McIntyre, H. MacMillan, A. Garcia
Guests:	Marcia Knockleby

ABSENT: (With Regrets)

The Equity and Inclusion Committee met on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 to discuss the following item(s):

1. **OPSBA Update**
 For information only. No recommendations were made.
2. **Trustee Election**
 For information only. No recommendations were made.
3. **Update on Communications (Related to Programs and/or Services offered across the District)**
 For Information only. No recommendations were made.
4. **Student Senate Report**
 For information only. No recommendations were made.

Dave Shields
 Chairperson

ADOPTED - May 24, 2022



INSPIRE. EMPOWER. ACHIEVE.

FINANCE AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Open Session: X

Closed Session: _____

REPORT TO BOARD

May 10, 2022

PRESENT:

Committee Members:	L. Boland (Chair), M. Adam, N. Edge, M. Guenette, S. Humphries, D. Kaiser, D. Shields, J. Abbott and T. Novosedlik (Student Trustees)
Administration:	P. Buffone, J. Barnes, R. Cousineau, D. Jenkins, J. Poirier, S. McIntyre, H. MacMillan, A. McGregor-Stewart, S. Gagne, T. Hoffman
Guests:	

ABSENT: (With Regrets) B. Morris

The Finance and Resources Committee met on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 to discuss the following item(s):

1. Leadership Development and Succession Planning across the District;
2. Budget 2022-2023; and
3. Board Retirement Celebration.

No recommendations were made.

L. Boland
Chairperson

ADOPTED - May 24, 2022



INSPIRE. EMPOWER. ACHIEVE.

SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Open Session: X

Closed Session:

REPORT TO BOARD

May 18, 2022

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

ADMINISTRATION: B. Smith, J. Poirier, L. Rigby, C. Barber, S. Smith,
M. Ingram, A. MacDougall-Popke, A. Hilts

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

GUESTS:

The Special Education Advisory Committee met on Wednesday May 18, 2022 and discussed the following:

1. Staff Update
 - Presentation on Special Education Plan 2022
2. Report from the Board
3. Association Report

No recommendations were made.

Amy MacKenzie,
Chairperson

ADOPTED - May 24, 2022



Board Meeting
Director's Update - Pino Buffone
24 May 2022

Our caring and committed staff in schools throughout the system continue to adjust their teaching and learning environments as we emerge from the pandemic period, as do our flexible and focused staff in central departments in support of operational elements for the organization. These collaborative efforts ensure authentic, engaging tasks for students, while schools and workplaces remain healthy and safe for our stakeholders. A number of highlights of these collective endeavours include...

- a return to field trips and extra-curricular activities, such as the performances and plays in the arts, and, intramural sports and regional tournaments in athletics, for students across the system;
- the slow and steady resumption of professional development for staff, including equity-related learning on bias awareness and critical consciousness, training sessions on the new on-line platform for the provincial assessments for classroom teachers and support staff at the primary, junior and secondary levels, as well as formateur and/or correcteur sessions of the DELF - Diplôme d'études en langue française at the secondary level; and,
- the much-anticipated start of preparations for year-end activities and graduation/leaving ceremonies in our school communities... to be held in person for the first time in three years!

I would like to highlight, in particular, the incredible contingency planning of staff in our schools and central departments... especially that of our Principals and Vice-Principals, as well as Senior Managers. These site-based leaders have done a remarkable job balancing roles and responsibilities considering the ongoing staff shortage challenges. Their ingenuity and resourcefulness have been truly extraordinary!

Lunch & Learn for Audit Committee - Spring 2022

Over the past four weeks, I have taken part in a series of 'lunch & learn' sessions coordinated by Genevieve Segu of the Regional Internal Audit Team. The informative and insightful sessions have focused on pertinent topics that include effective school board governance and sound risk management strategies for senior leaders, as examples. The learning has been tremendously beneficial for me, as a lead learner of the organization, and as a key area of growth from my own performance appraisal this school year.



Board Meeting
Chair's Update - Bryon Morris
24 May 2022

It has been a hard two years as we endured the pandemic but it appears as if the worst of it is passing. We are not done with COVID-19 but we are getting on with life. We are back in school and hopefully we will not be forced back into virtual learning again. We have tried to keep our focus on the well being of all - students and staff alike - as well as the normal work of the Board. Last Spring we renewed our Strategic Plan, our guide for the next five years. We are working on some new initiatives that promise exciting opportunities for our students. We have not been idle.

I must take this opportunity to thank all our students and their families for their patience and perseverance as we tried to maintain all our education pathways in spite of COVID-19 difficulties. I also want to thank all our staff for their tremendous efforts and professionalism in keeping students first. We know that many have suffered in the COVID-19 environment and we continue our efforts to deal with its impact on mental health and learning. Together we are moving on.

Last May 18 our Director and I had an opportunity to tour Valour JK-12 School, observe classes, and meet with students and staff. It was so encouraging to see students learning, talk with teachers excited to be working with students, and in general just experience a really positive learning environment. We were so impressed with our two very articulate Elementary student guides - if they are any indication of what's to come our future will be in good hands! I would be remiss if I didn't mention that when we dropped in on teacher Jennifer Young's Grade four class our Director, Pino Buffone, surprised her with her RCDSB 25-year pin, much to the delight of her class. I certainly join with all the RCDSB Trustees in saying that we are glad to finally be back in the schools (after the restrictions imposed by COVID-19) and seeing the great things happening in Public education!



Student Trustees' Report for Tuesday, May 24, 2022

Report Prepared By:

Jazzlyn Abbott and Taylor Novosedlik

Student Senate

- The Student Senate hosted the final meeting of the year, with an agenda filled with planning to ensure the incoming senate's success. Our first item was our elementary leadership session, where Grade 7&8 students and classrooms across the School Board joined in to learn more about the opportunities available with them. The discussed opportunities include joining student councils and clubs, Student Senate, Student Trustee, and also advice on the many other opportunities in high school. On May 16th, the Equity Committee held a session run by Harmony Movement, where students across the Board joined us to learn more about equity, bias, and allyship, but also what opportunities they have to get involved. We hope by providing education, more students will discover their passions and get involved in their schools, and our Student Senate. Finally, at our Senate meeting we delved into how to transition our incoming senate as a board, and individually. We will be hosting an hour long virtual session where we will have conversation, present the Senate handbook, and answer any questions.

OSTA-AECO

- OSTA-AECO is hosting their Annual General Meeting this weekend, from May 26th-29th. We will be hosting our elections, PD for incoming and transitional Student Trustees, have presentations from several of our partners, and much more. We will also shortly be releasing our new document, *The Student Blueprint*, which compiles recommendations to the Ministry of Education and School Boards over the past 4 years that are incomplete, or partially complete.