

**RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**MINUTES OF INAUGURAL BOARD MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

**at 4:00 p.m.**

**TRUSTEES Present:** L. Boland; D. Dobson; K. Dougherty; M. Guenette (Via telephone: 4:50-4:55 PM); S. Humphries; D. Kaiser; B. Morris; J. Primeau; T. Novosedlik & A. Beggs (Student Trustees)

**TRUSTEES Absent (With Regret):**

**STAFF:** P. Buffone; J. Barnes; J. Poirier; R. Cousineau; J. Smith; K. Riddell; S. McIntyre; H. MacMillan

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order. Pino Buffone, Director of Education and Secretary to the Board, chaired the meeting until the election of the new Chairperson.

**2. TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The Territorial Acknowledgement was read by Director of Education P. Buffone.

**3. INVOCATION**

The invocation was read by Director of Education P. Buffone.

**4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF ELECTION OF MEMBERS**

Director P. Buffone announced the election of members to the Renfrew County District School Board.

**5. DECLARATION OF OFFICE & OATH OF ALLEGIANCE**

Director P. Buffone called on Trustees to make their Declaration of Office and Oath of Allegiance. Director Buffone welcomed all members to the Renfrew County District School Board.

**6. 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**

**7. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Director of Education P. Buffone asked for declarations of conflict. None were forthcoming.

**8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by B. Morris that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting on October 18, 2022.

**The motion was CARRIED**

9. **ELECTION – CHAIRPERSON**

The Director of Education presided during the election of the Chairperson and asked for nominations from the floor for the position of Chairperson.

MOVED BY Bryon Morris, seconded by Leo Boland that Trustee Susan Humphries be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Board for the coming year.

Trustee Susan Humphries indicated that she was willing to serve as Chairperson of the Board.

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee Susan Humphries assumed her position as Chairperson of the Board.

**ELECTION – VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

Chairperson Susan Humphries presided during the election of the Vice-Chairperson and asked for nominations from the floor for the position of Vice-Chairperson.

MOVED BY Bryon Morris, seconded by David Kaiser that Trustee Leo Boland be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Board for the coming year.

Trustee Leo Boland indicated that he was willing to serve as Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee Leo Boland assumed his position of Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

10. **CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS**

Chairperson S. Humphries presented her Chairperson Address. Appendix "A".

11. **NEW TRUSTEE ORIENTATION PROGRAM (NTOPI)**

Chairperson S. Humphries distributed New Trustee Orientation Program (NTOPI) binders to Trustees. Chairperson Humphries, Vice-Chairperson Boland, Trustees Morris and Kaiser, Director of Education P. Buffone unpacked the resource and indicated that a follow-up and more in-depth session will be scheduled in December. This will allow Trustees time to review the information in advance. Senior staff and their departmental leads will participate in the next session.

12. **ELECTION – COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS**

The Board proceeded to set up the Committee Structure and agreed that all members of the Board would sit on the Finance & Resources Committee, Program & Student Achievement Committee, Equity & Inclusion Committee and the Committee of the Whole.

Trustees elected the Chairpersons of the following Standing Committees:

**CHAIRPERSON – FINANCE & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

MOVED BY David Kaiser, seconded by Leo Boland that Trustee Bryon Morris be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Finance & Resources Committee.

Trustee Morris indicated that he was willing to serve as Chairperson of the Finance & Resources Committee.

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee Bryon Morris was declared Chairperson of the Finance & Resources Committee.

**CHAIRPERSON – PROGRAM & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE**

MOVED BY Bryon Morris, seconded by Leo Boland that Trustee Mike Guenette be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Program & Student Achievement Committee.

Trustee Guenette joined the meeting via telephone and indicated that he was willing to serve as Chairperson of the Program & Student Achievement Committee.

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee Mike Guenette was declared Chairperson of the Program & Student Achievement Committee.

**CHAIRPERSON – EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE**

MOVED BY Leo Boland, seconded by David Dobson that Trustee David Kaiser be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Equity & Inclusion Committee.

Trustee Kaiser indicated that he was willing to serve as Chairperson of the Equity & Inclusion Committee.

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee David Kaiser was declared Chairperson of the Equity & Inclusion Committee.

**STATUTORY, STANDING AND OTHER COMMITTEES.** Appendix “B”

MOVED BY B. Morris seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the Trustee membership on the following Committees: Audit, Parent Involvement Committee, Special Education Advisory Committee, Supervised Alternative Learning, Discipline, Policy Review, Director’s Review, Indigenous Education Advisory, Student Senate, School Year Calendar, Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium Board of Directors, and Ontario Public School Boards’ Association: Director, Alternate Director, Voting Delegate and Alternate Voting Delegate.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**13. REPORTS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION - SYSTEM****Signing Officer Resolution**

MOVED BY D. Kaiser seconded by D. Dobson that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the Signing Officer Resolution as follows:

Whereas Renfrew County District School Board appoints signing officers each year,  
BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the signing officers for 2023 be:

- (i) The Chairperson of the Board, Susan Humphries
- (ii) A Pembroke Area Trustee, Leo Boland
- (iii) The Director of Education, Pino Buffone
- (iv) The Superintendent of Business – Corporate Services, Jennifer Barnes

**The motion was CARRIED**

**Borrowing Resolution**

MOVED BY L. Boland, seconded by K. Dougherty that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the Borrowing Resolution as follows:

Whereas Renfrew County District School Board, 1270 Pembroke Street West, Pembroke, Ontario, deems it necessary to borrow funds not to exceed \$12,000,000 at any one time to meet, until revenues are collected, the current expenditures of the Board for 2023,

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED as follows:

1. The signing officers are hereby authorized to borrow from the Bank of Montreal, Pembroke, Ontario, from time to time, a sum or sums not exceeding at any one time \$12,000,000 to meet, until revenues are collected, the current expenditures of the Board for 2023.
2. The signing officers are hereby authorized to sign on behalf of the Board and to secure with the Bank a line of credit for the sum or sums as borrowed with interest at such rate as the Bank from time to time may determine or as governed by an interest calculation agreement with the bank.
3. The Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to furnish to the said Bank as it may from time to time request a statement showing the nature and amount of the estimated revenues of the current year not yet collected of the estimated revenues of the Board as set forth in the estimates adopted for the next preceding year and also showing the total of any amounts borrowed in the current year and in any preceding year, that have not been repaid.
4. All sums borrowed from the said Bank shall, with interest thereon, be a charge upon the whole or any part or parts of the revenues of the Board for the current year and for any preceding years, as and when such revenues are received.
5. The Treasurer is hereby authorized and directed to apply in payment of all sums borrowed from the said Bank, with interest thereon, all of the money hereafter collected or received on account or realized in respect of revenues for the current year and for any preceding years.

**The motion was CARRIED**

14. **COMMITTEE REPORTS TO THE BOARD**

**Special Education Advisory Committee**

Chairperson S. Humphries advised that the Special Education Advisory Committee did not have a quorum for their October 19, 2022 meeting. No report was submitted to the Board.

15. **PRESENTATION – 2021-2022 Director’s Annual Report.**

The Director of Education, P. Buffone, delivered his [Director’s Annual Report for the 2021-2022](#) school year.

MOVED BY B. Morris, seconded by K. Dougherty that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the 2021-2022 Director’s Annual Report.

**The motion was CARRIED**

16. **CORRESPONDENCE**

None to report.

17. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Chairperson S. Humphries and Trustee B. Morris announced that Director of Education P. Buffone has recently completed his Doctorate in Education from Western University. Congratulations Dr. Buffone!

Director of Education P. Buffone reminded everyone to continue to follow advice and recommendations of the Renfrew County and District Health Unit and be vigilant in spreading the risk of illness.

18. **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED BY L. Boland seconded by K. Dougherty that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of November 15, 2022 be adjourned. Time: 5:18 PM

**The motion was CARRIED**

## Chair's Address

Thank you to the Board of Trustees for electing me as your new Chair. A special thank you to Trustee Morris for the nomination and Trustee Boland for seconding my nomination and to the entire Board for your support and faith in my abilities.

The past 2 years has been a time like no other and I must acknowledge the excellent leadership that was provided by the team of Trustees Morris and Kaiser as well as our Director, Pino Buffone.

The next term will be interesting with many key areas that I know we will be focussing on. Be assured that there will be lots of conversations, discussions, information sharing and decisions to be made- exciting times!

Here are a few things that are top of mind for me:

- Finalizing our consultations with our secondary school staff to determine a review of our secondary programming. We want to ensure that we are providing the best opportunities for our students to be successful in whatever pathway they choose. As a Board of Trustees, we must always put students first.
- Developing new partnerships with our community stakeholders- this is a key pillar of our strategic plan and we will be reaching out more than ever to our local municipalities, businesses, social services and community stakeholders
- Allowing our schools to renew their websites – the next step in our improvements to our social media presence. The communications team (Hannah and Raemond) have helped us improve our public presence through all of our social media platforms.
- Delivering consistent programming across the district- a tremendous challenge but we have a plan to deliver a truly bilingual program for students no matter where they live
- and of course continuing to follow our current strategic plan which keeps us focused on our vision, mission and goals at all times.,

I have also been fortunate to be your representative at the Ontario Public School Board Association. Being part of the provincial group allows us to discuss our good news stories as well as our issues and concerns with other Boards across the province. OPSBA has become a strong advisory group to the Ministry of Education - which can only be a benefit as we continue to find common ground to work closely with Minister Lecce.

A few comments about our Board of Trustees- we have had a dedicated and hard working team- a team that is truly focused on what is best for student achievement and well being in our District. And of course our student trustees- the fact that we now have 2 student trustees over a staggered 2 year term, speaks volumes about the importance of student voice. Taylor and Ava( and those student trustees before them) have offered and will continue to offer, so much to our board - we are very proud of the work they are doing both within the District but also as an influence provincially. I am looking forward to beginning our new 4 year term with a strong board with dedicated trustees- a special welcome to our new Trustees Primeau, Dobson and Doherty-who will round out our Board very nicely!

Whenever I have the opportunity, I tell parents and the public how fortunate we are to have such a strong, dedicated staff and especially our senior management team. Our Director, Pino Buffone has been an excellent addition to our District. Over the past 5 years he has made a significant impact with his strong leadership skills, his strategic forward thinking abilities and commitment to strengthen the communications with all stakeholders especially staff and students.

His Senior team of Superintendents Barnes, Poirier, Cousineau, Smith and Riddell are providing excellent leadership in their areas of expertise and through their family of schools. And to round out the team, I have to mention and thank Shelley McIntyre who ensures that business runs smoothly and efficiently and always with care and courtesy. Thank you all for what you do every day.

In closing, I ask that you think about our motto:

**Inspire -empower - achieve.**

I firmly believe that this applies not only to the students and staff in our District but also to the Board of Trustees

I believe we are “inspired “ by our students and staff;  
I believe we are “empowered” by our constituents who elect us to represent them  
and I believe we will “achieve” great things by working together toward a common goal- so well expressed in our Mission statement: “working together to foster outstanding educational experiences”

Thank you again for your support and I look forward to working with each of you during this 4 year term.

Susan Humphries  
Nov 15/22

## 2023 Committees of the Board

<b>STATUTORY COMMITTEES</b>		<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>
<b>Audit (3)</b>	1. Chair of Finance & Resources: Bryon Morris 2. Leo Boland 3. Jodie Primeau	Pino Buffone Jennifer Barnes Tammy Hoffman Dawn White
<b>PIC (2)</b> Parent Involvement Committee	1. Jodie Primeau 2. David Kaiser	Pino Buffone Executive Officer
<b>SEAC (4)</b> Special Education Advisory Committee	1. Mike Guenette 2. Bryon Morris Alternates: 1. David Kaiser 2. Kim Dougherty	Jenny Smith Angela McGregor-Stewart Alicia Hilts
<b>SAL (1)</b> Student Alternative Learning	Trustee for the Family of Schools supporting the individual student	Renald Cousineau Jenny Smith Kristin Riddell
<b>Discipline (3)</b>	1. Chair of the Board: Susan Humphries 2. David Dobson 3. Jodie Primeau	Renald Cousineau Jenny Smith Kristin Riddell
<b>STANDING COMMITTEES</b>		
<b>Finance &amp; Resources</b>	Chair: Bryon Morris All Trustees	Administration Executive Officer Dawn White Danielle Beauchamp
<b>Program &amp; Student Achievement</b>	Chair: Mike Guenette All Trustees	Administration Executive Officer Sharon McCafferty Aimee Garcia
<b>Equity &amp; Inclusion</b>	Chair: David Kaiser All Trustees	Administration Executive Officer Sharon McCafferty Aimee Garcia
<b>Committee of the Whole</b>	Chair: Vice Chair of the Board: Leo Boland All Trustees	Administration Executive Officer Hannah MacMillan
<b>Policy Review (4)</b>	1. Chair of the Board: Susan Humphries 2. OPSBA Board Director: Kim Dougherty 3. Bryon Morris 4. David Kaiser	Pino Buffone Executive Officer
<b>Director's Review (5)</b>	1. Chair of the Board: Susan Humphries 2. Vice-Chair of the Board: Leo Boland 3. Past Chair: Bryon Morris 4. Chair of Program & Student Achievement: Mike Guenette 5. Director of Education: Pino Buffone	Pino Buffone Executive Officer
<b>Indigenous Education Advisory (3)</b>	1. Indigenous Trustee 2. Leo Boland 3. Kim Dougherty	Renald Cousineau Aimee Garcia
<b>OTHER</b>		
<b>Student Senate (2)</b>	1. David Dobson 2. Susan Humphries	Pino Buffone Executive Officer Hannah MacMillan
<b>School Year Calendar (1)</b>	1. David Kaiser	Jenny Smith Alicia Hilts
<b>OPSBA (4)</b> Ontario Public School Board Association	1. Director: Kim Dougherty 2. Alternate Director: Leo Boland 3. Voting Delegate: Kim Dougherty 4. Alternate Voting Delegate: Leo Boland	Pino Buffone Executive Officer
<b>RCJTC (2)</b> Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium	1. Chair of Finance & Resources: Bryon Morris 2. David Kaiser	Jennifer Barnes Dawn White
<b>AD HOC (as needed)</b>		