

**RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON DECEMBER 7, 2021**  
**at 2:09 p.m.**

**TRUSTEES Present:** M. Adam; L. Boland; N. Edge; M. Guenette; S. Humphries; D. Kaiser; B. Morris; D. Shields; J. Abbott (Student Trustee)

**TRUSTEES Absent (With Regret):** T. Novosedlik (Student Trustee)

**STAFF:** P. Buffone; B. McIntyre; J. Poirier; S. Blok; R. Cousineau; J. Barnes; J. Laderoute; S. McIntyre; H. MacMillan; T. Nelson; J. Ellis; L. Wright

**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. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

MOVED BY B. MORRIS seconded by D. Shields that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the agenda for today's meeting.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**5. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

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

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOVED BY M. GUENETTE seconded by N. Edge that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting on November 23, 2021.

**The motion was CARRIED**

**7. 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 S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by D. Shields that Trustee Bryon Morris be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Board for the coming year.

Trustee B. Morris indicated that he was willing to serve as Chairperson of the Board.

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee Bryon Morris assumed his position as Chairperson of the Board.

**ELECTION – VICE-CHAIRPERSON**

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

MOVED BY L. BOLAND, seconded by S. Humphries that Trustee David Kaiser be nominated for the position of Vice-Chairperson of the Board for the coming year.

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

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee David Kaiser assumed his position of Vice-Chairperson of the Board.

**8. 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 S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by N. Edge that Trustee Leo Boland be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Finance & Resources Committee.

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

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee Leo Boland was declared Chairperson of the Finance & Resources Committee.

**CHAIRPERSON – PROGRAM & STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT COMMITTEE**

MOVED BY M. ADAM, seconded by N. Edge that Trustee Mike Guenette be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Program & Student Achievement Committee.

Trustee M. Guenette 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 M. ADAM, seconded by L. Boland that Trustee Dave Shields be nominated for the position of Chairperson of the Equity & Inclusion Committee.

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

**The motion was CARRIED**

Trustee Dave Shields was declared Chairperson of the Equity & Inclusion Committee.

**STATUTORY, STANDING AND OTHER COMMITTEES.** Appendix "A"

MOVED BY L. BOLAND, seconded by M. Guenette 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**

9. **REPORTS TO THE BOARD****Signing Officer Resolution**

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES seconded by D. Kaiser 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 2022 be:

- (i) The Chairperson of the Board, Bryon Morris
- (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 M. GUENETTE, seconded by D. Shields 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 2022,

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 2022.
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**

## Indigenous Education Action Plan

Indigenous Education Lead Tina Nelson and Indigenous Graduation Coaches Judy Ellis and Logan Wright gave an overview of system-wide efforts in support of Indigenous education over this school year. The Indigenous Graduation Coach program was introduced this year with Ms. Ellis and Ms. Wright currently in these roles. Changes in the Ministry's eligibility criteria, which now allows coterminous boards to jointly qualify for funding, has helped secure the equivalent of 1.0 FTE funding to be shared between RCDSB and RCCDSB on a 70/30 split. The newly enveloped Indigenous funding accounts for the 30% of the first salary and the entirety of the funding required for the second graduation coach. Through the Grants for Student Needs (GSNs) announced in the Spring of 2021, the Ministry stipulated that all revenues generated from First Nation, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) sections in secondary schools must be reinvested exclusively in support of Indigenous education. This transfer of funding from secondary staffing to the board action plan (BAP) for Indigenous education is not negligible and will have a positive impact for the District, moving forward. Ms. Nelson reviewed the current Annual Action Plan for Indigenous Education and explained the four categories: Supporting Students; Engagement & Awareness; Supporting Educators; and Data. The District will track the number of elementary students receiving Native Language instruction, as well as the total number of students enrolled in FNMI credit courses at the secondary level.

### 10. PRESENTATION – 2020-2021 Director's Annual Report. Appendix "B"

The Director of Education, P. Buffone, delivered his Director's Annual Report for the 2020-2021 school year.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by N. Edge that the Renfrew County District School Board receives the 2020-2021 Director's Annual Report.

**The motion was CARRIED**

### 11. UPDATES

#### (a) Chair's Address

Chairperson B. Morris presented his Chair's Address. Appendix "C"

#### (b) Student Trustees

Student Trustee J. Abbott presented the monthly Student Trustees' Report. Appendix "D"

#### (c) OPSBA

Trustees M. Adam, S. Humphries and D. Shields presented the monthly OPSBA Report. Appendix "E"

### 12. CORRESPONDENCE

None to report.

### 13. OTHER BUSINESS

Superintendent B. McIntyre gave an update on the COVID-19 cases in the District - currently 16 active cases. The Renfrew County & District Health Unit has scheduled Valour JK-12 School for a vaccination clinic for students on Saturday, December 18, 2021. Superintendent McIntyre thanked his colleagues for their tireless work since the school start-up, with special gratitude to the Communications Department - Jonathan Laderoute and Hannah MacMillan.

Director of Education P. Buffone announced that Administrative Procedure (AP) 193 *Inclement Weather and Disruption to Essential Utilities Supporting Facilities* was recently updated, as directed by the Ministry of Education to have virtual learning in place during inclement weather days. Director Buffone indicated that AP 193 has added approval for Board Office and Mary Street staff to work remotely from home on inclement weather days, when permitted by the individual's supervisor.

### 14. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED BY D. SHIELDS seconded by S. Humphries that the Renfrew County District School Board meeting of December 7, 2021 be adjourned. Time: 3:38 PM

**The motion was CARRIED**



## 2022 Committees of the Board

STATUTORY COMMITTEES		ADMINISTRATION
<b>Audit (3)</b>	1. Chair of Finance and Resources: <b>Leo Boland</b> 2. <b>Marjorie Adam</b> 3. <b>Susan Humphries</b>	Pino Buffone Jennifer Barnes Tammy Hoffman Dawn White
<b>PIC (2)</b> Parent Involvement Committee	1. <b>David Kaiser</b> 2. <b>Nic Edge</b>	Pino Buffone Jonathan Laderoute
<b>SEAC (4)</b> Special Education Advisory Committee	1. <b>Mike Guenette</b> 2. <b>Bryon Morris</b> Alternates: 1. <b>Dave Shields</b> 2. <b>Leo Boland</b>	Jacqueline Poirier Bill Smith Alicia Hilts
<b>SAL (1)</b> Student Alternative Learning	Trustee for the Family of Schools supporting the individual student	Jacqueline Poirier Steve Blok Renald Cousineau
<b>Discipline (3)</b>	1. Chair of the Board: <b>Bryon Morris</b> 2. <b>Susan Humphries</b> 3. <b>David Kaiser</b>	Jacqueline Poirier Steve Blok Renald Cousineau
STANDING COMMITTEES		
<b>Finance &amp; Resources</b>	Chair: <b>Leo Boland</b> All Trustees	Administration Dawn White
<b>Program &amp; Student Achievement</b>	Chair: <b>Mike Guenette</b> All Trustees	Administration Aimee Garcia Sharon McCafferty
<b>Equity &amp; Inclusion</b>	Chair: <b>Dave Shields</b> All Trustees	Administration Aimee Garcia Sharon McCafferty
<b>Committee of the Whole</b>	Chair: Vice Chair of the Board: <b>David Kaiser</b> All Trustees	Administration Shelley McIntyre Hannah MacMillan
<b>Policy Review (4)</b>	1. Chair: <b>Bryon Morris</b> 2. OPSBA Board Director: <b>Susan Humphries</b> 3. <b>David Kaiser</b> 4. <b>Marjorie Adam</b>	Pino Buffone Jonathan Laderoute
<b>Director's Review (5)</b>	1. Chair of the Board: <b>Bryon Morris</b> 2. Vice-Chair of the Board: <b>David Kaiser</b> 3. Past Chair of the Board: <b>Susan Humphries</b> 4. Chair of Program & Student Achievement: <b>Mike Guenette</b> 5. Director of Education: <b>Pino Buffone</b>	Pino Buffone
<b>Indigenous Education Advisory (3)</b>	1. <b>Marjorie Adam</b> 2. <b>Leo Boland</b> 3. <b>Algonquin Trustee (TBD)</b>	Renald Cousineau Aimee Garcia
OTHER		
<b>Student Senate (2)</b>	1. <b>David Kaiser</b> 2. <b>Nic Edge</b>	Pino Buffone Jonathan Laderoute Hannah MacMillan
<b>School Year Calendar (1)</b>	1. <b>Dave Shields</b>	Renald Cousineau Aimee Garcia
<b>OPSBA (4)</b> Ontario Public School Board Association	1. Director: <b>Susan Humphries</b> 2. Alternate Director: <b>Marjorie Adam</b> 3. Voting Delegate: <b>Dave Shields</b> 4. Alternate Voting Delegate: <b>Susan Humphries</b>	Pino Buffone Jonathan Laderoute
<b>RCJTC (2)</b> Renfrew County Joint Transportation Consortium	1. Chair of Finance & Resources: <b>Leo Boland</b> 2. <b>Dave Shields</b>	Jennifer Barnes Dawn White
<b>AD HOC (as needed)</b>		

## Director's Message for Annual Report Board Meeting

**- Tuesday 07 December 2021 -**

It is a pleasure and a privilege to provide the Board of Trustees with the *Director's Annual Report* for the 2020-2021 school year. Once again this year, the report provides an overview of the activities and events, initiatives and projects that have taken place over the course of the past school year, during the continuation of a remarkable period of our lives, and in recognition of the final year of the *RCDSB's 2017-2020 Strategic Plan*. The educational endeavours shared in the report include strengths to celebrate and areas for growth as next steps for action in the renewed strategic plan currently underway.

As a dynamic, learning-oriented organization, many of the endeavours described build upon the successes of the first four years of the strategic plan, while others are set in the context of the extraordinary pandemic period itself. Each activity, event, initiative and/or project highlights the collaboration, determination and resourcefulness of our system in the spirit of the vision... *a community of learners where curiosity, creativity, imagination and innovation are celebrated and where students are engaged to explore and discover their own pathways to success.*

The report shares progress to date regarding key aspects of our guiding principles...

- Excellence in Teaching and Learning:
  - a continued focus on the framework for learning, *Inspired Learning*, system-wide, as a fundamental resource that details the dynamic interplay between core skills of literacy and numeracy, global competencies of critical thinking and problem solving, creativity, collaboration, communication, character and citizenship, as well as "big ideas" of the curriculum;
  - the provision of professional learning opportunities for staff in regards to the utilization of virtual learning platforms (Google Classroom and D2L Brightspace) in support of quality teaching and learning environments for students, in-person at school and/or on-line at home;
  - the culmination of the elementary phase of the 'vision exercise', including FSL program expansion (MFI-Middle French Immersion) at Mackenzie Community School (for the 2021-2022 school year) and preparations for FSL program expansion (also MFI) at Sherwood Public School (for the 2022-2023 school year); and,
  - a resumption of the Secondary School Review, 're-think @ secondary', with a consolidation of the key themes/topic areas of: program pathways (including FSL programming); initiatives for student success; experiential learning opportunities; virtual learning environments; and, transitions to/from secondary schooling.
  
- Safe, Caring, Inclusive and Respectful Environments:
  - the requirement for contingency planning, on an ongoing basis, regarding the return to school and work, including the establishment of an updated operational resource guide for the healthy and safe return to schools and workplaces; and,
  - the coordination of a 'tiered system of support for well-being' in the context of the pandemic period, in order to be responsive to the needs of students, along with the confirmation (virtually) of community-based partnerships.

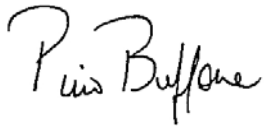
- Wise Use of Resources:
  - the implementation of recommendations from the cyclical review of programs and/or services, including the reviews of Corporate Services and Special Services, throughout the duration of the strategic plan, including the long-term accommodation planning and the organization of additional supports and services for students with special needs, respectively; and,
  - the differentiation of resources (human, material and/or fiscal) for capital planning projects in support of the multi-year strategic planning efforts, including the integration of school design standards into both new builds and renovations, moving forward.

In a number of respects, the report is living proof of the District's robust ability of operate – in trying, unimaginable times – as a large, complex institution of public education. It is a credit to each and every one of our stakeholders – students, parents/guardians, staff, federation/union partners, trustees and community members – that there is a report before us today to report upon!

As is always the case, through its governance and fiduciary roles and responsibilities, the Board of Trustees thoughtfully leads the consistent focus on equity, well-being and achievement across the system. The careful consideration and steadfast support that members of the Board of Trustees have provided to senior staff is so greatly appreciated by all of us. Thank you.

As key stakeholders, I invite you to review the report and to join me in a reflection of gratitude for the vibrancy of public education at the RCDSB!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pino Buffone". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Pino Buffone  
Director of Education



## **RCDSB Chairperson Bryon Morris December 7, 2021**

First, I want to thank my colleagues, my fellow Trustees on the Renfrew County District School Board - especially my nominator, Susan Humphries, and the seconder of my nomination, Dave Shields - for elevating me as their Chair for the coming year. I commit to fulfilling my duties tirelessly in this leadership role as we work to provide the best possible education for all the students in our schools.

We all have been through a great deal the past year and a half as the pandemic has redefined everything in our lives. While we rose to the challenge and kept the schools functioning, either with in-person or virtual learning, we recognize that the cost has been high for all. A new coronavirus variant is emerging and we wonder when it all will end.

At this special time of year I want to take the opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Holiday. I also want to thank everyone on behalf of the Board of Trustees for doing the best they could in these trying circumstances. First of all, thank you to all our students and their parents/guardians for adapting to new and challenging circumstances as they continued on their learning journey. Second, thank you to all our staff for their amazing adaptation and effort, showing what true professionals they are. We know you will continue to put students first. Again, thank you.

At this time, I pause briefly to reflect on a few of the highlights, other than the achievements of students and staff in our schools, of this past year from a Board perspective. I thank central staff for their efforts and achievements as they have worked to ensure an outstanding learning environment for our students. Two items, among many, need to be recognized. We finalized our renewed 4-year Strategic Plan, our roadmap for the RCDSB, a document that will guide us as we strive to better serve our students in the years ahead. This is a document that clearly puts students first. Also, we are reorganizing the Petawawa Family of schools to better meet the education needs of our students there. We have had a huge enrollment increase at Herman Street Public School. In order to balance numbers more evenly at our three Petawawa schools, we are moving Grade 7 and 8 students from Herman Street to Valour JK-12 School and starting French Immersion at Pine View Public School.

Enjoy your well-deserved holiday break! There is much to be done when we return in January. This is a School Board District that is on the move!

***Bryon Morris  
Chair of the Board  
Renfrew County District School Board***





## **Student Trustees' Report for Tuesday, December 7, 2021**

**Report Prepared By:**

**Jazzlyn Abbott and Taylor Novosedlik**

### **Student Senate Update**

#### **Student Trustee Taylor Novosedlik:**

- The Student Senate has been working to organize our mental health week initiatives. Each Student Senator has been in contact with their Support Counsellor at their school to organize a meeting to discuss the logistics and specific needs at each of the individual schools.
- We recently had a meeting with a few members of the Student Senate, as well as Jenny Smith, to organize a survey surrounding the different types of online learning, including remote learning, eLearning, and vLearning. We hope to relay this feedback to our online teachers to develop strategies to engage online learners.

#### **Student Trustee Jazzlyn Abbott:**

- We have been promoting our Holiday Board Challenges, winter photo contest and holiday recipe to RCDSB students through our social media. We hope to spark some friendly competition between our secondary schools! Finally, we had a meeting with Tina Nelson to discuss promoting the Student Senate and Student Trustee role to our Indigenous student population, and how we can further include Indigenous voices in student leadership.



## OPSBA Update – Board Meeting December 7, 2021

### **OPSBA: Joint Meeting of PDWT (Policy Development Work Team) and EPWT (Education Program Work Team)**

**Purpose:** To review the draft OPSBA submission to MOE regarding GSNs for 2022-23 year. See final on PPSBA website.

GSN submission emphasises need for stable and predictable funding with steady annual increases to enable school board planning. It lists four priorities: special education; mental health; student transportation; capital funding.

All members had opportunity to comment – comments focus included:

#### Special Education

continual review of funding model components; recognition of diff. northern/indigenous equity needs;

#### Mental Health

- equity issues: northern, rural, indigenous, racialised; increases for and collaboration with community health services; 3-5 yr. funding program; curriculum integration; FTE for staff mental health lead and attendance counsellors; fund 2 provincial research positions;

#### Student Transportation

- geographic issues;

#### Capital Funding

- PARG revision; end of closure moratorium; FSL accommodation/boundary needs; new/updated facilities for trades education; higher northern construction costs;

#### Additional issues

- support for 9-12 destreaming initiatives; labour relations; executive compensation; collaborative (Boards, TVO, OELC) implementation of 2 online credits mandate; update 2006 data for LOGs.

**Trustees: Marjorie Adam, Susan Humphries & Dave Shields**