

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 29, 2017

at 4:11 p.m.

Chairperson W. Hewitt in the Chair.

TRUSTEES: Present : M. Adam; L. Boland; S. Humphries; D. Kaiser; B. Morris;
N. Edge (Student Trustee); S. McCloskey (Student Trustee)

TRUSTEES: K. Dunsmoor-Lough; D. Shields
Absent (With Regret)

STAFF: P. Buffone; S. Blok; G. Bishop; B. McIntyre, J. Poirier;
L. Schimmens; J. Laderoute; S. McIntyre

STAFF:
Absent (With Regret)

The invocation was read by Student Trustee N. Edge.

87. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

Chairperson W. Hewitt asked for declarations of conflict. None were forthcoming.

88. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOVED BY B. Morris seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the agenda for today's meeting.

The motion was CARRIED

89. SELECTION OF SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Director of Education, P. Buffone, announced that Steve Blok has been appointed as Superintendent of Education effective August 21, 2017, pending Ministry approval. Superintendent Blok will assume responsibility for Families of Schools, Early Learning, Information and Communication Technologies, International Education, and other system portfolios.

90. DECLARATION OF OFFICE AND OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson W. Hewitt introduced Sean McCloskey, new Student Trustee from Madawaska Valley District HS elected for the 2017-2019 school years. Mr. McCloskey took the Oath of Allegiance and Declaration of Office before Director of Education P. Buffone, who witnessed his signatures.

91. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

MOVED BY S. Humphries, seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board confirms the minutes of the Board Meeting held on June 26, 2017.

The motion was CARRIED

92. PRESENTATION – ICT Plan Update

Superintendent S. Blok introduced Doug Fiebig, Manager of IT Department. Mr. Fiebig gave an informative update on year one of the Board's 2016-2017 ICT Plan. A few highlights included a four year replacement cycle for classroom devices with a ratio of 3:1; cart of mobile devices stored in tech tubs for easier transporting in classrooms; replacing desktops with laptops and; a set of Chromebooks for use in the Nishku Meeting Room at Opeongo HS.

Chair Hewitt applauded the work of Superintendent Blok, in his previous role as IT Leader, and Mr. Fiebig for leading our District forward in supporting our students' learning experience.

93. BUSINESS ARISING:

The Trustee representative who will be part of the Student Trustee Senate will be discussed at the September 12th Committees meeting.

94. CORRESPONDENCE

W. Hewitt, Chairperson, shared two pieces of correspondence. One from the Halton DSB and a letter of response received from the Minister of Education.

95. REPORTS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION - SYSTEM

Excursion Request – Mackenzie Community School

MOVED M. Adam, seconded by D. Kaiser that the Renfrew County District School Board approves the Excursion Request from Mackenzie Community School to travel to Lake Placid New York, USA from September 19-22, 2017.

The motion was CARRIED

96. REPORTS TO THE BOARD FOR ACTION – COMMITTEES

Committee of the Whole – Page # 81

Vice Chairperson, S. Humphries presented the Report of Committee of the Whole from today's Committee of the Whole meeting.

MOVED BY S. HUMPHRIES, seconded by L. Boland that the Renfrew County District School Board adopts the Report of the Committee of the Whole meeting.

The motion was CARRIED

97. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE – Page # 82-83

The Director, P. Buffone, presented his monthly Director's Report. See Appendix "A"

98. STUDENT TRUSTEES' UPDATE - Page # 84

Student Trustee, N. Edge, presented the Student Trustees report. See Appendix "B"

99. CHAIR'S UPDATE:

Chairperson W. Hewitt expressed her congratulations to our new Superintendent of Education, Mr. Steve Blok. As well, she once again welcomed incoming Student Trustee, Mr. Sean McCloskey, as he begins his two-year term with the Board. Ms. Hewitt acknowledged that Director Buffone is beginning his first full school year with the RCDSB. She also highlighted the Board's new shared space partnership with Algonquin Lakeshore Catholic DSB as Whitney PS is now located in the same building as St. Martin of Tours Catholic School.

On a motion by L. Boland, seconded by B. Morris the meeting adjourned. Time: 5:00 PM.

RENFREW COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
REPORT
August 29, 2017**

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------------|---|
| TRUSTEES: | Present | S. Humphries (Chair); M. Adam; L. Boland; W. Hewitt; D. Kaiser; B. Morris; N. Edge (Student Trustee) |
| TRUSTEES: | Absent (With Regret) | K. Dunsmoor-Lough; D. Shields |
| STAFF: | | P. Buffone; S. Blok; G. Bishop; B. McIntyre; J. Poirier; L. Schimmens; J. Laderoute; S. McIntyre |
| GUESTS: | | M. Chapin (Item #2 only) |

The Committee of the Whole of the Renfrew County District School Board met on August 29, 2017 and discussed the following items:

1. Executive Compensation;
2. Non-Union Employee Compensation;
3. LTAP Follow-up;
4. Audit Committee Reports;
5. Capital Funding Request;
6. Facilities Services Update;
7. Policy 9 Update.

The following recommendations were made:

1. Non-Union Employee Compensation

THAT the Board approves the following increases in compensation for non-union employees that are not members of the Principal/VP nor supervisory officer groups (*any increases approved for 2018/19 are in principle and contingent on funding received/ budget approval for that school year):

- 1.5% increase on base salary effective September 1, 2017
- one-time lump sum payment of 0.5% of wages earned in 2016-17 school year
- 1% increase on base salary effective September 1, 2018
- 1% increase on base salary effective February 1, 2019
- 0.5% increase on base salary effective August 31, 2019

2. Capital Funding Request

THAT the Renfrew County District School Board approve the capital funding request due September 8, 2017.

3. Policy 9 Update - Item B (Conduct of Board Meetings: #2 - Invocation):

THAT the RCDSB Board of Trustees approve and adopt the following revised invocation as proposed by the Policy Review Committee:

May we who are assembled here, have a true understanding of the duties that are placed in our hands. We seek to have the wisdom to honour our obligations to the good of the residents of Renfrew County, to the parents, teachers, electors, and especially the students. May those who teach be ever inspired by goodness and may the wisdom and knowledge which they impart to our students ever serve as a beacon to lighten their way. As trustees and administrators, we will work together with integrity, perseverance and respect, to the fulfillment of the trust bestowed upon us.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

S. Humphries
Chairperson



Board Meeting

Director's Update - Pino Buffone

29 August 2017

1. **Acknowledgement of Students, Staff & School Communities:** I would like to take this opportunity to highlight a number of important acknowledgements as our Board Meetings resume from the summer break...
 - First and foremost, a warm welcome and congratulations to Student Trustee, Sean McCloskey, as you begin your leadership journey with our district today! Your contributions, along with that of fellow Student Trustee, Nic Edge, in representing student voice will continue to be so integral to our work as a district. On behalf of the entire senior team, we are looking forward to working collaboratively with you!
 - Congratulations and welcome to the newest member of our senior staff, Stephen Blok! Working in collaboration with Superintendents of Education Bishop and Poirier, Superintendent Blok will be responsible for a number of central portfolios (including Early Years, Environmental Education, Information and Communication Technologies, and International Education), as well as the Petawawa, Deep River & Madawaska family of schools. Once again, on behalf of the entire senior team, we are very much looking forward to working with you, Steve!
 - I would also like to congratulate Principal Veletia Richards, our new Principal of Achievement and Well-being. Principal Richards will be working under the supervision of Superintendent Bishop in the roll-out of initiatives related to both the achievement and well-being of students, staff and school communities as part of the renewed strategic plan for 2017-2020.
 - In addition, our sincerest congratulations to Chairperson, Wendy Hewitt, for the successful completion of the Office Administration-Executive Program (46 weeks) at Algonquin College-Pembroke Campus earlier this month! We are very proud of your accomplishment, Wendy, as it exemplifies the true spirit of commitment, perseverance and lifelong learning!
 - Last, but certainly not least, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge our entire staff in facilities, school-based and central, for their time, effort and dedication over the summer months as they have worked so diligently and tirelessly in preparation for the opening of our schools on 05 September 2017. We are incredibly grateful for your invaluable contribution to our district – thank you!

Note: The acknowledgement above includes the successful re-opening of Whitney Public School as a 'Shared Space Project' with the Algonquin & Lakeshore Catholic District School Board at the Saint Martin of Tours site.

2. **Roll-out of RCDSB Strategic Plan 2017-2020:** I am very excited and inspired by the collaborative work done with stakeholders this past school year – students, staff (academic and non-academic), federation partners, and members of the broader community in the county – with respect to the guiding principles of our strategic plan: excellence in teaching and learning; safe, caring, inclusive and respectful environments; wise use of resources; and, commitment to measurement. As we move into the fall, details regarding the actions to ‘bring the plan to life’ will be shared with our Board of Trustees and the public, including key aspects of the board work plan. I am very confident that our strategic plan will continue to move us forward as a district with respect to the achievement and well-being of students, staff and school communities, and, I look forward to discussing the actions therein further with you as the school year unfolds.

3. **School Year ‘Start-Up’ – 05 September 2017:** As I begin my first full school year with the Renfrew County District School Board, I have taken the opportunity to provide a renewed ‘Message from the Director’, welcoming all students, staff and school communities to the new school year. Over the course of the week, I will also continue to provide updates to schools regarding key aspects of the start-up to the school year, through our principals and vice-principals, including:
 - an update on the guiding principles and actions of the RCDSB Strategic Plan 2017-2020;
 - an overview of the roles and responsibilities of RCDSB’s Executive Council, a listing of all principal and vice-principal appointments, and, an organizational chart of all central staff; and,
 - a series of friendly reminders related to standards and ethics of practice, school fees policy, as well as copyright compliance guidelines.

Closing comment...On behalf of all members of Executive Council, I wish you all a wonderful start to the 2017-2018 school year!



Renfrew County District School Board

Student Trustees' Report for Tuesday August 29, 2017

This report includes information with regards to:

- **Summer Update - Secondary Schools**
- **Student Senate Elections**

Report Prepared By: Nic Edge and Sean McCloskey

1. Summer Updates - Secondary Schools

Valour HS, (Johnny Frampton) - Following the completion of the 2016-2017 School year Valour HS had a day long meeting with their incoming student council. The focus of this meeting was to discuss the rules for student council, their group and individual goals for the year, and to plan their first semester of the school year (spirit days, fundraising, school activities, dances etc.). Later in the summer Valour's student council is getting together to put on a bbq for the incoming grade 9's after their orientation day. The hope is that they can build and maintain a strong connection with the incoming students transitioning into high school and encourage them to get involved in school initiatives.

Madawaska Valley DHS, (Tiffany Heron) - Similar to Valour, MV had a meeting at the end of the 2016-17 school year with their incoming Student Activities Council and new Supervisor Melissa Penner. The meeting started with icebreakers and fun games and then was focused on new ideas they could bring to the school in the upcoming year, setting dates for school initiatives and preparing everyone for their SAC skit they perform at the beginning of every year. MV has also set a date for a meeting right before school starts to get their SAC shirts and rehearse their skit.

Opeongo HS, (Kathleen Barr) - Opeongo High School's student council has helped plan and run a grade 9 orientation that will take place at the school on September 1st. The orientation will include a short assembly for the grade 9's to inform them about student council and other clubs and what events happen throughout the school year. The group has planned a dinner for the members to get to know each other and play some fun icebreakers and team bonding exercises. They have a spirit week and pep rally set for the second week of school.

Renfrew CI, (Camilo Sebastian and Brett Cloutier) - RCI student council have not yet been able to meet this summer as a full group but do have ideas to present to their school communities such as incorporating more programs and activities about mental health as well as taking their school to the Niagara Falls Ontario Secondary School Leadership Conference (OSSLC). More information will be provided by our September board meeting.

Fellowes HS, (Justin Dickson) - FHS student council hasn't had an opportunity to meet as a group yet but has a meeting scheduled for this Friday, September 1st. The meeting is expected to discuss grade rep elections and how quickly they can get them done so they can start meeting as a full council. They are also going to be setting dates for spirit weeks and dances for the months of September and October.

Arnprior DHS (Kaileigh Wright) - ADHS has had the opportunity to meet once formally and once informally. The school has undergone a change in Mascot and are now the Arnprior Rapids. They have appointed their 'Spirit Wear Coordinator' to be responsible for spearheading the sales of the new gear and to be the middleman between their Principal and clothing company. To raise money for their fall activities, ADHS held a very successful bottle drive and generated enough funds to kickstart the events for the beginning of the school year.

Mackenzie CS (Andrew Masala and Hai-Ling Rao) - No report was submitted

2. Student Senate Elections

September 15th has been selected as the board wide election day for student senate reps from every high school. The Prime Minister of every school has an automatic seat on the Student Senate, however each school's Student Council must elect a second student senator.

3. Verbal Update - Nic Edge