



# Superior - Greenstone District School Board

## Director's Annual Report 2005-2006

### Director's Message

It is with great pride that I share with you, the Director's Annual Report for the Superior-Greenstone District School Board for 2005-2006. This annual report provides an overview of the key activities undertaken by the Superior-Greenstone District School Board to address its strategic priorities. The highlights provide a snapshot of the many positive programs and partnerships in our elementary and secondary schools.

The accomplishments in this report are the collective effort of an amazing team who strive to put the needs of students first. We are fortunate to have a dedicated and committed group of trustees, senior administration and managers who provide system-wide leadership to enable the Board to make its mission, vision, values and priorities a reality. Our schools represent the heart of each community and are made welcoming, safe and fun to be in through the effective leadership of our school administrators. The success of every student is the goal of our passionate teachers and support staff. The improvements in student achievement are a direct result of their excellence and dedication. We celebrate the strong connections between our schools, parents and communities. Together, as you will discover in this report, we make an incredible impact on the lives of our students.

The excitement of our education community grows as we continue to work together to find the most effective ways to build on what is best for students. Our Early Intervention program, using technology to deliver additional secondary credits, full-day kindergarten, literacy teachers at the elementary and secondary panels, internally generated videos of best practices and providing math qualifications to teachers are all unique examples of commitment to staff and students. A most exciting event was hosting the nationally recognized speaker, Barbara Coloroso in our communities. She provided safe schools/parenting/ethical issues presentations in three of our communities, while in other communities, access to the event was provided via videoconference link in our high schools. We welcomed community partnerships, our coterminous board and many agencies to work together to make the event a success. In reflection, it is clear that small boards can do BIG things, and we continue to rise to the challenges we face.

While we celebrate our success, we continually look for ways to improve. The establishment of a Native Education Advisory Committee has provided opportunities to begin to build on our partnerships and improve practices that will support the achievement of our First Nation students. Formalizing parental involvement has resulted in improved communications with parents and as a result of that communication, we are beginning to facilitate easier access to board information via the board website. Our implementation of a computerized student data base will make our dream of a central system and data driven decision-making a reality.

As I review this report, I feel an incredible sense of accomplishment as a system in providing for our students and an overwhelming sense of excitement for what is yet to come. Superior-Greenstone DSB is abounding with opportunity and potential and I look forward to continuing this amazing educational journey!

*Patti Pella, Director of Education*



## School Services

Numerous inroads have been made to support all students in two areas of focus, that being literacy and mathematics. Highlights of these successes include the following developments.

### Professional Learning Communities

Professional Learning Communities have been implemented throughout the system as a means of engaging staff in dialogue about student achievement and how to respond when students experience difficulty with learning. Two research projects, supported by the Managing Information of Student Achievement Project, are underway to examine the effectiveness of our professional learning communities in the areas of literacy and numeracy.

### Early Intervention Programs

- ✦ Early Intervention Teachers in all elementary schools support students literacy with oral language and reading skills development in the primary grades
- ✦ Reading intervention strategies in the junior grades
- ✦ Reading and mathematics assessment tools (DRA, CASI, PRIME) are used to provide staff with necessary information to support student learning
- ✦ Later Literacy Initiatives that improve reading abilities of students in the intermediate and high school years
- ✦ Student Success Teachers in all secondary schools to support student experiencing difficulty

Significant investments in mathematics have been made to ensure that classrooms are well equipped with resources such as teacher guides, textbooks and manipulatives and training in the use of these materials is available

### Professional Development Focus

- ✦ Mathematics, literacy, assessment and evaluation
- ✦ Student Achievement Team developed a three-year Improvement Plan and Framework for Literacy and Numeracy Initiatives
- ✦ Professional Learning Communities
- ✦ School Improvement Plans are monitored throughout the year
- ✦ Balanced Literacy and the Constructivist Theory of Mathematics
- ✦ NOEL Summer Conference—literacy in the junior division
- ✦ Mathematics Specialist Course
- ✦ Backward Planning Process unit development in grades 3 and 6
- ✦ Secondary schools are offering students new supports to ensure success including credit recovery programs, remediation, learning strategy focuses, and in-school alternative education and cooperative education/experiential learning

- ✦ Focused resource purchases
- ✦ Literacy teams in all secondary schools facilitate the implementation of strategies that embed reading skills in all subjects
- ✦ Data driven decision-making presentations to improve assessment and evaluation practices
- ✦ New Teacher Induction Program to support educators new to the profession

There has been a continued focus on Character Education and Anti-Bullying, building awareness by access to professional speakers, the formation of focus groups and acquisition of resources such as:

- ✦ Barbara Coloroso Presentations
- ✦ Character Education Board Team
- ✦ Anti-bullying strategies
- ✦ Focused resources purchases

### Special Projects

- ✦ The Roots of Empathy Program
- ✦ Focus on Parent Involvement and school/community partnerships
- ✦ Variety of arts presentations and workshops in the schools

## EQAO Testing

### Grade 9 Math

- ✦ Percentage of all student at or above Level 3 in applied mathematics increased by 9%
- ✦ Percentage of students at or above Level 3 in academic mathematics decreased by 9%

### Grade 3 and 6 Reading, Writing and Math

- ✦ Achievement of grade 3 students continues to improve in all areas
- ✦ Achievement of our grade 6 students is stable in reading and increased by 3% in writing
- ✦ Achievement of our grade 6 students decreased in mathematics; however it is noted that there was an increase of 11% in mathematics when compared to the 2002-2003 Mathematics results
- ✦ In grade 3 and 6, the girls outperformed boys in the area of reading and writing

### Next Steps

- ✦ Continue to develop better assessment and evaluation practices that identify students who are struggling with learning
- ✦ Development of the proficiency of essential skills in the area of mathematics in the intermediate grades
- ✦ Continued focus on boys' literacy and literacy resources that foster a love of reading



Superior-Greystone District School Board

## Plant and Maintenance Services

Many projects totaling in excess of \$4.0 million were carried out by the Plant Services Department over the school year. Included in the funding for these projects was approximately \$1.5 million from the Good Places to Learn Grant. Approximately \$1.0 million in funding was from the Capital Renewal Grant allocation, while the remainder was funded from the Board's Capital Reserves. The following outlines some of the major items or accomplishments that were achieved in the 2005/2006 Budget Year.

- ✦ A new running track was installed at Lake Superior HS.
- ✦ Renovation and addition planning was begun on George O'Neill PS to give the school a new main office location and layout. Under the current plan, the school will receive a facelift to the interior classrooms and a child care centre will be created under the Best Start Program.
- ✦ Energy efficiency upgrade work was carried out to expand the use of energy management controls at many of the schools. Building comfort and ventilation was also improved as a result of the controls work.
- ✦ Energy efficient lighting was installed at Geraldton Composite HS, Red Rock PS, Schreiber PS and Manitowadge PS. This will result in ongoing energy cost savings for future years.
- ✦ The gymnasium floor was replaced at Beardmore PS. At both the Geraldton Composite and Lake Superior High school, the gym floors underwent refinishing.
- ✦ Various projects involving electrical upgrades, heating upgrades, roof repairs, flooring replacement, and painting, were carried out at many schools across the board.
- ✦ Major roof replacement work was carried out at George O'Neill PS, Nipigon Red-Rock DHS, Terrace Bay PS and Manitowadge PS.
- ✦ Grounds work including; drainage control, paving, and concrete work was carried out at many schools throughout the board.
- ✦ Improved grounds care equipment was purchased and will be utilized across the board to improve the state of board properties, especially sports fields and running tracks.
- ✦ Window replacement work was carried out at Schreiber PS and Red Rock PS.
- ✦ Intercom systems were replaced in Nipigon Red-Rock DHS, George O'Neill PS, Schreiber PS, and Manitowadge PS.



Superior Greenstone DSB, in conjunction with private and corporate businesses, provided its Maintenance Foreman with Basic Electrical Troubleshooting and Repair Training hosted by Lake Superior HS. Receiving certificates from the BETAR are standing from the left Daniel Faubert, David Lengyel, Gervais Saindon (SGDSB), Andre Paris, Jerome Le Quant (SGDSB), Brian Hyshka and Mikko Lespi (SGDSB). Seated is Instructor Jim Harrington.

## Information Technology

Information Technology realized success on many of the proposals submitted for funding. Approximately \$329,000 in grants were approved and used for improvements around the system. The following is a synopsis of the IT Department accomplishments in 2005-2006.

- ✦ Partnership with IBM as well as community members such as the Town of Marathon
- ✦ Partnered with other boards to create more purchasing power, better support, more opportunity and share technologies
- ✦ Implementation of an online IT Work Order System that decreases turnaround time from four days to one day. Paper and fax use has been eliminated, improved tracking of jobs and reduced clerical time are among the other benefits of the new system.
- ✦ Showing total cost of ownership with the internet and other WAN resources
- ✦ Successful in acquisition of \$205,000 grant for E-learning and Videoconference rooms
- ✦ Implementation of a new Video Bridge to allow more functionality and the smooth presentation of secondary credits courses

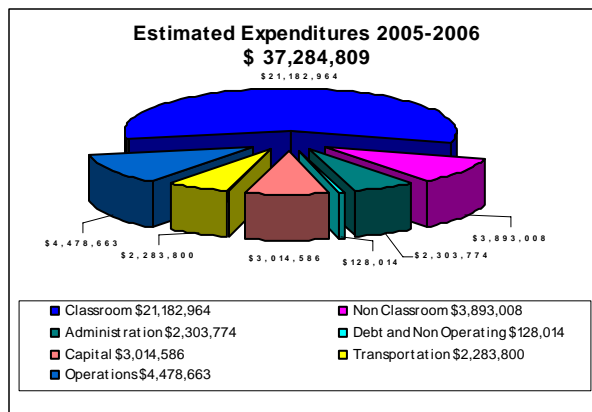
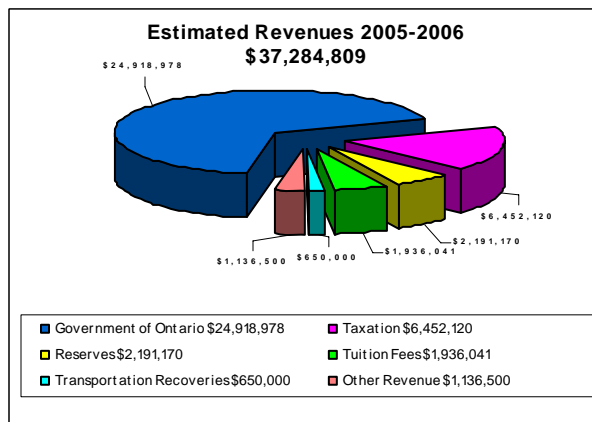


## Information Technology (con't)

- ✦ Installation of the Trillium Student Management System at elementary level
- ✦ Better communication and flow of information available on the Board website
- ✦ Full implementation of email for students
- ✦ Successful upgrade to web-mail system so staff can access email anytime anywhere
- ✦ Implemented SPAM filter successfully blocking 90% of SPAM
- ✦ Implementation of an anti-virus system
- ✦ Successfully completed three-year computer plan to meet a 3:1 ratio of computers to students who have access to the latest technologies
- ✦ Upgrading elementary desktops computers to Windows 2000
- ✦ A Computer Library Card Catalogue system is online in almost all schools allowing students to search online for books in their school library.
- ✦ Moving successfully ahead with the MISA initiative
- ✦ Formed an IT Consortium for the Northern Boards (NOITEL Consortium) and organized the first Annual Tech Conference for all northern school board computer technicians
- ✦ Fully integrated, board-wide Backup/Recovery System of all pertinent information online
- ✦ Reduced equipment cost from server room with updated switches and technologies
- ✦ Document management system that will host an online, anytime, anywhere for files
- ✦ Implemented a Uniform Curriculum Software Standard

## Business Services

The 2005-2006 estimates complied with the Ministry of Education's enveloping and accountability requirements. As per the Education Act Section 231(2) estimated expenditures did not exceed the estimated revenues of \$37,284,809.



## Board Administration

Director of Education and Secretary to the Board.....**Patti Pella**  
 Superintendent of Business and Treasurer.....**Bruce Rousseau**  
 Superintendent of Education.....**Colleen Kappel**  
 Assistant to Superintendent of Education.....**John Robart**  
 Accounting Services Manager.....**Cathy Tsoubouchi**  
 Manager of Plant Services / Transportation.....**Wayne Chiupka**  
 Coordinator of Human Resource Services.....**Barbara Draper**  
 Coordinator of Information Technology.....**Bradley Ross**  
 Administrative Assistant / Communications .....**Rose-Marie Joannette**

## Comments Welcome!

The Director's Annual Report is produced and designed by Superior-Greenstone DSB. Public comments are welcome. For more information please call or write to:

Superior-Greenstone District School Board  
 P.O. Bag 'A', 12 Hemlo Drive  
 Marathon, Ontario P0T 2E0  
 Telephone: 807-229-0436 / Fax: 807-229-1471  
 Toll Free in N<sup>W</sup> Ontario: 1-888-604-1111  
 Website: [www.sgdsb.on.ca](http://www.sgdsb.on.ca) / E-mail: [boardoffice@sgdsb.on.ca](mailto:boardoffice@sgdsb.on.ca)



# Board of Trustees



<p>Marissa Asperjan</p>  <p>Student Trustee 866-2201 (NRHS) <a href="mailto:mar_issa@hotmail.com">mar_issa@hotmail.com</a></p>	<p>Red Rock/Dorion/Hurkett 857-1245 <a href="mailto:layward@sgdsb.on.ca">layward@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>  <p>Les Aylward</p>	<p>Bette Bartlett</p>  <p>(Board Chair) Nipigon 887-2605 <a href="mailto:bbartlett@sgdsb.on.ca">bbartlett@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>	<p>Marathon 229-2287 <a href="mailto:cbrown@sgdsb.on.ca">cbrown@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>  <p>Cindy Brown</p>	<p>Cindy Fisher</p>  <p>First Nation Pic River 229-0136 Heron Bay <a href="mailto:cfisher@sgdsb.on.ca">cfisher@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>	<p>Manitouwadge 826-3890 <a href="mailto:dkenan@sgdsb.on.ca">dkenan@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>  <p>Darlene Keenan</p>	<p>Mark Mannisto</p>  <p>(Board Vice-Chair) Greenstone 876-2927 <a href="mailto:mmannisto@sgdsb.on.ca">mmannisto@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>	<p>Terrace Bay/Schreiber 825-9221 <a href="mailto:knottwell@sgdsb.on.ca">knottwell@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>  <p>Kathryn Notwell</p>	<p>Julie Sparrow</p>  <p>Marathon 229-1267 <a href="mailto:jsparrow@sgdsb.on.ca">jsparrow@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>	<p>Greenstone 854-0116 <a href="mailto:jturner@sgdsb.on.ca">jturner@sgdsb.on.ca</a></p>  <p>Jim Turner</p>
--	---	--	--	---	---	--	---	--	---