

# Superior-Greenstone District School Board



## 2006 2007 ANNUAL REPORT

### Director's Message

It has been an honour and a privilege to serve the Superior-Greenstone District School Board during the past year. The quality of this organization is measured by the commitment, the dedication and the talents that are demonstrated on a daily basis by the students, staff, trustees, administration, parents and communities. I am proud to have shared in the work of education with an organization that puts "Kids First".

Over the past year, we have re-affirmed our commitment to providing the best education to our students by reviewing our strategic plan. Superior-Greenstone DSB continues to place students at the forefront by acknowledging that its first priority is to maximize every student's opportunity to succeed to the highest level. Decisions regarding staff allocation, distribution of resources, financial allocations and administrative structures have been made to ensure that we reflect our commitment to students.

We are pleased with our accomplishments. The implementation of a Voluntary Aboriginal Student Self-Identification Policy will help us meet the needs of our Aboriginal students to ensure that they reach high levels of achievement. Native Language and Native Studies courses are being offered in all of our high schools. Literacy coaches provide support in the delivery of programs in our elementary schools and ensure that our teaching practices meet the diverse needs of our learners. We have institutionalized a Family of Schools structure which allows administrators and staff in a geographically structured family to meet and share best practices and to communicate about the delivery of programs and services to

ensure that we continually meet the needs of our students. Our discussions and our actions always focus on what more we can do to support our students.

We have demonstrated our commitment to increasing the level of public confidence in Superior-Greenstone DSB by implementing practices that allow for ongoing dialogue and information sharing between staff and parents. The Parent Involvement Committee and each of our school councils continue to engage in implementing activities that encourage all parents to become involved in their children's education. In addition to reviewing the strategic plan, parents, staff and community members were actively engaged in our budget consultations. The Trustees approved the addition of two student trustees to its ranks to ensure a strong voice from our students throughout the Board.

We have capitalized on our financial resources to support student achievement. Plant improvements and energy efficiencies have been maximized throughout the Board. The community of Nipigon can enjoy a new George O'Neill Public School as a result of significant renovations. Ongoing enhancement grants are consistently allocated to support student learning. We are committed to maximizing our technological infrastructure to meet our commitment to program delivery to students and to ensure open communication with our communities.

As I reflect over the past year, it is a tribute to the people who share a cause that such accomplishments are made. Superior-Greenstone DSB should be proud of its progress in the past year. "Kids do come first" and I thank you and I celebrate you in your efforts to help all students reach their full potential.



Lise Haman, Director of Education

*Lise Haman, Director of Education*

## Education Services



### Assessment Results (Background Information)

- ❖ The grade three results for all students at or above the provincial standard (Level 3 and 4) decreased in all areas. The grade six results for all students at or above the provincial standard (Level 3 and 4) increased in the mathematics area.

- ❖ A large percentage of students in grades three and six performed at Level 2 in reading, writing and mathematics. Promoting teaching strategies that address the needs of students not achieving at Level 3 and 4 will continue to be a focus for the literacy coaches.
- ❖ In the Grade 9 Assessment of Mathematics, the percentage of all students at or above the provincial standard (Level 3 and 4) in Applied Mathematics has more than doubled since 2003. The percentage of all students at or above the provincial standard (Level 3 and 4) in Academic Mathematics decreased.
- ❖ The percentage of students passing the OSSLT remained at 81%.

### Initiatives for 2006/07 and 2007/08

- ❖ Intervention strategies to support students who are experiencing difficulty (Early Intervention, Later Literacy);
- ❖ Literacy coaches to provide "in classroom" support for teachers;
- ❖ Professional Learning Teams continue to be a successful model for professional development in the Family of Schools;



These allow small groups of teachers and administrators to engage in dialogue about student achievement and identify ways to respond to students experiencing difficulty with learning.

- ❖ Improved electronic data collection at the board level allows for data informed decision making;
- ❖ Effective resources are targeted at improved student achievement;
- ❖ Professional development is focused on Diverse Teaching Strategies, Character Education/Anti-Bullying and Mathematics (PRIME Assessment and Strategies in the Junior and Intermediate Grades);
- ❖ To promote success, secondary schools offer additional supports for students including credit recovery programs, remediation, learning strategies, dual credit and in-school alternative education and cooperative education/experiential learning opportunities;
- ❖ The New Teacher Induction Program supports educators new to the profession.

### Initiatives for 2007-08

- ❖ New secondary school Specialist High Skills Major course in the environmental sector;
- ❖ New E-learning Pilot Project;
- ❖ Literacy coaches in each Family of Schools;
- ❖ Program enhancements for Aboriginal students (Oral Language Project, Transition Programs, Aboriginal Language and Native Studies secondary school courses).



## Information Technology Services

It has been a challenging year, with the prospect of more to come in 2007-2008. The year past saw a focus on the Ministry's Ontario Student Information Systems (OnSIS) and Managing Information for Student Achievement (MISA) initiatives.

Among our accomplishments in 2006-2007 we have:

- ❖ Moved ahead successfully with the MISA Initiative;

- ❖ Partnered with other boards to create more purchasing power, better support, more opportunity and shared technologies;
- ❖ Integrated new network equipment to improve internet provisioning;
- ❖ Implemented a UCSS (Uniform Curriculum Software Standard);

## Plant and Maintenance Services



Many projects totaling in excess of \$3.0 million were carried out by the Plant Services Department over the school year. Included in the funding for these projects was approximately \$1.0 million from the Good Places to Learn Grant and approximately \$1.0 million from the Capital Renewal Grant. The Capital Reserve fund was used for the remaining projects.

Some of the larger projects are as follows:

- ❖ George O'Neill Public School has undergone a complete renovation. The new design includes a new office and administration area. The extensive work has provided a welcoming entrance to the school and the benefit of convenient visitor parking. Other features include a modern lunch area, new computer lab, new library, full handicap accessibility, a daycare and Ontario Early Years centre, and a general facelift to all classrooms and hallways.

- ❖ Energy efficiency upgrades were carried out to expand the use of Energy

saving controls at many of the schools. Not only are we preventing wasted energy but our schools are more comfortable places for all.

- ❖ Boiler replacements at Geraldton Composite High School were carried out in two phases: in the summer and in September 2007.
- ❖ Various other projects involving electrical upgrades, heating upgrades, roof repairs, flooring replacement, painting, door replacement, and millwork replacement were carried out at many schools across the Board.
- ❖ Several partial roof replacement projects took place at the Terrace Bay and the Margaret Twomey Public Schools. At Terrace Bay PS this latest work means that the entire roof of this building is now completely new. Geraldton Composite High School and Nipigon-Red Rock District High School each had partial roof replacement done as well.
- ❖ Grounds work including drainage control, paving, and concrete work was carried out at many schools throughout the Board. New and improved equipment is proving its worth as school grounds improve, especially sports fields and running tracks.
- ❖ Preventative measures were carried out at DOPS to ensure that the septic field will not freeze during low snow conditions and extreme cold weather.



## IT Services *Can't*

- ❖ Completed an upgrade to e-mail systems that allows staff to access email anytime and anywhere;
- ❖ Implemented SPAM filter successfully blocking (90% of SPAM);
- ❖ Organized a First Annual Technology Conference for all northern school boards' computer technicians;

As we look ahead, we need to concentrate on technology in the classroom and supporting teachers with assistive technology for students. As we strive toward this objective, the areas of our focus include:

- ❖ Providing secondary students with email so they can communicate better;

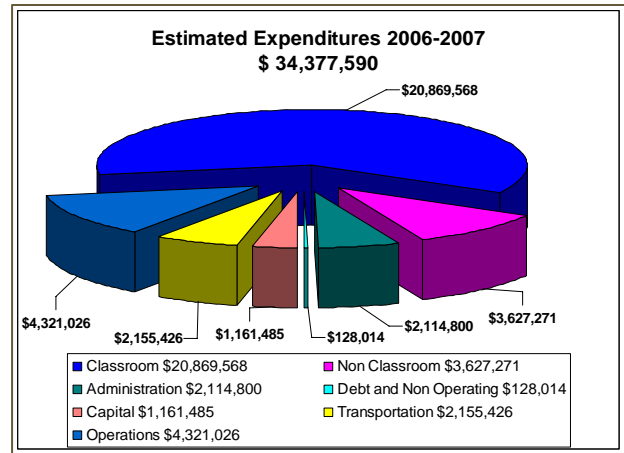
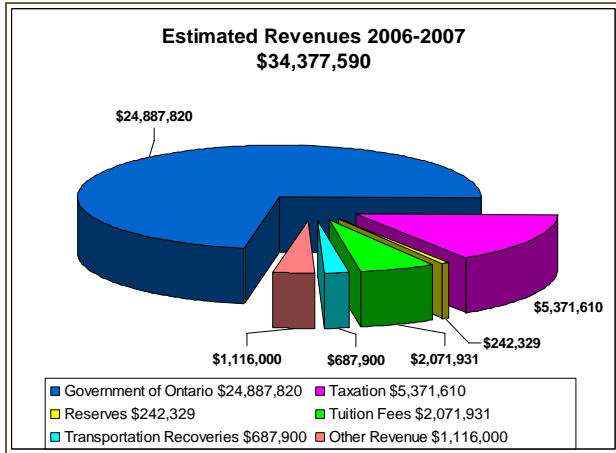


- ❖ Establishing partnerships with Contact North to help support our e-learning initiative;
- ❖ Enhancing video conference course offerings for secondary students to provide wider educational opportunities;
- ❖ Better communication and flow of information that is accessible on the Board website;
- ❖ A solid 3 to 1 ratio of computers to students and ensuring that these are equipped with the latest technologies.

The Information Technology staff is proud to offer the Superior-Greenstone DSB staff and students a dedicated, "Quick Spirited Service" and we look forward to meeting the needs of the system in the future.

# Business Services

The 2006-2007 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 \$34,377,590.



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## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

## Board Administration

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 Superintendent of Business and Treasurer.....**Bruce Rousseau**  
 Superintendent of Education.....**Colleen Kappel**  
 Student Success Coordinator.....**Valerie Newton**  
 Accounting Services Manager.....**Cathy Tsubouchi**  
 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:  
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