



Action Plan for Improved Student Achievement

The Board Action Plan for Improved Student Achievement which is required by the Office of the Literacy and Numeracy Secretariat each year was received by the Board. This working document that spans 2007 through 2009 provides a comprehensive list of the key actions planned to reach goals in student achieve. It also outlines a process for monitoring the progress of various programs and initiatives to be applied. The Board's Student Achievement Team reviewed the document this fall, while the Literacy and Numeracy Officer examined its content in December, 2007. The literacy and numeracy goals of the plan are:

- ✦ Increase student achievement on EQAO assessments by 5% in all grades and all areas
- ✦ Increase student graduation rates
- ✦ Decrease suspension rates by 5%.

The following programs and initiatives are highlighted in the plan:

- ✦ Professional Learning Teams and the Family of Schools model for professional development
- ✦ Oral Language Project
- ✦ Data collection and analysis
- ✦ Literacy coaches
- ✦ Focused resources
- ✦ Later Literacy.

Family Day Recognized for all Board Staff and Employees

The Ontario Government has announced a new statutory holiday called "Family Day". Starting this year, on February 18th, the third Monday of February is a holiday given to celebrate the importance of families taking time together.

On December 20, 2007 amendments were made to Regulation 304, *School Year Calendar, Professional Activity Days* to reflect this new statutory holiday. The amendment provides a one time reduction in the number of instructional days in the 2007/2008 school year. The order sees a minimum of 193 instructional days, instead of the standard 194 school days.

Teachers and students are covered by the amendments to the Education Act. However, school boards also have employees covered by the Employment Standards Act wherein employers are obliged to schedule nine statutory holidays. Superior-Greenstone DSB currently provides more statutory holidays than required by the Employment Standards Act. The issue for school boards is that board employees are governed by two different pieces of legislation with different potential outcomes.

In relation to Family Day on February 18, 2008, the Board carried the following motion last evening:
"The Superior-Greenstone DSB recognizes the third Monday in February, 2008 as Family Day for all employees".

Policy 905 Pupil Accommodation

Superior-Greenstone DSB is committed to success for all students and recognizes the need to utilize public facilities to their greatest potential while exercising fiscal responsibility. In order for students to succeed, a full breadth of programs must be provided in the most appropriate facilities. As Superior-Greenstone DSB enrolment continues to decline, the surplus spaces increase. Policy 905-Pupil Accommodation outlines the procedures and timelines required to review pupil accommodation. The Superior-Greenstone DSB will determine a rationale for a Pupil Accommodation Review at its 2008 Spring Residential. Policy 905 is available for review by going to "Board" link on the website at www.sgdsb.on.ca .

2006-2007 Director's Annual Report

The Director's Annual Report was received by the Board. The four-page document features highlights of the year past. The message from the Director features a communiqué by Lise Haman who served as the Director of Education in 2007, replacing Patti Pella while she was on leave. As well as an interesting read, the issue features many great pictures of our students in their schools and on extra-curricular activities. The issue can be viewed by going to "Board" link on the website.

For more information about Superior-Greenstone DSB, please browse departmental links on our web site at:

www.sgdsb.on.ca