



SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Our Mission:

"In SGDSB we are learners. Everything we do is designed to help all students succeed and make a difference. We build positive places for learning and working... together".

Our Vision:

"Inspiring our students to succeed and make a difference".

Our Motto:

"Small schools make a difference".

Our Values:

"Character, Citizenship, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking".

Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)

Tuesday, January 4, 2021 — 6:30 p.m.

AGENDA REVIEW NOTES

Microsoft Teams meeting

Or call in (audio only) 1 807-701-5980 Phone Conference ID: 781 073 037#

Acting Chair: Nicole Morden Cormier

Recorder: GerriLynn Christianson

1.0 Roll Call

Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)										
Parent Involvement Committee										
Elementary Schools	O S	T C	V C	A	R	Secondary Schools	O S	T C	V C	A R
BAPS – Natalie Cormier, School Cncl & PIC				x		GCHS – Candace Sitar, School Cncl			x	
BAPS – Ashley Northam, School Cncl & PIC				x		GCHS – Jenny Leuenberger, School Cncl				x
BAPS – Jenny Leuenberger, School Cncl & PIC				x		GCHS – Paulette Abraham, School Cncl				x
BEPS – Nikki Goodman, School Cncl & PIC				x		LSHS – Karen Figliomeni, School Cncl & PIC			x	
BEPS – Jacinda Upton, School Cncl & PIC				x		LSHS – Kim Figliomeni, School Cncl & PIC				x
DOPS – Lee Chase, School Cncl				x		MRHS – Tara Patterson, School Cncl & PIC			x	
DOPS – Gary Adduono, School Cncl				x		MNHS – Serafina Orcoyen, School Cncl & PIC				x
GOPS – , School Cncl & PIC						MNHS – School Cncl & PIC				
MNPS – Jennifer Warren, School Council & PIC			x			NRHS – Kelly Mangoff, School Cncl				x
MTPS – , School Cncl										
MMPS – , School Cncl										
NAPS – Sam Poulin, School Cncl				x						
NAPS – Christine Young, School Cncl				x		Trustees/Administration	O S	T C	V C	A R
SCPS – , School Cncl						Allison Pelletier			x	
TBPS – Malorey McGrath, School Cncl & PIC				x		Christine Major (alt.)				x
						Jason Nesbitt (alt.)				x
						Pinky McRae (Ex-Officio)				x
Principals/Administration						Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education			x	
MTPS - Cameron Craig				x		Will Goodman, Superintendent of Education			x	
MRHS – Stephen Willson			x			GerriLynn Christianson (Recorder)			x	
MNPS – Tara Balog			x			Deana Renaud, Mental Health Manager			x	
NRHS – Jennifer Rissanen				x		Hillary Freeburn, Early Years Lead			x	
Annick Brewster, System Principal			x			Carol Leroux, Student Success Lead			x	
LSHS – Christ Martin				x		Shy-Anne Bartlett, Indigenous Education Lead			x	
DOPS – Erik Leroux			x			Alex Marton, Superintendent of Business			x	
MNHS – Jody Kuczynski			x			Kathlenn Schram, School Effectiveness Team – Numeracy/MISA Lead			x	
						Kellie Wrigley, School Effectiveness Lead/NTIP Lead			x	

2.0 Welcome & Introductions

Nicole Morden Cormier, Director

2.1 Tell us something that your child comes home from school excited about!

Mental Health Manager Deana Renaud discussed the importance of having lots of things in our life that bring us joy. As parents and as people, it is essential to put yourself first and prioritize your own well-being. She encouraged parents to think about something joyful and tell us about something that your child comes home from school excited about. Parents noted that their children felt the most joy from interactions with peers, sports activities, Student Senate and being together in the classroom.

3.0 Review/Approval of Minutes:

Quorum was not established; therefore, the approval of the November 23rd meeting minutes will be deferred to the next meeting.

4.0 PIC Chair

Nicole Morden Cormier, Director

4.1 Election of Chairperson

The Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier advised that Tara Patterson has volunteered for the role of Chair for the Parent Involvement Committee. Due to the lack of quorum, a formal resolution will be brought forward at the next meeting.

5.0 Let's Talk About It: Round Table Open Discussion for Parental Input

(What would you/your child say about...? What do we need to know...?)

5.1 Learning: The Early Years

Early Years System Principal Hillary Freeburn provided a follow up from the previous PIC meeting where action items were brought forward. She discussed the development of a *Frequently Asked Questions* page that will help families answer any questions they may have regarding the Early Years program. Each school will be able to fill in their information specific to their school.

Beginning after March, the Early Years team will help highlight the foods that kids are eating at school and the organizations that support our schools through the breakfast and snack program. Designated check in dates with families have been scheduled. Teachers will connect with families in the first month of school to provide an update and follow up meetings will take place in December and March.

School councils are encouraged to email hfreeburn@sgdsb.on.ca with any questions they feel should be added to the Frequently Asked Questions page being developed for Kindergarten.

5.2 Communication Between Home and School

The Director provided a presentation regarding the importance of strong communication between home and school. Parents were asked to provide feedback regarding the current communication tools such as Edsby, School Messenger and email. The board is continually looking to enhance communication strategies to enhance communication and to foster a positive sense of belonging for all. The Director asked the questions; How are we communicating, how can we improve and communication both ways. The goal is to ensure that parents/families/caregivers feel engaged in their child's school, feel trust in the schools and the school board, support their children and the school through active participation. What is going well? How do we grow and improve?

Parents shared valuable feedback that included virtual family nights once a month, benefits of communicating through Edsby, encouraged out of the box thinking to replace face-to-face meetings, and providing communication in a couple different formats is helpful, such as video. The group discussed the benefits and challenges of School Messenger. Some families reported not receiving

messages at all or days after they had been sent. This issue will be reviewed by the IT Services Team. Also, staff will reach out to families to offer support in learning how to navigate Edsby.

Parents are encouraged to please discuss this with your School Councils and email nmorden-cormier@sgdsb.on.ca or gchristianson@sgdsb.on.ca with any additional suggestions or comments.

5.3 Report Cards/ Student Led Conferences/ Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences

School Effectiveness Lead/ NTIP Lead Kellie Wrigley provided a brief presentation regarding report cards and student led conferences. She asked the following questions:

- What do you and/or children find helpful about report cards?
- What is not helpful and even potentially harmful about report cards?
- What could we do to improve communication through report cards?

She noted that Report Cards are personalized to each student, written in clear language, identify strengths and areas for improvement. She discussed the benefits of Student Led Conferences and the skills students are encouraged to use for these sessions. Students share their learning with parents/caregivers, prepare and select the work shared and reflect on the work in their portfolios.

The parent feedback provided included support for the report card format and appreciation for the grade and average grade provided in comparison to peers. They noted that the comments section is very helpful about learning styles and skills.

Parents are encouraged to share these questions with their School Councils and to please encourage feedback to be submitted to kwrigley@sgdsb.on.ca or the school principal.

6.0 Parents Reaching Out Grants

Nicole Morden Cormier, Director

6.1 Applications from Schools for School Based Projects

The Director advised that 2 applications have been received for the school-based Parents Reaching Out Grants. One project is from Marathon High School in the amount of \$2,000 and the other is in the amount of \$400 received from Manitouwadge Public School.

The Director advised that the applications have been reviewed and they meet the guidelines of the PRO Grants program from the Ministry of Education. The Committee members present agreed that the projects presented should be approved and allowed to proceed. A formal resolution will be brought forward at the next PIC Meeting. Additional applications can be submitted to the Director, who will review and approve any projects that meet the criteria and that do not exceed the allotted funding amount.

7.0 Director's Report for School Councils

Nicole Morden Cormier, Director

7.1 Director's Report

The Director provided a review of the report that was distributed under separate cover from the agenda package. She highlighted the central staffing changes, COVID-19 protocols, staff shortages, bullying and increased training to report bullying. The report also outlined the importance of the daily screening tools and the changes to the masking protocols. For additional information, families are encouraged to visit <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/exposed#exposed>

Superintendent of Education Will Goodman provided a review of the discussions taking place regarding the Quadmaster schedule. He noted that at this time, the Public Health Unit is not requiring students to remain in Cohorts, however, the situation is changing rapidly.

8.0 Suggestions: Future Agenda Items

Nil.

9.0 **Next Meeting Dates**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 1, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. through video conference.
Additional meeting dates include the following:

- May 17, 2022
- October 25, 2022

10.0 **Adjournment**

The Parent Involvement Committee meeting on January 4, 2022, adjourned at 7:47 p.m.