

SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



Mission Statement

*In partnership with the students, the home and the community,
Superior-Greenstone District School Board will address
individual students' needs by providing:*

- ❖ a diverse education that prepares for and honours their chosen path for success,
- ❖ avenues that foster a love of learning, and
- ❖ the means to honour varied learning styles.

Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)

Tuesday, January 31, 2012 — 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

On-Site at Marathon Board Meeting Room
Electronic Access via Videoconference and/or Teleconference

Acting Chair: Birgit McArthur

Director: David Tamblyn
Recorder: Andree MacGillivray

1.0 Roll Call

<i>Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>											
Parent Involvement Committee											
Elementary Schools	O	T	V	A	R	Secondary Schools	O	T	V	A	R
	S	C	C				S	C	C		
BAPS – Jenefer Poirier... <i>School Council</i>		x				GCHS – Gerald Abraham... <i>School Council</i>					X
BAPS – Bernadine O'Brien... <i>School Council</i>				X		GCHS – Lynne LaFrance... <i>School Council</i>					X
BEPS – Dominique Orban... <i>PIC & School Cncl (TBA)</i>				X		LSHS – Birgit McArthur... <i>PIC</i>			X		
BEPS – Brenda Goodman... <i>School Council (TBA)</i>				X		MNHS - Denis Lanteigne... <i>School Council</i>					X
CAPS - (no students enrolled)						MNHS – Linda Baril... <i>School Council</i>					X
DOPS - Kitty Dumonski... <i>PIC & School Council</i>				X		MRHS – Jennifer Lake... <i>School Council</i>					X
DOPS - Shannon Nyman... <i>School Council</i>				X		MRHS – Jennifer Hart... <i>PIC</i>	X				
GOPS – Bernadette Langthorne... <i>School Council</i>				X		NRHS - Albertine Van Ogtrop-Leale... <i>School Council</i>					X
MNPS – Penny Morell... <i>School Council</i>				X		NRHS - Kitty Dumonski... <i>PIC</i>					X
MMPS – Rita Rabacaniak... <i>PIC</i>				X		Trustees/Administration	O	T	V	A	R
MTPS – Tonia Oldford... <i>PIC</i>	X					Darlene Keenan		X			
MTPS – Pearl Cooper... <i>School Council</i>	X					Mark Mannisto		X			
NAPS - Mathew Donavan... <i>PIC & School Council</i>				X		Angel Santerre					X
RRPS - Shari Kingston... <i>PIC & School Council</i>				X		David Tamblyn	X				
RRPS - Tara Thompson... <i>School Council</i>				X		Barb Willcocks					X
SCPS –Tosha Borutski... <i>PIC</i>				X		John Mutch					X
SCPS – Tina Hamel... <i>School Council</i>				X		Nancy Petrick					X
TBPS – Terry Bell... <i>PIC</i>			X			Andrée MacGillivray		X			
TBPS – Wendy Bähm... <i>School Council</i>				X		Pinky McRae (Ex-Officio)					X

1.0 Welcome

Birgit McArthur welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 Election of 2011-2012 Chair and Co-Chair

B. McArthur reiterated she will continue to be "acting chair" until election at March meeting. D. Tamblyn asked for volunteer to put their name forward. B. McArthur shared with the group some of the duties performed by the CHAIR. Terry Bell's was brought forward and he asked to give his decision at the March meeting.

3.0 Review and Approval of Minutes: November 23, 2011

Mover: Mark Mannisto Second: Pearl Cooper

That, the minutes of the Parent Involvement Committee meeting dated November 23, 2011 be accepted and approved.

3.0 Business Arising from Minutes

B. McArthur has correspondence to share and will do so under Section 4.3.

4.0 Chair: Parent Involvement Committee

4.1 Resources for PIC, School Councils, Engaged Parents

B. McArthur shared several websites in order to get information on Resources (attachment). D. Tamblyn suggested to have these resources available to parents i.e. Newsletters or school correspondence.

4.2 Reminders: Grants and Funding

4.2.1 PIC Funds Available for 2011-2012 School Year

(Attached)

B. McArthur advised the group **\$4,751.00** is being allocated by the Board per Dianne Williams. It was agreed to continue printing Calendar (\$2,000.00) and perhaps use balance of funds towards **Spring Forum** or to put toward individual school PIC projects. PIC receives a base amount + .17¢ per student. Last year \$5,759.00 was put towards initiatives. R. Rabacaniak was to share ideas for Spring Forum but not in attendance. B. McArthur to contact her.

B. McArthur reminded members to submit their proposal/ideas for Initiative and Event they wish to hold. They should do so before March Break. They can submit the funding they require by fax to the Board Office (229-1471), or e-mail McArthur @ bmcart@vianet.ca McArthur will e-mail template form to every school and after event another form is to be completed (explanation of how money used and receipts to be accessed by auditors).

4.2.2 School Council Funds \$500 per Council

B. McArthur re-affirmed every school council gets \$500.00 on what each council deems how their funds are used (i.e. breakfast club, healthy snack etc.). D. Tamblyn advised the group \$10,000.00 used for student engagement. Schools will receive anywhere from \$250. to \$500., depending on enrolment (ex: B.P.S. bringing in Science North with their funds).

4.2.3 Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants

Grants are available (\$1,000.00) and PRO groups are to apply on-line by May 1st.

This topic addressed extensively at last meeting. Groups cannot apply in September.

A concern was addressed: if membership changes from spring to school start-up and project for new school year not welcome (enthusiastic).

4.3 Spring Parent Forum

B. McArthur brought forward New Correspondence:

- letter from *Laurel Broten, Minister of Education* (Separate Attachment)

McArthur addressed paragraphs 2, 9, and 12 with the group.

- McArthur shared a list of PIC Web Resource addresses for parents (Attached)

Callaway Golf Program trying to get student interest in golf. Correspondence has been sent to the board. TBPS & SPS have registered with program. Website www.nationalgolfingschools.com if other schools interested in signing-up. T. Bell confirmed TBPS involved in this program and have some experience with the program. The program is set-up to recruit interest in golf. At present has only been used at the Primary Level.

A **Safe School Conference** is being held in Toronto. Tamblyn advised not Ministry funded therefore not participating – very expensive.

Foundation for Education Success will take place on February 23-24 in Thunder Bay unfortunately no funds available to send PIC members as the cost is \$850.00/person.

B. McArthur advised People for Education Newsletter goes out to School Councils. The information in this newsletter indicates what is going on in School Council provincially.

5.0 Director of Education

5.1 Board's Strategic Plan

David Tamblyn shared a consultant was hired by the board to work with several groups (staff, members of community etc.) for the next five years to gather information. Circumstances within our board have changed drastically (i.e. enrolment/mill closures/board operation). As well, Trustees along with some board members participated in a retreat in November to discuss this topic.

Tamblyn presented results from this meeting via conference calls to the Principals on January 31st. The Principals also followed a Power Point presentation.

The following chart indicates topics Tamblyn addressed to the group:

Student Achievement and Well Being	Responsible Stewardship of Resources	Building Relationships
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality Instruction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximizing investment in academic resources, utilization of space, facilities and services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating a culture of trust
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Engagement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidating Resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raising Parental expectations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authentic/relevant Learning Experiences 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Foster a climate of respect and growth of our Human resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrating Excellence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equity and Inclusive Education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Stewardship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modeling a joy of learning
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen aboriginal programs through closer ties with our First Nation communities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character Education 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Global Citizenship 		

Tamblyn is to meet with the Student Senate on February 16th via teleconference.

5.2 2012-2013 School Year Calendar Draft

A **DRAFT** copy of the proposed 2012-2013 School Year Calendar can be found on the Board Website and staff is able to vote on which calendar they would prefer to work with for the next

school year. There are two options and the only difference lies with the March Break: March Break plus one extra day (P.D.) or have the usual five days off. Members who have voted seem to prefer the latter of the two (five days). S.G.D.S.B. is working with co-terminus boards (Catholic & French). A Press Release should be posted by February 24th.

5.3 People for Education: Correspondence (Attached)
McArthur addressed in Section 4.3 (letter from Minister of Education).

5.4 Parent Involvement Committee Bylaws: Draft Posted on Website
McArthur advised these are posted on the Board website.

6.0 PIC Representative Feedback (Open Discussion)
There was no discussion.

7.0 Suggestions: Future Agenda Items
Tamblyn would like to give update on **Strategic Plan** at the next meeting, March. Members would like to discuss Parents Forum in spring along with funding.

8.0 Next Meeting Dates
Tuesday, March 20, 2012
Monday, May 14, 2012

9.0 Adjournment

Mover: Pearl Cooper Second: Terry Bell
That, the Parent Involvement Committee meeting on January 31, 2012 adjourn at 7:45 p.m.



January 13, 2012

Dear Rosemary,

For 15 years, People for Education has been supporting the important work of school councils and parent groups across Ontario – sending them our bi-monthly newsletters, letting them know about opportunities to be involved in policy development and government consultations, providing support and advice, and conducting parent-led research through our annual surveys.

Our vision statement is “Public education has the capacity to transform and enrich lives, and to prepare all students for the bright future they deserve. It is the foundation of a civil society, and in a fully publicly funded education system, every student will have access to the rich, broadly based education that meets his or her needs.”

To accomplish our vision, People for Education:

- monitors the publicly funded education system through participatory research and policy analysis
- educates parents and policy-makers about the impact of education policy on children and youth
- engages parents to become active participants in their children’s education
- works to increase public support for public education

Since we began working to support public education in Ontario, we have had many successes, including:

- a series of tip sheets for parents, with basic information about the education system and how it works, translated into 15 languages and available on our website at www.peopleforeducation.ca
- surveys of school principals and school councils – collecting data that is not available elsewhere. This information is used by the Ministry of Education, school boards, school councils, and the media.
- Partnering with TVO to present our annual conference and live-stream sessions online, so that people across the province can participate
- Supporting the work of school councils – keeping them informed about what is happening at the provincial level, and providing tools and resources to help them outreach to *all* parents.

In an effort to reduce postage costs and get our information to school councils in a timely manner, we are building a school council email list, so that we can send our information electronically. We also hope that by sending the information electronically, it will be easier for school councils to share with the broader parent community, ensuring that a broader cross-section of parents is kept informed.

I am writing to ask for your help in gathering the email addresses for school councils in your board. I also want to assure you that:

- these lists will **never** be shared or traded with anyone
- school councils will receive no more than one email every two weeks (our electronic newsletter)
- we never sell or promote products through our e-news – it is for information purposes only

Our only purpose in communicating with school councils is to help ensure that they have access to information and resources to support them in their important work.

If you have a list of school council email addresses for your board, please forward them to Marina Breakey at marinabreakey@rogers.com and please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about People for Education and our work.

Thank you for all that you do to support public education in Ontario.

Sincerely,



Jacqui Strachan
Parent Support and Community Development Coordinator
jacqui@peopleforeducation.com

People for Education
641 Bloor Street West, 2nd Floor, Toronto, ON, M6G 1L1
www.peopleforeducation.ca, info@peopleforeducation.ca
phone: 416-534-0100 or 1-888-534-3944



SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

P.O. Bag A, 12 Hemlo Drive
Marathon, Ontario P0T 2E0
Telephone: 807-229-0436 Fax: 807-229-1471
E-Mail: boardoffice@sgdsb.on.ca

Parent Involvement Committee

To: To All School Council Chairs **Date:** February 6, 2012
CC: All School Principals **E-mailed:** February 6, 2012
From: Birgit Knoll-McArthur, Chair of Superior-Greenstone DSB Parent Involvement Committee

Please find information outlining the procedure for applying for the 2011/2012 Parent Involvement funds for School Councils.

Parent Involvement funds approved for school councils **must** be used to promote and implement strategies to involve more parents at the school level. Tips to keep in mind when discussing possible ideas are:

- Events or initiatives should make it easier for all parents to participate in their child's education and future successes,
- The event should help create a more welcoming environment for parents in the education system,
- It should promote support for more parental involvement,
- Events should take place in April, May or June 2012.

Steps for applying:

- Your School Council must submit a proposal using the [*attached form](#) to identify your event, provide a brief description of the event and how it will be run and associated costs to run the event,
- Please submit your proposal to me (Birgit McArthur) by March 9, 2012,
- The Director of Education, the Board Chair and I will meet to review all applications,
- Notice of approval along with Final Report templates will follow in late March 2012
- Any funds granted must be used by June 27, 2012,
- A Final Report of the event must be sent into me by July 1, 2012

Please keep your proposal short and simple. You may submit proposals to the board office by fax at 807-229-1471 or e-mail the item directly to me at bmcart@vianet.ca.

For convenience, if anyone would like to complete their proposal electronically, you may do so using the separate form as ***** attached in this e-mail. It is compiled as a form in Microsoft Word, so you can tab through the document to fill in your information, name and save the file and then forward this item directly to me by e-mail.

Parents are active participants in the life of the school when they feel welcome, valued and honoured. Equally important is developing and maintaining connections between parents and school staff so we build a better understanding and awareness of what students are learning in our schools.

Thank you.

Birgit Knoll-McArthur, Chair
SGDSB Parent Involvement Committee

BKM:rmj

Cc: D. Tamblin, Director of Education
P. McRae, Board Chair

Parental Involvement Template: Funding Proposal

Due March 9, 2012

Grants must be used by June 27, 2012

School Name:

Name of School Council Chair(s):

Contact Information

Phone:

E-mail:

Phone:

Email:

Please provide the name and a brief description of your initiative, activity or event.

1. Name of Initiative:

2. Briefly describe this initiative:

3. Cost associated with initiative:

Web Resources for Parents

www.sgdsb.on.ca

Superior Greenstone District School Board official web site

www.edu.gov.on.ca

Ministry of Education website

www.peopleforeducation.ca

An independent organization working to support public education in Ontario's English, French and Catholic schools.

Our.School.ca

Connecting parents and schools using technology

www.superiormodel.ca

The Superior Model website is a portal that provides a focused search for the programs, services, and resources in our communities that support the mental health of children and youth.

www.parentinvolvementmatters.org

Advocates for building collaborative family-school-community partnerships that advance student learning and achievement.

www.parentvoice.ca

Avon Maitland District School Board, featuring helpful School Council Tutorials

www.kidshelpphone.ca

So much more than just a Kids Help Phone Site....Topics for Kids, Teens and Parents

Blogs

<http://sheilaspeaking.wordpress.com>

Sheila Stewart, Lakehead District School Board PIC member, school council member and former Council of School Councils Chairs member. Parent Involvement Advocate.

Newsletters

Communication Partners

Lakehead Public Schools , Thunder Bay Newsletter

contact Lori at: llukinuk@lakeheadschoools.ca

contact Sheila at: ingstew@tbaytel.net

Other

Department of Education & Training/ Australia Government

Parent Partnerships- Parent Involvement in the Later Years of Schooling Document

<http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/edulibrary/public/stratman/Policy/schoolgov/druged/ParentPartnerships.pdf>