

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

Monday, February 2, 2009— 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

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

2008-2009 Chair: To Be Determined
2007-2008 Past Chair: P. McRae

Director: Patti Pella
Moderator / Recorder: RM. Joannette

1.0 Roll Call

Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)												
Parent Involvement Committee						PIC Alternates		OS	TC	VC	A	R
Elementary Schools	OS	TC	VC	A	R							
Bulmer, Susan (RRPS)				X		Bahm, Wendy (TBPS)					X	
Dumonski, Kitty (DOPS)				X		Borutski, Tosha (SCPS)					X	
Hamel, Tina (SCPS)			X			Collins, Mandy (RRPS)					X	
Kempe, Clare (TBPS)					X	Hoffman, Deanna (MMPS)					X	
Orban, Dominique (BEPS)		X				Mangoff, Stephen (GOPS)					X	
Langthorne, Bernadette (GOPS)		X				Marceau, Roxanne (GOPS)					X	
Slomke, Lisa (BAPS)		X				Marino, Jody (BAPS)					X	
(MMPS)	Name unavailable					O'Brien, Berndadine (BAPS)					X	
(MNPS)	Name unavailable					Roper, Tonya (SCPS)					X	
(MTPS)	Name unavailable					Dumonski, Michelle (NRHS)					X	
	Name unavailable					Jones, Tammy (NRHS)					X	
Secondary Schools	OS	TC	VC	A	R	Trustees/Administration		OS	TC	VC	A	R
Budgell, Lou (MNHS)				X		Kappel, Colleen					X	
McRae, Pinky (MRHS)	X					Keenan, Darlene			X			
Young, Tammy (LSHS)				X		Mannisto, Mark (ex-officio)					X	
(GCHS)	Name unavailable					Notwell, Kathryn					X	
(NRHS)	Name unavailable					Pella, Patti		X				
Guests						Simmons, Tina (alt)					X	
McArthur, Birgit (LSHS)		X				Sparrow, Julie					X	

1.0 Welcome

Pinky McRae welcomed the group and proceeded with roll call. Members present as noted above.

2.0 Review and Approval of Minutes: November 18, 2008

(Electronic Attachment)

3.0 Business Arising from Minutes

- 3.1 Election: Chair of Parent Involvement Committee
P. McRae advised she had received an e-mail from Dominique Orban expressing interest in assuming the Chair for PIC. D. Orban indicated she remained interested and opted to have P. McRae mentor her for this the 2008-2009 School Year. She will assume the chair for the 2009-2010 school year unless there is a additional interest shown by participants which would warrant holding an election.
- 3.2 Superior-Greenstone DSB Tote Bags
Patti Pella noted that the Tote Bag idea remains desirable. She suggested that perhaps totes could be made available for students in conjunction with Education Week, which happens May 4-8, 2009. It is viable as a project for the Parent Reaching Out Initiative. School councils can distribute bags with school-specific material. The cost of the bags will be investigated by RM. Joannette and if affordable (given funds pre-committed to produce Student Artwork Calendars for 2009-2010) the project could proceed
- 3.3 Board –Wide Student Art Calendar
- 3.3.1 Time Span
P. Pella noted that the 16-month board calendar having been well received this year is up for an encore in 2009-2010. She acknowledged that there would be a four month over-lap (September through December 2009) however, the proposed span, i.e., September 2009 through December 2010 allows all 15 of the schools' student artists to be showcased. The group concurred.
- 3.3.2 Art Selection Criteria
Last year all schools submitted at least one piece of artwork, with some schools sending up to eight pieces. P. Pella and Kelly Sagle (author of the idea) decided which art would be featured on full calendar pages and all extra work was used as thumbnails. Excellent results were achieved but there was overrepresentation by some schools. This year P. Pella suggests that parent councils set the criteria for submission of artwork and make decisions at the school level as to pieces to submit for publication. Minimum of two pieces from each school will be sought from each school, while some of the larger schools could opt to send three pieces. The theme will be Character Education again this year with new pieces of information from each school as relates to the character building education and endeavours in there communities.
- 3.3.3 Distribution and/or Cost Recovery
Distribution will happen immediately for school year start in September 2009. As was done last year, each student would receive a calendar. The cost of producing the last calendar set was \$5,500 for 2,600 copies. With declining enrolment, we can order less this year. Possible cost recovery idea is to have a form enclosed in each calendar issued. Those interested in extra copies could order a calendar for a fee.

4.0 Update: Provincial Parent Board

P. McRae advised that the Ministry of Education now has a link to the Provincial Parent Board website that can be found under the "parent" tab

5.0 PRO Grants

- 5.1 Recap: 2007-2008 Projects
Tina Hamel confirmed that the PRO Grant application with which she had difficulty with acceptance as she had used an incorrect form on which to submit, had been accepted.
- 5.2 Recap: 2008-2009 Grant Procedures
P. McRae review the attached which has gone out to everyone

6.0 Director's Update

- 6.1 2008-2009 Pro-Grant Allocation
This is set at \$5000 plus \$0.17 base funding for each student enrolled in a school to support PIC. There is a base mobilization and outreach fund that is set at \$500.00 for each school council.
- 6.2 Full Day JK

Full day JK is scheduled for implementation September 2009 for all SGDSB elementary schools. P. Pella advised that policies and procedures for early learning and support for professional development for teachers in this area will be addressed. There would be a need to add 2.5 FTE elementary teachers in the system.

6.3 Update: 2009-2010 Ontario School Year Calendar (OSYC)

The proposed template for the 2009-2010 OSYC has a school year start on August 31st (earlier than other years). However, Labour Day falls on September 7, 2009, making September 8th a very late start to the year. In consultation with coterminous board, unions, staff, school councils and administration, most agreed that a modified calendar was a better option, so that students would not be in school until a day before July 1 2010. Most boards across the province are opting for a similar configuration to school year and are awaiting word from ministry for approval.

6.4 Assessment and Evaluation Document "Growing Success"

P. Pella reported that the 2009-2010 school year will see changes in the elementary student reporting periods. The first reporting period is designated for January while the second and last for the year will take place in June.

6.5 Ontario School Board Governance Consultation

P. Pella reported that this is an ongoing consultation, the purpose of which is to gather public feedback from Parent Involvement Chairs, Directors and Board Chairs about:

- Modernizing the Education Act
- Identifying Effective Governance Practices
- Supporting School Board Leaders
- Strengthening School Board Accountability

The consultation period was to close on February 28, 2009, but has been extended to April 30th. She, the Board Chair Mark Mannisto and Parent Involvement Committee Chair Pinky McRae have been called to consult on February 6, 2009. If anyone has input they want to have included in SGDSB presentation by P. McRae please forward this information to her before February 6th

6.6 Communication Strategy

P. Pella noted that the Parent Involvement Committee is an invaluable resource and the input offered both in the school and at these meeting help the trustees and administration a great deal as parents know better than most what situations exist in their schools and communities. She encouraged all members to talk directly to principals about topics of concern, interest and assistance for students. She reported that Kellie Hudson of Thunder Bay (journalist by trade) is consulting with board on marketing strategies for long-term viability of the board. K. Hudson has been working closely with the principals group to enhance the board public profile, such as the wide spread publicity on the implementation of full-day JK registrations for September 2009.

6.7 Defibrillators in Schools

P. Pella reported that the Superior North Emergency Medical Services has offered to provide Public Access Defibrillators in all board facilities. The EMS Manager of Quality, Assurance and Training, Wayne Gates presented the plan to the Board on January 19th and the offer to install the equipment was unanimously approved. Policies and guidelines about PAD's in schools are to be developed.

7.0 Updates: Schools' Parent Involvement Representatives

Pinky McRae: Encouraged members to submit PIC Grant proposals. The deadline for this is March 6, 2009. She will e-mail out the information people will need to complete the accountability portion, i.e., account numbers so that school secretaries can provide up-to-date reconciliations upon inquiry of expended monies.

Lisa Slomke: Enquired about the Parent Involvement grant destined for B.A. Public School. She was advised that the grant was expended from the school administration area and she did not have the opportunity to develop a proposal. Patti will look into this and

ensure that the \$500 is reimbursed for the purpose of the parental involvement group.

8.0 Q & A Session

Nil

9.0 Suggestions: Future Agenda Items

Nil

10.0 Next Meeting Date

Monday, May 4, 2009

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.