

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, May 11, 2009— 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES

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

2008-2009 Chair: P. McRae
2007-2008 Past Chair: P. McRae

Director: Patti Pella
Moderator / Recorder: RM. Joannette

1.0 Roll Call

| <i>Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|-----------------------|----|----|---------------------------|----|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Parent Involvement Committee | | | | | | PIC Alternates | | OS | TC | VC | A | R | |
| Elementary Schools | | | | | | OS | TC | VC | A | R | | | |
| | | | | | | Bahm, Wendy (TBPS) | | | | | X | | |
| Bulmer, Susan (RRPS) | | | | | | | | | X | | | X | |
| Dumonski, Kitty (DOPS) | | | | | | | | | X | | | X | |
| Hamel, Tina (SCPS) | | | | | | | | X | | | | X | |
| Kempe, Clare (TBPS) | | | | | | | | | X | | | X | |
| Orban, Dominique (BEPS) | | | | | | | X | | | | | X | |
| Langthorne, Bernadette (GOPS) | | | | | | | X | | | | | X | |
| Slomke, Lisa (BAPS) | | | | | | | | | X | | | X | |
| (MMPS) | | | | | | Name unavailable | | | Roper, Tonya (SCPS) | | | | X |
| (MNPS) | | | | | | Name unavailable | | | Dumonski, Michelle (NRHS) | | | | X |
| (MTPS) | | | | | | Name unavailable | | | Jones, Tammy (NRHS) | | | | X |
| Secondary Schools | | | | | | OS | TC | VC | A | R | Trustees/Administration | | |
| Budgell, Lou (MNHS) | | | | | | | | | X | | | X | |
| McRae, Pinky (MRHS) | | | | | | X | | | | | | X | |
| Young, Tammy (LSHS) | | | | | | | | | X | | | X | |
| (GCHS) | | | | | | Name unavailable | | | Notwell, Kathryn | | | X | |
| (NRHS) | | | | | | Name unavailable | | | Pella, Patti | | X | | |
| Guests | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| McArthur, Birgit (LSHS) | | | | | | | | X | | | | 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: February 2, 2009

Item 3.1 Correction: insert: D. Orban 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.

Item 6.1 Correction: Remove PRO Grant and insert PIC Grant

Item 7.0 Correction: Remove PRO Grant and insert PIC Grant

3.0 Business Arising from Minutes

3.1 SGDSB Tote-Bags

Patti Pella reported that the idea of tote bags as suggested at the last meeting was explored. However, the cost is prohibitive, while the quality of item is poor. With the development of the 16-month Student Art Calendar a significant portion (\$2,000) of the PIC funds are to be expended in this area. Totes would need to come from her budget and she advised that with the declining enrolment and budget she could not justify the expenditure for such a low quality item.

She suggested that the idea for totes might be worthwhile investigating next year if the committee does not commit to doing another calendar. This way, a better quality tote could be out there for use. The idea will be brought to the next PIC meeting in the fall.

3.2 16-Month Calendar

Patti reported artwork is now being collected from schools. Feedback from the last calendar run indicates that the item is well used by the elementary schools population, however it has been noted that the calendars delivered to the each secondary student does result in a fair amount of waste, as these were not being brought home with consistency. If less calendars are printed we could still fill the need for the secondary schools as required and the smaller print run will be less expensive and fit better in the budget we have set, i.e., approximately \$5,000 to produce.

4.0 Update: Provincial Parent Board

Pinky McRae advised there is a meeting on June 5, 2009. It will be the last one for the provincial board as it is to be dissolved by the Minister Wynne. The ministry is setting up to strengthen the role of PIC's as it is convinced that this body strengthens student engagement. A move is afoot to make PIC's mandatory for all boards. She suggested the group go to the ministry website to view the information on Bill 177, which at this time has just gone through first reading in the legislature.

5.0 PIC Grants

Pinky advised the PIC Grants projects have allocated to schools councils that have applied. Given this and the \$2,000 earmarked for the calendars, the PIC account has a balance of \$18.59. She encouraged everyone to forward reports on their project to her so that she could complete the reports required in August.

Pinky has conversed with Dominique Orban about role of the PIC Chair for the 2009-2010 school year. They will continue as required until the new school year. In the fall, should there be nobody else wish to let their name stand for chair, then Dominique could assume the chair.

6.0 Director's Update

6.1 Updates

6.1.1 Funding 2009-2010

P. Pella the Grant for Student Needs arrived two weeks ago. B. Rousseau has begun to work through grant formula. There are challenging times ahead as enrolment continues to decline. In SGDSB there are no more "large" population schools.

Ministry is leaning strongly toward cost effective school spaces and to that end strongly encourages K to 12 schools to alleviate cost of maintaining schools that where capacity is under-utilized. BAPS Prohibitive to Repair project is an example of how the ministry is encouraging such a model.. Cost of new construction for BAPS very high, while enrolment decreases are significant and expected to continue the downward trend. BAP project monies (approximately \$4.5 million) has been approved by ministry on condition that BAPS go into Geraldton Composite

High School making this SGDSB first K to 12 school. Project opening anticipated to happen in 2011.

6.1.2 Environment Educational Committee

P. Pella reported on this initiative lead by Terrace Bay PS Principal, David Tamblyn. Energy efficiency and conservation have a positive impact the environment. Implementing efficiencies can save the environment and cost less to keep a facility running.

6.1.3 Superior-Greenstone DSB 16- Month Calendars

This project is underway now with an invitation gone out to school to submit their students' artwork as chosen by the school council.

6.2 Transportation Consortium

The ministry has assisted in the formation of the East of Thunder Bay Transportation Consortium. A consortium coordinator's office is maintained in the SGDSB board facility. This person attends to all transportation issue for our board and those of our coterminous boards. The public will not see any major change, buses will run as they always have. The main difference is that the SGDSB Transportation Officer is now focused only on representing our students as a member board of the consortium.

6.3 Ontario Equity and Inclusive Education Strategy

The ministry has an expectation that all boards develop Equity and Inclusive Education strategies. A policy is currently under development that addresses student achievement with among other things, the creation and maintenance of safe, fair, positive, supportive and respectful learning communities. A component of quality education means equitable and inclusive environment for all and one that builds on the diversity of the cultures present in its school community

6.4 Aboriginal Education Initiatives

Turtle Concepts with Dave Jones is a program that being featured for high school student involvement. The theme of the program is to give support to students and help them gain the confidences they need to leaders within their peer group, community and schools. David Bouchard Been some exciting things in this area,

6.5 School Visits by David Bouchard

David Bouchard is a internationally respected Canadian author who is Metis and he is a passionate believer of literacy for kids. He is doing a weeklong tour of our schools with his book "Our Elders are Watching". It is a wonderful experience for children and it fits in very nicely with the awareness and respect we try daily to instill in our children through the Character Education program.

7.0 Updates: Schools' Parent Involvement Representatives

There were no questions entertained at this time

8.0 Q & A Session

Tina Hamel inquired after the book bags for the Boy's Literacy Night at Schreiber PS. Twenty-five bags will be packed up for deliver to her.

9.0 Suggestions: Future Agenda Items

10.0 2009-2010 Proposed Meeting Dates

October, February and May are good times, fix dates similar to this past year.

11.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.