



## 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](mailto:boardoffice@sgdsb.on.ca)

### PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** Wednesday, December 10, 2008  
**Contact:** Patti Pella, Director of Education / Mark Mannisto, Board Chair  
Superior-Greenstone District School Board  
Phone: 807-229-0436 Fax: 807-229-1471  
E-Mail: [ppella@sgdsb.on.ca](mailto:ppella@sgdsb.on.ca) / [mmannisto@sgdsb.on.ca](mailto:mmannisto@sgdsb.on.ca)

#### **Superior-Greenstone DSB to Implement Full-Day JK in September 2009**

MARATHON, Ontario – The Superior-Greenstone District School has approved the implementation of a full-day Junior Kindergarten (JK) program beginning in September 2009.

“This is an exciting opportunity for our students and teachers,” said Director of Education Patti Pella. “We know the positive impact that quality programming can have on early learning and we are dedicated to providing a play based, child centered program that will engage our youngest learners.”

“We have learned so much in our Oral Language project about the importance of encouraging student generated discussion,” said Pella. “We know that when this happens at a young age, students are much better prepared for learning in later years.”

The Ministry of Education has been working with Dr. Charles E. Pascal to make recommendations on a full day learning program for four and five year olds in Ontario. Dr. Pascal’s study emphasizes a planned curriculum that begins with an informed understanding of what and how children learn in the early years.

The Superior-Greenstone District School Board provided feedback to this process based on the learning and experiences that have happened through offering a full day Kindergarten program for the past five years, says Pella.

“A natural next step for the Board is to extend this opportunity to our JK students. Children in our schools will focus on learning through experiences and finding answers to their questions.”

Parents who are interested in registering their child with the Superior-Greenstone District School Board for September 2009 are invited to call their local school principal.