



SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Friday, February 8, 2008
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Superior-Greenstone DSB Parent Reaching Out Grants Approved

MARATHON, Ontario – “Parental involvement in our schools has become one of the top priorities for Ontario schools and the funding provided under the Parents Reaching Out (PRO) Grants is making this possible,” said Marathon High School Council Chair Pauline (Pinky) McRae. “I was delighted to get the news that 10 of our school councils’ project applications were approved.”

McRae who also sits as one of twenty parents appointed by the Minister of Education Kathleen Wynne to the new Provincial Parent Board last August said, “These grants are a way to help make our education system more welcoming for parents.”

Earlier this week, the Ministry advised the Superior-Greenstone DSB that grants totalling \$8,000 had been approved for six of its elementary schools and four area high schools. The successful applications include projects such as *www.Internet Safety and Computer Awareness.com* submitted by the Dorion Public School Council; the Lake Superior High School Career Fair for Parents; and a project from the Geraldton Composite High School Council to provide access to teachers for parents of students who attend from Aroland.

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Director of Education Patti Pella said, "Research has shown that when parents are involved in their child's education their children do better in school. Our goal is to ensure that parents feel welcomed into our schools and are consulted about decisions affecting their children. When we work together, an atmosphere of trust develops and together we can ensure that our children's education is the foundation for life long learning. I am thrilled that we have received 10 PRO Grants and that the excellent work that began last year will continue! I applaud the parents who took the time to apply for these grants and look forward to the positive impact it will have on student learning."

A number of the projects that our school council have promoted employ strategies and venues that will help parents come together with their child and his/her teacher and enjoy the experience of learning together," said Pella. "For example, the Red Rock Public School project entitled Preserving our Past has a history component to it that only the parents can lend; their involvement is an integral piece."

Referring to the Marathon High School Council's project to bring additional resource material into its Parent Resource Centre, Pinky McRae said, "The parent community council has worked extremely hard on this new initiative and is inviting all parents of Marathon and surrounding areas to drop into the school and browse this new Resource Centre."

More information on the Parent Reaching Out Grants approval can be found on the board website at www.sgdsb.on.ca .