# KIDS COME FIRST

## SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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

# PRESS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: Monday, April 21, 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 / mmannisto@sgdsb.on.ca

# Superior-Greenstone DSB Approves Three-Phase Pupil Accommodation Plan

MARATHON, Ontario – At its Regular Board Meeting on April 21, 2008, the Superior-Greenstone District School Board carried a motion to proceed with a Pupil Accommodation Plan which, if current conditions persist would be implemented over the course of the next three school years.

The process for pupil accommodation is governed by Board Policy 905 Pupil Accommodation, which is a procedure that complies with the Ministry direction on grants for school operation, and new pupil places.

Citing the need to utilize public facilities to their greatest potential while exercising fiscal responsibility Board Chair, Mark Mannisto said, "We recognize that economic constraints related to the operation of our schools requires us to examine the feasibility of modifying facilities, altering attendance boundaries and the continuing operation of very small schools with large areas of vacant space."

Mannisto said that enrolment, programming, staffing, school operations and maintenance costs as well as school program operating costs were examined and the Board determined that an Accommodation Review Committee would be established for three areas within its jurisdiction.

An Accommodation Review Committee will be established for the Schreiber/Terrace Bay area in 2008-2009, Nipigon/Red Rock in 2009-2010 and the Manitouwadge area in 2010-2011.

Mannisto said, "The timelines indicated will be reviewed annually to confirm their validity. If for example, there is an influx of students, the study may be delayed. If the enrolment declines significantly, the Board will respond accordingly and adjust the timeline for the establishment of the Accommodation Review Committee."

The Accommodation Review Committee must include a parent representative from the School Council from each school, a citizen from each school attendance area, a Trustee who will serve as the Review Chair appointed by the Board, a business representative and an area municipal leader, both of whom have connections with the Accommodation Review Area.