



## SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

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### PRESS RELEASE

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Date:** Thursday, September 22, 2011  
**Contact:** David Tamblyn, Director of Education  
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#### **Superior-Greenstone DSB Approves Pupil Accommodation Review Studies**

MARATHON, Ontario – At its Regular Board Meeting on September 16, 2011, the Superior-Greenstone District School Board carried a motion to proceed with a group school accommodation study for Manitouwadge Public School and Manitouwadge High School.

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, Pinky McRae 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.”

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McRae 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 (ARC) would be established for the Manitouwadge area.

An ARC will be established for the Manitouwadge area as per Board Policy 905. An ARC would be composed of a parent representative from the School Council from each school and from the school attendance area involved, a seat is required for one area citizen, an area business representative and a municipal leader having a connections with the Accommodation Review Area.

In a development from the August 22, 2011 Regular Board Meeting, an individual school Accommodation Review Committee was approved to study the Caramat Public School. This school has had no students enrolled in the facility since February 2011. It has been identified for an individual school accommodation review based on the criteria of being a large vacant space within the school, its program viability, operating costs and the alteration of attendance boundaries.

The formation of an ARC and schedule of public meetings are dictated in the same manner as would be held for the Manitouwadge school reviews, however, its complement of members would hail from the Caramat school area.

Given the timelines contained in Policy 905 regarding the schedule of public meetings to be held for both the Manitouwadge group ARC study and the Caramat Public School individual study, final reports from the ARC's to the Board would be expected late in the 2011-2012 school year.