

SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Report No: 75
Date: October 22-2012

TO: Chair and Members of the
Superior-Greenstone District School Board

FROM: Nancy Petrick, Superintendent of Education

SUBJECT: Additional Elementary Teaching Staff Proposal for Nakina Public School and Marjorie Mills Public School - October 2012

Current Situation

Nakina

Although the classroom configuration for this school is within the pupil teacher ratio of 15:1, the spread in age in the multiple grade groupings has implications not only because of the broad range in cognitive ability of the students but also in their physical ability as well.

The current class configurations in the morning are as follows (2.5 teachers, plus .5 teaching Principal):

- JK – grade 1 (9 students)
- Grade 2 – grade 4 (9 students)
- Grade 6 – 7 (8 students)

French/planning time is also incorporated into the morning program.

During the afternoon programming, class configurations are changed (2.0 teachers):

- JK – grade 3 (15 students)
- Grade 3 – grade 7 (11 students, there are no grade 5 students)

Marjorie Mills

In the May, *Special Board Report No: 03*, Marjorie Mills projected student enrolment was 53 F.T.E. students. Since September there has been an increase in student enrolment by 16 F.T.E. students all of whom have self-identified as First Nation.

This school has also most recently been identified as a High Priority School through the Ministry initiative: School Implementation and Monitoring.

Recommendation

Nakina

An increase in 0.5 F.T.E. staff would accommodate classroom configurations and ensure that the multiple grade groupings better fit both the students' cognitive and physical abilities. It will also ensure that student voice is fostered through the opportunity to express their thoughts in a more age appropriate environment.

After reviewing the current classroom configurations, Senior Administration in consultation with the Elementary Principal recommend this increase of 0.5 F.T.E. teaching staff. It has been determined through discussions with the Principal that this increase will offset the concerns of cognitive and physical abilities and student voice. It will also allow classroom teachers to deliver the core subject areas of literacy and math in groups that are closer in ability.

Marjorie Mills

An increase in 1.0 F.T.E. staff would accommodate the needs of the students in focusing them further in the area of Mathematics and Literacy. It will also support the school in their journey to improve student achievement and student well-being.

After reviewing the current situation, Senior Administration in consultation with the elementary Principal recommend this increase of 1.0 F.T.E. teaching staff. It has been determined through discussions with the Principal this increase will offset the concerns of student achievement and student well-being, particularly among our aboriginal students. It will also allow the Principal to support staff in professional development and nurture the parental and community engagement component.

Administrative Recommendations

That, the Superior-Greenstone DSB approves the addition of 1.5 FTE to the Elementary Teaching complement for the 2012 – 2013 school year.

Respectfully submitted by:

Nancy Petrick
Superintendent of Education