



Superior-Greenstone District School Board

Director's Annual Report 2002-2003

Director's Message

As Director of Education, I am both pleased and proud to present this Annual Report outlining our initiatives and highlighting our progress in student achievement.

At Superior-Greenstone District School Board schools, we work as a team with parents, community partners and employees to make good things happen for our students and to take care that students come first.

Five years is a significant milestone in the development of an organization. This Board has accomplished a great deal since its inception and with our commitment to continuous improvement, we can expect to always be proud of our school system. Two of our most significant initiatives focused on literacy.

Our pilot project provided literacy teachers in both elementary and secondary schools. Improved student achievement results affirm the excellent progress in this area. In addition, Margaret Twomey Public School was selected to be part of a provincial initiative to improve Grade 3 EQAO scores. The training in instructional practices, access to a variety of outstanding professionals and new resources has led to a new excitement in all our schools thanks to the cooperative efforts of all involved. This has been a unique opportunity to share ideas with the system and to directly affect student learning throughout the Board.

Information Systems and Technology continue to play an important role in the system as we have deployed videoconferencing to offer courses in our high schools and professional development opportunities for our staff. The department also developed a computer-use policy to ensure effective use of our investment in technology.



Recognizing that declining enrolment continues to be a factor, the Board took a proactive approach looking for effective ways to remain student focused and innovative in maintaining schools in our small communities. The concept of a kindergarten to grade 12-school (K-12) model was studied by a Board Committee and developed a comprehensive report highlighting things that work well with such a model. This proactive approach has resulted in a list of recommendations for future

considerations to be further studied before the implementation of such initiative. The work of the committee will be very useful in the coming months.

Financial accountability continues to be a hallmark of the Superior-Greenstone District School Board. In June 2002, our trustees approved a balanced budget that again directed dollars to the classroom for extra staffing and resources. We continue to spend over the provincial allocation in special education and transportation in order to provide service to our students.

As we move into 2003 -2004, we will no doubt face numerous challenges and opportunities. However, it is essential that we celebrate the success of our public education system. We are tremendously proud of our "learners" at every stage of their school or work career!

We look forward to working together with our communities to ensure Superior Greenstone District School Board is a great place to work and to learn.

Yours in education,
Heather Wilson-Boast, Director of Education

Superior-Greenstone District School Board

Our Vision

"The Superior-Greenstone District School Board will create and maintain a school system that delivers quality education for every student."

Our Mission

"The Superior-Greenstone District School Board will ensure that 'Kids Come First.' The Superior-Greenstone DSB will communicate and work collaboratively with its employees, its schools, its advisory councils, community agencies and organizations, parents, and the general public to achieve its stated Vision and Mission "

Education Services: Year In Review

Curriculum Initiatives

Literacy

- Development of Literacy Teacher Job Description.
- Elementary Early Literacy Teacher Orientation in-service, including teleconference keynote address from David Bouchard.
- Monthly elementary literacy teleconferences.
- Purchase of resources for all literacy teachers.
- Collaboration with the Northern Ontario Education Leaders consortium to assist with focus on literacy and leadership.
- Additional money to all elementary schools for the acquisition of textbooks.
- Face-to-face presentation from David Bouchard to elementary students in conjunction with the Superior North Catholic District School Board.
- In-service for all teachers, principals and vice principals on Balanced Literacy and Later Literacy Strategies.
- 2001-2002 Pilot Project with literacy teachers in four elementary schools proved successful with all four schools showing improved EQAO scores that exceeded the provincial average in reading.
- Literacy Teachers Pilot expanded to included all schools in 2002-2003.

Program Review and Development

- Purchase of Policy to Practice binders (assessment and evaluation) for all secondary teachers and school administration.
- Assessment and Evaluation Team meetings to review and revise the board's Guidelines to Assessment and Evaluation handbook, and to plan and prepare implementation workshops.
- Development of a Parents' Guide to Standards, Assessment and Evaluation.
- Purchase of Grade-Quick program.
- In-service for teachers: Grade Quick, Electronic Reporting and Assessment, Grade 12 Subject-Specific, curriculum units and exemplars (elementary) including a focus on elementary subjects in combined classrooms; grade 7 and 8 Math units that are developed in the curriculum unit planner, and Exemplar Implementation in-service for teachers.
- Completion of a Kindergarten to Grade 12 School Model Study.
- Ministry selection of Margaret Twomey Public School to participate in the Schools in Need of Extra Help Project.
- Thirty (30) Professional Learning credits courses applied for under the board's Approved Professional Learning Program Provider Status. Twenty-four (24) courses approved, one not approved, and five pending approval.
- Implementation and on-site professional development at every secondary school for report card implementation activities.
- Trevlac computer upgrades at all secondary schools.
- Student-to-computer ratio of 3:1.
- Additional board funding provided to all secondary schools for the acquisition of grade 11 and grade 12 textbooks.
- Implementation of School Based Services Program.
- In-service for Library Technicians.



- Review and revision of Police Protocol document.
- In-service for support staff: CALM (Crisis Awareness Learning Modules) Workshop.

Special Education Initiatives

- Annual Review of Special Education Plan.
- Development, with anticipated September 2003 implementation, of an Educational Assistant Handbook.
- In-service held for all Special Education Resource Teachers focusing on assessment practices.
- 100% validation of ISA claims.

Technology Initiatives

- Implemented fully functional WAN with one central point-of-presence at the board office resulting in increased bandwidth.
- Constructed a new server room positioning the board to handle future computer needs and includes:
 - * New cache servers to help with internet traffic
 - * A firewall at one secure point-of-presence to manage security
 - * UPS battery backup system to run all devices in server room for up to 2 to 4 hours and includes an automatic shutdown of systems for minimal error of lost data
 - * One central management area for all Internet work processes to be accomplished.
- Implemented Windows 2000 Servers and Active Directory in all offices to enhance administration facility and updating on a common platform.
- Introduced a common software package for teachers at the secondary level for report card entries and grading.
- Upgraded videoconference equipment at each high school for better quality video.
- Reduced computer maintenance in classroom by 50% with introduction of new standard software packages at the elementary and secondary levels.
- Added two new Computer Technicians to system for improved maintenance in the Nipigon / Red Rock / Dorion area, Geraldton / Beardmore / Longlac area, Marathon / Manitouwadge area and Schreiber / Terrace Bay area.
- Ongoing investigation of strategies for data storage, backup servers, backing up data and a database driven Intranet/Internet to enhance reliability, sustainability, quicker recovery times and a better flow of information and distribution.

Plant Services: Year In Review

Projects Completed by September 2002

Substantial projects completed for commencement of 2002-2003 School year included:

- ☞ Installation of Ultraviolet Water Treatment Plant in Dorion Public School in compliance with drinking water regulations.
- ☞ Installation of power operated handicap accessible entrance doors in Manitowadge Public School.
- ☞ Replacement of unsafe playground equipment at Schreiber PS as per inspection advice.
- ☞ Initialized work at Red Rock Public School to address school grounds problems related to debris buried from the old school building site.



- ☞ Conducted mould remediation and crawlspace ventilation/drainage work at B.A. Parker Public School.
- ☞ Installation of outdoor storage facilities and groundwork at Manitowadge High School.
- ☞ Renovations at Lake Superior High School to accommodate the move to a single campus high school.



- ☞ Remodeling and renovations to the boys' shower room at Geraldton Composite High School.
- ☞ Installed a fume-hood in the science lab at Nipigon-Red Rock District High School.
- ☞ Completed painting, electrical upgrades, heating upgrades, roof repairs, grounds work, flooring installed at various schools within the Board.

Project Completion Through 2002-2003

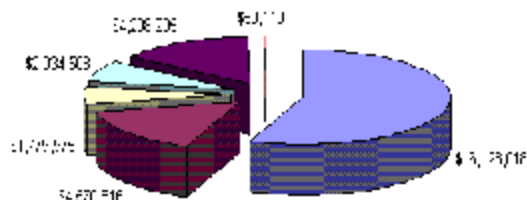
Through the course of the 2002-2003 school year, numerous projects got underway and are on target for completion dates, but among those completed are:

- ☞ Heating system upgrade work at Nipigon-Red Rock DHS.
- ☞ Replacement of the intercom and bell system at Red Rock PS.
- ☞ Installation of a new HVAC unit at Geraldton Composite HS.

Business Services: Year In Review

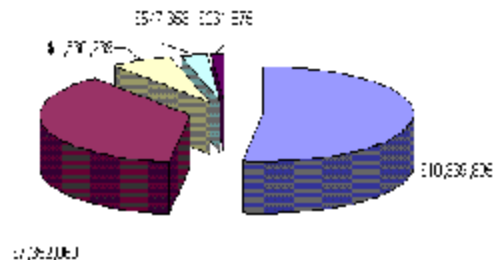
The 2002-2003 estimates complied with the Ministry of Education's enveloping and accountability requirements. As required by the Education Act Section 231 (2) the estimated expenditures did not exceed the estimated revenues (\$28,861,722). The budget accommodated the needs of the systems while leaving the Board in a sound financial position.

Estimated Expenditures 2002-2003



Instruction	\$11,779,875	Non-Capital Expenditure	\$4,577,816
Capital Expenditure	\$10,034,503	Transportation	\$3,034,500
Other	\$1,780,298	Travel to Business	\$10,110

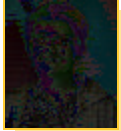
Estimated Revenues 2002-2003



Government of Ontario	\$16,306,495	Taxation	\$7,352,040
Tuition Fees	\$3,023,900	Transportation Recoveries	\$147,353
Other Revenue	\$381,876		

Superior-Greenstone District School Board

Trustees Are..



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Guy Champagne
Vice Chair
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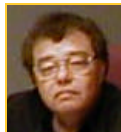
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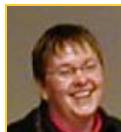
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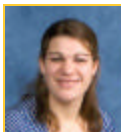
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Laura Rydberg
Student Trustee

Believes That...

- * There should be a safe, secure and inviting learning environment.
- * All people should be treated fairly, equitably and with dignity and respect.
- * There should be respect for the unique culture of each community.
- * Access to quality educational services should be equitable and open to all.
- * There should be open communication.
- * We should foster partnerships within our communities.
- * Life-long learning is an all encompassing human endeavour.
- * Parents and students share in the roles, rights and responsibilities for their educational journey.
- * In striving to achieve one's personal best.
- * Decision-making should be based on a participatory model.



Board Administration

Heather Wilson-Boast, Director of Education
 Bruce Rousseau, Superintendent of Business
 Patti Bailey-Pella, Superintendent of Education
 John Robart, Assistant to Superintendent of Education
 Cathy Tsubouchi, Accounting Manager
 Wayne Chiupka, Plant Services Manager
 Barbara Draper, Coordinator-Human Resources
 Brad Ross, Coordinator-Information Technology
 Rose-Marie Joannette, Administrative Assistant
 & Transportation Manager

Facts at a Glance..

Schools

Elementary	10
Secondary	5
Total Schools	15

Student Enrolments

Elementary	1,477
Secondary	1,378
Total Number of Students	2,855

Elementary Staff

Teachers	94
Principals	6
Vice-Principals	5
Support Staff/Educational Assistants	47
Custodial Staff	24
Total Elementary Staff	177

Secondary Staff

Teachers	108
Secondary Principals	5
Vice-Principals	5
Support Staff/Educational Assistants	52
Custodial staff	25
Total Secondary Staff	196

Board Administration

& Support Staff	24
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Total School Board Staff	397
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New Hires

Permanent Teachers	18
Occasional Teachers	3
Vice Principals.....	2
Educational Assistants.....	9
Computer Technicians	2
Custodian	1

We Welcome Your Comments

This Director's Annual Report is produced and designed by Superior-Greenstone DSB. For more information about anything in this report please call or write to:
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