



# SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

**Our Mission:**

*"In SGDSB we are learners. Everything we do is designed to help all students succeed and make a difference. We build positive places for learning and working... together".*

**Our Vision:**

*"Inspiring our students to succeed and make a difference".*

**Our Motto:**

*"Small schools make a difference".*

**Our Values:**

*"Character, Citizenship, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking".*

## Regular Board Meeting 2021/08

### MINUTES

Monday, August 23, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.

**Videoconference & Teleconference**

Microsoft Teams meeting

1 – 8 0 7 – 7 0 1 – 5 9 8 0 Conference ID: 133 431 331#

**Board Chair:** Pinky McRae

**Director:** Nicole Morden Cormier

VC Sites: Closed. Videoconference & Teleconference available due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Recorder: G. Christianson

PART I: Regular Board Meeting

Section (A): – (open to public): 6:30 p.m.

PART II: Committee of the Whole Board

Section (B) In-Camera: – (closed to public) 8:19 p.m.

**Land Acknowledgement**

Board Chair Pinky McRae provided a land acknowledgement for the Ancestral and Traditional Territories of the Indigenous people on whose lands we are gathering today. We recognize and honour the contributions of the Indigenous peoples for they hold the knowledge, traditions and history of the land.

**1.0 Roll Call**

<b><u>Trustees</u></b>	Attendance: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)										
	OS	TC	VC	A	R		OS	TC	VC	A	R
Cormier, Dr. Paul			x			Nesbitt, Jason			x		
Groulx, Michael			x			Pelletier, Allison			x		
Major, Christine			x			Pristanski, Kal			x		
Mannisto, Mark						Couture, Erin (Student)			x		
McIntyre, Margaret			X			Grace Molinski (Student)					x
McRae, Pauline (Pinky)			x								

<b><u>Board Administrators</u></b>	Attendance: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)				
	OS	TC	VC	A	R
Morden Cormier, Nicole: <i>Director of Education</i>			x		
Bishop, Charlie: <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			x		
Goodman, William: <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			x		
Marton, Alex: <i>Superintendent of Business</i>			x		
Harris, Brent: <i>Manager of Financial Services</i>			x		
Paris, Marc: <i>Manager of Plant Services/Transportation</i>					x
Grecica, Jason: <i>Team Lead - Business Services</i>			x		
Nault, Denis: <i>Manager of Human Resources</i>					x
Lucas, Jay: <i>Coordinator of Information Technology Services</i>			x		
Kitchener, Nick: <i>Manager of Information Technology</i>		x			
Renaud, Deana: <i>Mental Health Manager</i>			x		
Bartlett, Shy-Anne: <i>Manager of Indigenous Education</i>			x		
Ebrahim, Mahejabeen: <i>Human Rights and Equity Advisor</i>			x		
Christianson, GerriLynn: <i>Executive Assistant &amp; Communications</i>			x		

**2.0 Oath of Office: 2021-2023 Student Trustee****2.1 Grace Molinski: (Lake Superior High School)**

Due to unavailability, Grace Molinski was unable to attend the meeting this evening. Therefore, her oath of office will be deferred to the September 28, 2021 Board meeting.

**3.0 Regular Meeting Call to Order****87/21***Moved by: Trustee M. McIntyre**Second: Trustee M. Groulx*

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB Regular Board Meeting on Monday, August 23, 2021 be called to order at 6:34 p.m.

Carried

**4.0 Approval of Agenda****88/21***Moved by: Trustee J. Nesbitt**Second: Trustee M. Groulx*

✓ **That**, the agenda for the Superior-Greenstone DSB 2021/08 Regular Board Meeting, August 23, 2021 be accepted and approved.

Carried

**5.0 Disclosures of Interest re: Open Session**

There were no disclosures of interest offered at this time.

**6.0 Minutes: Board Meetings and Board Committee Meetings****6.1 Board Meetings**

The board meeting minutes were sent under separate cover from the Board agenda package.

**89/21***Moved by: Trustee J. Nesbitt**Second: Trustee K. Pristanski*

✓ **That**, the minutes of the following Board meetings be adopted:

1. Regular Board Meeting 2021/07: June 21, 2021\_

Carried

**7.0 Business Arising Out of the Minutes**

Nil.

**8.0 Delegations and/or Presentations****8.1 Showcasing Learning: Welcome Back Video - Director Message to Staff**

The Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier provided an introduction to the presented video. She advised that the Welcome back video message was created with a focus on kindness, empathy and connection. She noted that the school board welcomes this new year with promise and possibility as we come through and in to another school year impacted by the COVID-19 Pandemic. This school year we will continue to acknowledge the vision, connection, belonging, inclusion and equity.

**9.0 Reports and Matters for Decision****9.1 Board Committee Reports: (Statutory / Standing / Ad Hoc)****9.1.1 Report No. 60: Board Audit Committee Report June 17, 2021**

Due to administrative error, the incorrect attachment was provided with the Report No. 60, that was provided under separate cover from the agenda. The correct Internal Audit

Plan was circulated to Trustees at the beginning of the meeting via email. A verbal report of the Audit Committee was provided at the June Board meeting, however, the recommendations for the required approvals was not available prior to the finalizing of the June meeting agenda package and therefore were brought forward to this meeting. The recommendations received from the Audit Committee included the appointment of External Audit Member Douglas Sitch for an additional 3-year term and the approval of the Internal Audit Plan for 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 fiscal years.

**90/21**

Moved by: *Trustee K. Pristanski* Second: *Trustee M. McIntyre*

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB, having received Report No. 60: Report of the Audit Committee – June 17, 2021, approve the appointment of Douglas Sitch as external member for a period of 3 years.

Carried

**91/21**

Moved by: *Trustee K. Pristanski* Second: *Trustee M. McIntyre*

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB, having received Report No. 60: Report of the Audit Committee – June 17, 2021, approve the 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 Internal Audit Plan.

Carried

## **10.0 Reports of the Business / Negotiations Committee**

*Superintendent of Business: Alex Marton  
Business /Negotiations Chair: Mark Mannisto*

### **10.1 Report No. 61: Board Estimates 2021-2022**

Superintendent of Business Alex Marton provided a high-level review and summary of the information presented in the Board Estimates for 2021-2022 report. He advised that the estimates forecast a deficit of \$249,000 due to compliance requirements. This deficit is in compliance with the Ministry guidelines and can be accommodated for from the funds available within our reserves. The estimates outline total expenses of approximately \$46,000,000. The estimates are based on enrollment projections, the review of historical averages carried forward and the estimated impacts of COVID-19.

Superintendent of Education Will Goodman provided a review of the changes to staffing that included a .5 HR Administrator and changes to the Multi-Disciplinary team which included funding for an Indigenous Student Success Advocate.

**92/21**

Moved by: *Trustee M. McIntyre* Second: *Trustee C. Major*

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB having received Report No. 61, Board Estimates for 2021/2022, adopts the Estimates for the 2021/2022 school year as presented.

Carried

### **10.2 Borrowing By-Law No. 150**

The Manager of Financial Services Brent Harris, provided a review of the Borrowing By-Law No. 150. He explained that this annual request for the borrowing of \$10,000,000.00 is required due to the flow of funds received. The loan provides the School Board with a bridge loan until the Ministry funding is provided. The board has never exceeded the loan amount requested except for this year, when a separate loan was requested to allow for bridge funding for the Geraldton Composite High School capital projects. He advised that the Board currently pays a minimal interest for the use of the funds and that these dollars are not reimbursed by the Ministry except for capital projects. He advised that the department will continue to monitor future interest charges and will bring it forward to the Boards attention should the matter need to be addressed with the Ministry. The By-Law was read outload by the Board Chair.

**93/21**

Moved by: *Trustee M. McIntyre* Second: *Trustee J. Nesbitt*

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB approves Bylaw No. 150 being a By-Law to authorize the borrowing of up to 10 million dollars (\$10,000,000.00).

Carried

## **11.0 Reports of the Director of Education**

*Director of Education: Nicole Morden Cormier*

- 11.1 **Report No. 62: Multi-Year Strategic Plan Cycle One Goals: Final Assessment and Report**  
Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier provided a review of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan Cycle One Goals, final assessment and report. As articulated in our Multi-Year Strategic Plan, we are a learning organization and our goals were established to ensure the growth of the organization and respond to the ever-changing needs of our communities. The Director was pleased to report that 37 goals were focused on by the team leaders during the last year. She noted that 8 of these goals were reported on through a Board report received in October 2020 and the other 28 goals are reviewed within this report. She expressed her gratitude to the team for their hard work and dedication to see the completion of 13 goals, and with work continuing on an additional 13 goals. Despite the challenges of a global pandemic, working remotely and responding to the needs of the organization, the school board was able to continue to move forward and achieve the goals set out in the Multi-Year Strategic Plan. The Board discussed the plan completion date and noted their recommendation to Senior Administration to make addendum to the current plan as appose to creating a new strategic plan, thus allowing for the completion of the goals.

The Director advised that the school year budget includes the hiring of OESC to help bring the organization further along the path of our qualitative and quantitative measures. This learning will allow the team to better monitor and measure the goals to a greater extent. The information contained in the report will be elaborated on by the System Leads in a report that will be provided to the Board at the September meeting along with the Directors Growth plan.

- 11.2 **Report No. 63: Student Census at SGDSB – All Schools**  
Human Rights and Equity Advisor Mahejabeen Ebrahim presented the report regarding the upcoming student census project for all SGDSB schools. She discussed the success of the pilot study for the student census that was conducted last year with the students of Geraldton Composite High School. The opportunity allowed staff to map out the process of conversation dialogue and collection of student Census surveys prior to the board wide launch. The collection of the Student Census data is mandated by the Ministry and vitally important for the understanding of our students, for tracking future demographic data and most importantly to ensure equity across the school board. The data collected will help identify any areas where equity needs to be addressed and allow the board to make evidence based decisions. The Trustees expressed their gratitude for this work.

## **12.0 Reports of the Education Committee**

*Superintendent of Education: Charlie Bishop  
Superintendent of Education: Will Goodman  
Education Chair: Allison Pelletier*

- 12.1 **Report No. 64: Summer Learning Programs**  
Principal Tara Balog provided a presentation of the Summer Learning Programs facilitated by SGDSB this summer. She was the Interim Summer Principal responsible for the programs that focused on three foundational goals of creating community connection, improving transitions to school and building social skills. With this foundation, students engaged in multiple learning opportunities that included virtual field trips with Science North, financial literacy, drumming and learning with local knowledge keepers, 21<sup>st</sup> century coding and the new de-streamed math program. The Summer Learning Program was fun and engaging for students. Staff had the opportunity to engage in Professional Development and the sharing of online resources. The program also focused on activities and information that would help students transition from elementary to secondary school or back to the school learning environment.
- 12.2 **SGDSB Reopening Update**  
Superintendents of Education Charlie Bishop and Will Goodman provided a verbal report regarding the reopening plans for this school year. They reported that there are no major changes to the protective measures implemented last year and will continue following the safety protocols as we support students. SGDSB will not be offering virtual independent school this year, but will be offering virtual learning for students to connect with the classrooms so that they

may learn with their peers. At this time, there are approximately a dozen students who have opted for virtual learning.

The Superintendents highlighted the positive changes for this school year that include student access to shared spaces such as libraries, lunch rooms, etc. Students can again benefit from food and snack programs and hot lunches at school. Also, music and extracurricular activities will take place with some additional planning.

For public communication, the Board website has been updated to include the current Fact Sheets outlining the safety measures in place and guidelines. Information has been received from the Ministry in recent days regarding immunization requirements. This is currently under review and additional planning is underway for the confidential collection of immunization records, rapid testing kits for those choosing not to be vaccinated and educational information on vaccination from the Ministry. Information will be sent to Trustees and Staff within the week.

Virtual Board meetings will continue for the next year. At the September Board meeting the Board will receive a presentation regarding the capital work that took place during the summer. The report will include an update on the ventilation work that was completed.

### **13.0 New Business**

*Board Chair: Pinky McRae*

#### **13.1 Board Chair**

The Board chair advised that there is currently nothing to report. She noted that she will continue to forward Trustees all emailed memos received from the Ministry of Education as they are received.

#### **13.2 Trustee Associations and Other Boards**

Trustee Paul Cormier discussed the letter written by OPSBA to the Minister in support of mandatory vaccination. He also advised that on Friday, August 27, 2021, he will be attending an all-day meeting with the Indigenous Trustee Council. He looks forward to providing Trustees with information regarding the work being done by Indigenous Trustees across the province.

#### **13.3 Trustee Activities**

Trustee Kal Pristanski advised that he attended the George O'Neill Public School graduation held virtually in June 2021. He expressed his gratitude and appreciation for how well the event was organized.

#### **13.4 Future Board Meeting Agenda Items**

Nil.

#### **13.5 Board Meeting Evaluation Summary: June 21, 2021**

The Board Chair reminded Trustees to please continue to complete the meeting evaluation form for each meeting. The results of the Board meeting evaluation summary for June 21, 2021 was included in the agenda package.

### **14.0 Notice of Motion**

Nil.

### **15.0 Observer Comments**

Nil.

PART II: Committee of the Whole Board

Section (B) In-Camera: – (closed to public) 8:19 p.m.

### **16.0 Committee of the Whole Board (In-Camera Closed)**

#### **16.1 Agenda: Committee of the Whole Board – Closed**

**94/21**

Moved by: Trustee M. Groulx

Second: Trustee C. Major

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB go into a Committee of the Whole Board Section B (Closed Session) at 8:19 p.m. and that this portion be closed to the public.

Carried

16.2 Rise and Report from Closed Session

**95/21**

Moved by: Trustee K. Pristanski

Second: Trustee J. Nesbitt

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB rise and report from the Committee of the Whole Board Section B (Closed Session) at 8:30 p.m. and that this portion be open to the public.

Carried

**17.0 Report of the Committee of the Whole Closed Section B**

17.1 **96/21**

Moved by: Trustee A. Pelletier

Second: Trustee J. Nesbitt

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB Committee of the Whole, In-Camera Section B (Closed) Reports be adopted including the confidential minutes from the meeting held as:

1. Regular Board 2021/07: June 21, 2021

Carried

17.2 Other Recommendations from Committee of the Whole Closed Session

Nil.

**18.0 Adjournment**

**97/21**

Moved by: Trustee J. Nesbitt

Second: Trustee C. Major

✓ **That**, the Superior-Greenstone DSB 2021/08 Regular Board Meeting, Monday, August 23, 2021 adjourn at 8:31, p.m.

Carried

<b><u>2021 - Board Meetings</u></b>		
Virtual Meeting - Time 6:30 p.m.		
Monday, September 27, 2021	Monday, October 18, 2021	Monday, November 15, 2021
Monday, November 29, 2021 (1:00 p.m.)		

**SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

**Regular Board Meeting 2021/08**

Committee of the Whole Board: Closed Session.

Monday, August 23, 2021

Videoconference and Teleconference

**TOPICS**

**Board Chair:** Pinky McRae

**Director:** Nicole Morden Cormier

VC Sites: Closed - Videoconference & Teleconference available due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Recorder: G. Christianson

PART II: Committee of Whole Board – Closed

Section (B): In-Camera 8:19 p.m.

- 1.0 Disclosure of Interest: RE: Closed Session
  
- 2.0 Approve Agenda: Committee of the Whole In-Camera (Closed)
  
- 3.0 In-Camera (closed) Meeting Minutes
  - 1. Regular Board Meeting 2021-07: June 21, 2021
  
- 4.0 Personnel Item: Negotiations Update

**Regular Board Meeting 2021-08**

Monday, August 23, 2021

**MINUTES**

APPROVED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2021

\_\_\_\_\_  
SECRETARY

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR