

SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD



Mission Statement

*In partnership with the students, the home and the community,
Superior-Greenstone District School Board will address
individual students' needs by providing:*

- ❖ a diverse education that prepares for and honours their chosen path for success,
- ❖ avenues that foster a love of learning, and
- ❖ the means to honour varied learning styles.

Native Education Advisory Committee

Friday, April 23, 2010 — 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Designated Site: Pic River Heron Bay, Community Centre – Heron Bay, ON

Chair: Cindy Fisher

Director Designate: Bruce Rousseau

1.0 Roll Call

<i>Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>											
First Nation Members	O	T	V	A	R	Trustees	O	T	V	A	R
	S	C	C				S	C	C		
<i>(Aroland)</i> Mary Atlookan				X		Bartlett, Bette	X				
<i>(Lake Nipigon)</i> Belleau, Celine				X		Fisher, Cindy (<i>Chair</i>)	X				
<i>(Lake Nipigon)</i> Graham, Priscilla				X		Notwell, Kathryn					X
<i>(Long Lake # 58/ Ginoogaming)</i> Claire O’Nabigon				X		Sparrow, Julie (<i>Ex-Officio</i>)				X	
<i>(Pays Plat)</i> Auger, Valerie	X										
<i>(Pays Plat)</i> Thompson, Xavier (<i>Chief</i>)	X					Board Administration	O	T	V	A	R
<i>(Pic Moberg)</i> Shaganash Gerald	X					Linda Browning-Morrow	S <td>C <td>C <td></td> <td></td> </td></td>	C <td>C <td></td> <td></td> </td>	C <td></td> <td></td>		
<i>(Red Rock Band)</i> Christina Lindstrom				X		Pella, Patti					X
<i>(Rocky Bay)</i> Lesperance, Velda	X					Newton, Valerie				X	
<i>(Rocky Bay)</i> Panamick, Edna	X					Bruce Rousseau	X				
<i>(Rocky Bay)</i> Mishquart James	X					Willcocks, Barb		X			
<i>(White Sands)</i> Gustafson, Allen (<i>Chief</i>)				X							

1.0 Blessing and Welcome

C. Fisher

NEAC Chair C. Fisher welcomed the group.

2.0 Approval of Minutes & Agenda

Moved by: G. Shaganash *Second by: X. Thompson*
Resolved that, the minutes of the NEAC Meeting, March 12, 2010 be accepted.

Moved by: B. Bartlett *Second by: V. Lesperance*
Resolved that, the agenda for the NEAC Meeting, April 23, 2010 be accepted.

3.0 Discussion Topics

3.1 C. Fisher distributed a copy of the PIC River Heron Bay Strategy Plan for information.

3.2 Update: Turtle concepts Workshops with Dave Jones

Note: This agenda item was originally ordered as 3.6, however Barb Willcocks asked to present earlier as she had a school assembly scheduled at 11:45 a.m.

Barb Willcocks reviewed the Aboriginal Initiatives to date as outlined in the summary that was originally presented to the board at its April 19th meeting.

- Turtle Concepts: Dave Jones provided workshops for students at Marathon HS, Lake Superior HS, Nipigon-Red Rock DHS and Geraldton Composite HS. The objective with bringing Turtle Concepts back this year was to help the students build on the skills introduced last year. Students worked on organizing an activity for their school or in their own communities to hone their leadership skills. During the “student leadership” discussions at LSHS, the call for student trustee applications was put out through the board office. The notice segued well into the agenda as the candidate applications were given to many of the students to consider for submission to the board.

Feedback from students has been positive and the groups noted that with this, the third visit by Turtle Concept, student leadership has reached its pinnacle for this group. Now the board needs to continue the process for up and coming students.

C. Fisher encouraged NEAC members who may have input for grant applications to forward these to B. Willcocks to include in the next proposal.

B. Willcocks extended thanks to both Pays Plat First Nation and the Thunderbird Friendship Centre of Geraldton for their excellent support of the Turtle Concepts initiative for 2009-2010.

- NOEL Regional Symposium: 13 students from the Nakina, Marathon, Nipigon and Red Rock attended at the Old Fort William Historical Park in Thunder Bay. Turtle Concepts was there to work on leadership development, confidence building, cultural activities. The event was well received and work has started to explore how to extend and develop the project for next year.
- Pimootewin-The Journey: This initiative relates to the first opera written in the Cree Language. It encompassed two parts; education and performance. Workshops were offered to students at both the secondary and elementary level. Topics included creative movement and dance, stage management and storytelling. It came into being in 2008-09.

B. Bartlett asked if all Aboriginal students were invited to attend the workshops. B. Willcocks advised that the troupe could only afford the time for two schools. It was decided that Grades 9/10 students would partake at NRHS and the K to 8 students in Red Rock. A matinee performance is being offered on May 7, 2010 at NRHS at no charge. Only a silver collection donation is required for admittance. Aboriginal funding grant will be used to offset the cost of public presentation.

B. Bartlett and V. Lesperance lauded the effort expended to have the students attend, but strongly encouraged any encore presentation be made available to the senior students.

- David Bouchard Tours was well-received by all SGDSB elementary schools. Thanks to B. Rousseau for helping make this happen, both the road trip to all schools with D. Bouchard and the purchase of book (one for every elementary student) called the “Seven Sacred Teachings”.

3.3 B. Bartlett: Three-Day Road

B. Bartlett revisited this subject (see item 3.3.1 NEAC March 12, 2010) . After reading the novel and awareness it invokes regarding Aboriginal issues, B. Bartlett suggests it should definitely be included as library inventory of all schools. Furthermore, she advises that it merits exploration as a topic to include within the school curriculum itself; secondary definitely and elementary if possible. She

requested that the Director of Education investigate how this item could be made available for students as a component of the school curriculum. B. Rousseau advised that administration can make a recommendation and advocate for inclusion, the Ministry of Education is the only agency with the authority to implement curriculum.

V. Lesperance suggested that staff be encouraged to read the book as a component of professional development. Another on the topic of Aboriginal reading is called Through the Black Spruce. Teachers who are encouraged to read these books may then be able to introduce the books to student as a part of a novel study.

Action Requested:

- Director of Education explore the possibility of teacher recommended PD reading,
- Director to check if the books are available in all school libraries
- Director to explore the introduction of books to students through a novel study component
- Director to broach subject with the ministry, i.e., import of its inclusion in the school curriculum

3.4 Worksheet: Proposed 2010-2011 NEAC Meeting Dates and Rotation

Members agreed unanimously with the concept of rotating the NEAC Meetings in 2010-2011 School Year. The schedule for three NEAC meetings next school year was confirmed as follows:

NEAC Meeting No. 1:	11:00 a.m.	Friday, November 19, 2010	Location-Pays Plat First Nation
NEAC Meeting No. 2:	11:00 a.m.	Friday, February 18, 2011	Location-Rocky Bay First Nation
NEAC Meeting No. 3:	11:00 a.m.	Friday, May 13, 2011	Location-Pic Moberg First Nation

3.5 NEAC Member Expenses: Draft Policy Recommendation

[\(Attached\)](#)

Action:

- Under definition, "Trustees", after "both public elected" insert the words, "or appointed"
- Add a definition for NEAC
- Part 6.0, delete word "this" before the words, "Policy 307"
- Clarify the process for appointment to NEAC
- Make policy effective date, as of March 11, 2010 to ensure expenses for NEAC meeting on March 12, 2010 are payable to NEAC members. Draft would not go to Board Policy Review Committee before September 2010

3.6 Guidelines per Regulation 462/97: Selection Process for Board's First Nation Trustee

C. Fisher explained that her term as First Nation Trustee was realized after Pic River Heron Bay Chief Roy Michano gained, at the Chief's level, the approval of her appointment from the other Bands. She notes that self-identified Aboriginal students are represented by trustees elected in municipal elections. The next election is in November this year.

Action: To prepare for appointment of a First Nation Trustee, NEAC under the auspices of the Director of Education for SGDSB will write a letter to each of the First Nations with current tuition agreements to put forward by a certain date, the name of anyone that they may wish to have considered as a First Nation appointee to SGDSB.. If no names forthcoming, NEAC is prepared to retain C. Fisher as the appointee.

3.7 Breakdown of Tuition Agreement Costs

B. Rousseau addressed the handout 2009-10 Revised Estimates V3 in reference to tuition agreement costs. Apart from the day's discussion, he invited NEAC members to review the handout and he would field any further questions at the next NEAC meeting. He noted that elementary student tuition fees are \$16k . This is not a fee applicable to a building.

C. Fisher fielded the idea of proposing a joint administered pilot project for the Pic Heron Bay First Nation Elementary School to our the board. Essentially, the idea is to retain school building on reserves but have an agreement with SGDSB to administer and operate the reserve school. She said it would be interesting to see a model of this nature work, even if the only things learned would

be identifying deficiencies. It is a nebulous issue at best because the province does not pay for the tuition agreement students attending SGDSB school, the federal government (INAC) does this. B. Rousseau suggested NEAC develop the idea to a greater degree before proposing the issue to the board.

B. Rousseau gave an overview of the struggles with a small board, small schools and timetabling issues relative to the secondary schools. Regarding the funds for native language courses in high school, he advised that native language sections funding is provided, not by virtue of tuition agreement student requesting it as elective courses, but rather by demand from non-Aboriginal students. Funds for Aboriginal student education is tuition-based only. For each student who is a pupil of the board, there is about \$1500 per course allocated, but tuition students funding is almost nil.

C. Fisher noted the educational value derived from the Special High Skills Major (SHSM) courses now active in at Manitouwadge and Geraldton Composite HS. The nature of these course would appear to be a nice fit for many Aboriginal students around the board. She asked how SHSM could run at MRHS for Pic River Heron Bay students. B. Rousseau advised that Pic River could have such a course run at MRHS, but the cost would be billed back to the Band and it is a high cost endeavour to run in the high schools.

Action: V. Newton, Superintendent of Student Success will be asked to attend the next NEAC meeting to provide details about the SHSM courses.

3.8 NEAC Response to Ministry Report: Sound Foundations for the Road Ahead
This item was deferred to the November 2010 meeting.

4.0 Open Forum / Q & A
Nil

5.0 Future Meeting Agenda Items

- Responses: Sound Foundations for the Road Ahead
- Update: First Nation Trustee Appointment
- Penultimate Draft of Policy 308-Non-Trustee Board Committee Member Expenditures

6.0 Next Meeting Date
Friday, November 19, 2010 / 11:00 a.m. in Pays Plat

7.0 Adjournment
Moved by: X. Thompson *Second by: G. Shaganash*
Resolved that, the NEAC Meeting be adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Section BUSINESS AND TRANSPORTATION

Policy Name NON-TRUSTEE BOARD COMMITTEE MEMBER EXPENDITURES 308

Board Approved:

Review Prior To:

POLICY

It is the policy of Superior-Greenstone District School Board to reimburse non-trustee members of board committees and/or school council members' expenses incurred in connection with carrying out the responsibilities as a member of a board committee.

DEFINITIONS

"Approved board business" refers to expenses incurred in the course of doing business on behalf of the Board.

"Native Education Advisory Committee" refers to a standing committee of the Board composed of members appointed by First Nations Band Councils, and who have tuition agreements related to the enrolment of Aboriginal students who reside on First Nation Band community and attended Superior-Greenstone District School Board schools .

"Non-trustee board committee member" refers to individuals appointed by the board to the Superior-Greenstone District School Boards Committees including: Native Education Advisory Committee (NEAC), Parent Involvement Committee (PIC), and the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC), elected School Council Members and Supervised Alternative Education Program (SALEP)

"Trustees" refers to both Public elected or appointed Trustees and Student Trustee(s), unless otherwise noted.

RATIONALE

In a memorandum dated July 20, 2009, the Ministry of Education provided school boards with trustee expenditure guidelines demonstrating best practice, consistency, and province-wide standards for trustees, non-trustee members and school council member expenditures. This policy incorporates those best practices.

GUIDELINES

- 1.0 All claims for reimbursement will only be authorized for approved board business.
- 2.0 Claims for reimbursement will only be authorized for travel by one non-trustee member of a board committee in any given geographical area, unless prior approval is provided for additional travellers attending the same board event.
- 3.0 Claims for reimbursement of personal expenses must be submitted using the Board Expense Form F01-003.

- 5.0 Non-trustee claimants are responsible to ensure that all claims comply with Board Policy 307 Travel, Meals and Hospitality Expenditures and do not include any personal expenses.
- 6.0 The Director of Education or the Superintendent of Education is responsible for ensuring that members of school councils or non-trustee board committee members claims conform to this Policy 307 Travel, meals and Hospitality Expenditures.
- 6.0 Claims must be signed by the non-trustee board committee member person submitting the expenses and supported by original receipts (photocopies are not acceptable). Credit/Debit card receipts are not acceptable as they do not contain sufficient detail to meet audit requirements.
- 4.0 When submitting an expense claim, the purpose of the trip must clearly be stated.
- 6.0 Expense account submissions should only cover costs incurred by the person submitting the expense account.
- 7.0 Non-trustee claims are to be approved and authorized for payment by the Director of Education or the Superintendent of Education.
- 9.0 Claims for reimbursements of any costs associated with travel on board business are to be submitted and will be processed after the event. There will be no immediate reimbursement for airfare or deposits charged to personal credit cards.

Cross Reference:

Policy 307 – Travel Meals and Hospitality Expenditures

Policy 515 – School Community Council