



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:

Gikino'amaadiiwigamigoonsan ezhi-gichi-apiitendaagwag "Small schools make a difference"

Our Values:

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

Anishinaabe Gikino'amaagewin Gaa-anokaadamowid (Indigenous Education Advisory Committee)

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 – 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

SGDSB Learning Centre & Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Teleconference Dial-In Information: 1 – 8 4 4 – 6 1 3 – 3 1 2 0; Conference ID No.: 270 917 735#

Maawanji'idiwin Wiindamaagewi-Ozhibii'igewinan (Meeting Minutes)

1.0 Roll Call

<i>Attendance: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>											
First Nations Communities	OS	TC	VC	A	R	Tribal Councils & Representatives	OS	TC	VC	A	R
(Aroland) Robinson Meshake				X		EOP Program Liaison - Matawa, Shelby Chng			X		
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano			X			Marlo Beaucage, Wabun Education Partnership Program.			X		
Biinjiitwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Yvonne Kowtish	X					Joshua LeClair, Regional Education Council Coordinator, KEB					X
Biinjiitwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Christine Hardy				X		Tim Robbins, Metis Nation of Ontario - Senator					X
Biinjiitwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Cheryl Checkley	X					Nokiiwin Education Advisor – Scott Baker / Robyn O'Laughlin			X		
(Ginoogaming #77) Victor Chapais					X	Representatives					
(Ginoogaming #77) Martha Taylor					X	Tamara Vernier, Native Language Teacher					X
(Ginoogaming #77) Dallas Fisher				X		Sara Carlson, Grad Coach - GCHS	X				
(Ginoogaming #77) Malcolm Charles				X		Sarah Park, Grad Coach - NRHS	X				
(Marten Falls FN) Roger Fobister				X		Sonya Belisle, Indigenous Student Success Advocate	X				
(Marten Falls FN) Louise Coaster				X		Patti Pella, Education Officer, Ministry of Education					x
(Pays Plat) Valerie Auger	X					Trustees					
(Netmizaaggamik) Joe Moses				X		Dr. Paul Cormier (IEAC Chair)	x				
(Netmizaaggamik) Amber Deveraux					X	Mark Mannisto					x
(Netmizaaggamik) Julie Michano					X	Christine Major					x
(Red Rock) Judy Wawia			X			Pinky McRae (Ex-officio)					x
(Red Rock) Norma Lesperance			X			Board Administration					
(Red Rock) Marilynn Netemegestic					X	Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education	x				
(White Sands) Barbara Ann Wynn					X	Shy-Anne Bartlett, Manager of Indigenous Education	x				
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Denise Bottle			X			Eric Fredrickson, Superintendent of Education	x				
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Yvette Metasinine				X		Will Goodman, Superintendent of Education	x				
(Flying Post First Nation) Angela McLeod				X		Alex Marton, Superintendent of Business					x
(Bingiwi Neyaashi Anishnaabek) Katie Borysewicz			X			Annick Brewster			x		
(Longlac 58 First Nation)						Deana Renaud, Mental Health Manager	x				
						Carole Leroux	x				



2.0 **Opening Prayer**

Manager of Indigenous Education, Shy-Anne Bartlett provided an opening prayer for the meeting.

3.0 **Welcome and Introductions**

Trustee and Committee Chair, Paul Cormier expressed gratitude for his reappointment as the First Nations Trustee representing the communities. He encouraged communities to please reach out to him with any concerns or questions. Issues and concerns can be added to the agenda for discussion. It is important that all voices are heard regardless of how large of an agenda or how much information there is to cover.

4.0 **Approval of the Maawanji'idiwin Wiindamaagewi-Ozhibii'igewinan (Meeting Minutes)**

Moved by: Yvonne Kowtiash Second: Valerie Auger

That the minutes for the Superior-Greystone DSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting, May 26, 2022, be accepted and approved.

Carried

5.0 **Apane go Dazhindamowaad (Standing Agenda Items)**

5.1 Community Updates (and FNAC)

D. Bottle will provide an update after reaching out to AZA council regarding IEAC representative from AZA as they have had some changes to council.

S. Bartlett, Manager of Indigenous Education expressed regret for the lack of information shared to the school community for the acknowledgement of Powley Day. The day will be added to the school calendar for future recognition. All special dates of importance will be communicated better in the future.

The Director, N. Morden Cormier, expressed her gratitude to Biigtigong for the learning opportunity provided by the community. Positive feedback was received after this event from participants.

First Nations Advisory Committee was added to community updates section of the agenda in order to share from your perspective. Committee members are welcome to provide the feedback and information from their latest meetings with the school.

D. Bottle inquired if there was an update for Beardmore Public School? Superintendent of Education Eric Friedrichson offered an update regarding Beardmore Public School staffing. They have hired a virtual teacher for grades 5-8 and a classroom supervisor. There are two open in-person teaching jobs and they are starting an active recruitment program to attract teachers to our communities.

5.2 Celebrations/Updates on Topics from Oct 4th Rescheduled IEAC Mtg.

S. Bartlett explained that if anyone has any community updates that you would like included in the Indigenous Newsletter, to please contact her. S. Bartlett shared information on how each school participated in Truth and Reconciliation Week. It is important that moving forward we bring schools and staff into the community to learn about Truth and Reconciliation.

The Mental Health Manager, D. Renaud, Indigenous Student Success Advocate, Sonya Belisle, and S. Bartlett are working on a tragic event response plan and creating protocols for schools. They will be reaching out to the community for consultation in developing this plan and it will be included in the Board Action Plan.

Pays Plat requested a First Rider program to be set up for their community. Together with Senior Admin, S. Bartlett and SNCDSB, a proposal was sent to the East of Thunder Bay Transportation Consortium. The proposal was successful, and Pays Plat First Nation will be included in the First Rider Program moving forward. The First Rider program is a School Bus



Safety Program offered by the East of Thunder Bay Transportation Consortium and Southland Transportation. It introduces children and their parents to school buses and school bus safety. Miigwetch to V. Auger for her work on this.

S. Bartlett offered an update on some of the learning happening within our school board and communities. Last year the Kairos Blanket Exercise was offered in all high school and two elementary schools to students of an appropriate age. All new Trustees will also receive the blanket exercise, at their request. The 4th module of EKAN will be happening on December 5th and the fifth module is being offered in January. The Director explained that the group is growing, it includes all managers and board office staff, and others are asking to be involved due to positive impacts of this learning around cultural sensitivity. Thanks to KEB and local community leaders, as they have personalized this learning with local contexts, which makes the learning more powerful and impactful.

The Director acknowledges the feedback received regarding the agenda, some felt it was overwhelming and contained a lot of information. Therefore, the school board is creating more time and space for conversations around the agenda topics and have moved some of the updates and information items into a written format to accommodate this.

K. Borysewicz and M. Beaucage requested an agenda package. S. Bartlett sent a follow up email with the agenda package.

5.3 Indigenous Student Voice

S. Bartlett introduced and welcomed Alyx Belisle, a grade 10 student from NRDHS that has been taking on many leadership roles. Alyx spoke about the leadership and learning opportunities provided as part of the Indigenous Youth Council. Activities highlighted included a trapping activity, spirit names and a clan teaching with an elder from Thunder Bay. S. Park added that Alyx is incredibly dedicated to IYC and possesses a positive, and outgoing attitude. Alyx is a pleasure to work with and is the first one to take part and be the leadership.

The Director asked Alyx how being a part of the IYC has impacted them? Alyx explained that IYC is fun, interesting and hands on. It allows us to learn at our own level and I am looking forward to doing more outdoor activities for learning.

The Director explained that we are looking at connecting IYC with the Student Senate and will converse with C. Leroux about making this connection.

6.0 Nonde-ayaan ji-gaagiigidoyaang (Open Discussion of Areas of Need):

Chair, Paul Cormier

6.1 FNAC Meetings: Guidelines and Purpose

S. Bartlett opened by explaining that this guideline was created to ensure we are having regular conversations with Community. This draft guideline has been included in the agenda package. We have created a process to help principals streamline conversations with Community. It is organized month by month. Not all communities are able to attend and therefore it is important that senior administration meet with communities in the community. Recommended to meet in community for 2 meetings per year and have conversations on what is happening at the school level. This communication process must be fair and equitable.

The Director added that this document helps outline what FNAC can be doing, and it can be localized on what the school and community deem important. The Director and Superintendents of Education are committed to be in community as much as possible. We are starting with a soft implementation and ensuring we are having 8 meetings per year. We must be sure to keep the lines of communication with parents open.



Trustee Cormier added that we must understand that there are different kinds of rights. Human Rights are individualistic. Treaty Rights and Indigenous Rights are community based and have a different legal context. It is important that we recognize this up front. We must consider these other rights when creating these types of documents.

Trustee Cormier noted that this is a working document, and it is open for feedback and editing. He advised that as communities are going through their FNAC meetings, please provide feedback on any improvements to this document so that we can learn and grow together.

Note: S. Sabourin entered the meeting at 10:35 a.m.

6.2 Board Action Plan

S. Bartlett will be sending out a consultation to all community members regarding the Board Action Plan to gain an understanding of the communities' perspective. If there is interest in being a part of this process, please reach out to S. Bartlett. Traditionally this is financially focused, how the Indigenous funding is being utilized within Indigenous Education. The Operational plan has not been previously included as it is not a financial piece but moving forward will be included to show how the Indigenous Education Manager is utilizing their time and resources. For example, the development of the FNAC, and working on Education Service Agreements.

6.3 Self-ID Letter and Data Sharing Letter

Superintendent of Education W. Goodman presented the draft Self-ID Letter and Data Sharing Letter. He noted that this work comes from the terms of commitment and ensures that the work between the communities and the school board is solidified in a document and is a permanent commitment from the school board. He expressed his gratitude for the feedback received. The goal moving forward is to have data more transparent. He advised that the data sharing letter can be signed by whoever is your signing authority for your community. The school board will honour the wishes of the community as some may not wish to sign the self-identification letter.

P. Cormier discussed the importance of how we learn as we are doing things together. Therefore, he encouraged everyone to share feedback and keep this in mind as you are working with these documents. If there are changes that need to be made or further discussions needed, then those discussions are encouraged.

The Director advised that at the next IEAC meeting the board can propose which data sets we can begin discussing. The Committee discussed the need for support to understand the data. The Director will review this further and look in to providing some professional development to help everyone understand the data and how to use the data.

6.4 Other Discussion Items

P. Cormier welcomed communities to provide updates or share their voice. He noted that these sections on the agenda have been added in to make sure communities have areas to provide feedback and share.

7.0 Anishinaabe Gikino'amaagewini-Dazhindamowaad (Indigenous Education Updates)

7.1 Graduation Coach Update

7.1.1 Graduation Coach Update - GCHS

Graduation Coach Sarah Carlson provided a review of the written report provided in the agenda package. The report highlighted how student voice is encouraged and supported, as the Indigenous Education team collectively works to support student success.

7.1.1 Graduation Coach Update - NRHS



Graduation Coach Sarah Park provided a review of the written report provided in the agenda package. During the presentation, she highlighted the support provided to students as they transition back to school and the survey of students to determine the areas of need.

7.2 Indigenous Youth Council Update

Indigenous Student Success Advocate, Sonja Belisle provided a verbal presentation of the written report provided. She discussed the additional work being done with coterminous school boards to support students to become members of the Indigenous Youth Council and support their transitions to high school.

8.0 Ginkino-amaagewini-Odaakewigimaa Oshkichigaadewinan (Director of Education Updates)

8.1 Director's Quarterly Report

Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier provided an introduction to her written report and encouraged committee members to read through the broad range of updates included in the document.

9.0 Awashime Dazhindamowaad (Additional Agenda Items)

9.1 Indigenous Mental Health Worker - Greenstone

Mental Health Manager Deana Renaud announced that the school board has recently created the position of Indigenous Mental Health Worker for the Greenstone area. The position has been posted and we are currently seeking candidates. D. Renaud advised that we will be seeking support from IEAC members for interview support and support as we build relationships with families and elders. Trustee P. Cormier expressed his gratitude for the progression in this area.

9.2 SGDSB Substance Abuse Strategy

D. Renaud presented the report regarding the substance abuse strategy that is a resource strategy document for Principals and staff. The Board wide strategy will support all schools and was created in June. D. Renaud expressed her gratitude for the work of Principal Jennifer Rissanen and Judy Wawia for bringing the concern forward and collectively working together towards this strategy.

9.3 Tutors in the Classroom/Mathify

Superintendent of Education Eric Fredrickson advised that the Tutors in the Classroom is a program funded by the Ministry of Education in response to the pandemic. The school board has posted 4 positions to support students. He noted that the Mathify program is another available support that is now run through TVOntario and is an opportunity for students to access a teacher for support. Information regarding the program was sent home with each student through the report cards. S. Bartlett requested the support of the communities to share the Mathify information in any community newsletters to help encourage families to access this resource.

The Superintendent discussed the staffing challenges across the province and the challenges the school board has faced. P. Cormier discussed the work that has initially started with the SGDSB and Lakehead University in developing a program to support the certification of teachers. He discussed the importance of collaboration and the continued discussions regarding the program.

The Wabun Tribal Council has provided funding for students to participate in Tutor Doctor program that is available to all communities within the tribal council.

Note: Katie Borysewicz left at 11:45 a.m.



9.4 Summer Learning

Student Success Lead Carole Leroux provided an introduction to the report shared in the meeting package. The report highlights the growth of the Summer Learning program and the four different programs that were available.

P. Cormier recommended that there could be benefit for more collaboration between communities summer programs and including the community activities in this learning.

9.5 Adult Education: PPM 132 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition

Annick Brewster provided an introduction to her written report that was included in the agenda package. The report highlights the impacts of PPM 132 for prior learning assessments and recognition for adult education to provide more equity and support more students.

10.0 Special Meetings

10.1 Future Special Meeting Topics – Meeting Date Scheduling

Suggestions for future special IEAC meetings include the following, as provided at the June IEAC meeting:

- De-Streaming lot of misunderstanding and implication of de streaming.
- Building relationships through inviting community school staff to participate in the School Board staff professional development learning opportunities.
- Progressive discipline and racism in schools.
- Catching students up who have been away from learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- How the school board could increase support of Indigenous language in schools and community

S. Bartlett advised that the suggested Special IEAC meeting topics are based on community voice and feedback. The meetings would be approximately 1 hour and would focus on one specific area of focus and allow for deeper conversations. She noted that attendance is voluntary and encouraged for all who are interested in learning more or providing feedback, consult or raise concerns about a specific topic. Minutes from the Special IEAC meetings will be shared at each IEAC meeting and all matters for decision are brought to the regular IEAC meetings.

10.2 Terms of Reference for IEAC meetings

The Director advised that in recognition of the feedback given and updating of our policy, the Terms of Reference document for IEAC is under review through a step-by-step approach. The Director reviewed the process the school board follows for the review and updating of all school board policies. The same process will be followed for the Policy. The first Board Policy Review Committee meeting is scheduled to take place on February 7th. Shy-Anne will forward the draft document to the committee for feedback and to request any preliminary changes. Committee members are encouraged to email Shy-Anne, Nicole or Paul with feedback.

11.0 Gaagiigidowin gaye wawiindamowinan aanie-maanwinji'idiwin ge-dazhindamoyaang (Open Discussion and Suggestions for Next Meeting Dates):

11.1 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

- The meeting date was tentatively booked for January 24, 2023. However, during the discussions, it was determined that there are some conflicts with that meeting date. The meeting dates will be circulated the committee after the November 21st Board meeting. The school board is organizing the schedule to make sure that



dates honour the fall harvest and week of Truth and Reconciliation.

12.0 Adjournment:

*Moved by: Yvonne Kowtish Second: Val Auger
That, the IEAC Meeting on November 15, 2022, adjourn at 12:20 p.m.*

Carried