



## 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 Motto:**

*“Small schools make a difference”*

**Our Vision:**

*“Inspiring our students to succeed and make a difference”*

**Our Values:**

*“Character, Citizenship, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking”*

### Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Teleconference Dial-In Information: 1 – 8 4 4 – 6 1 3 – 3 1 2 0; Conference ID No.: 748 321 692 #

### Agenda Review Notes

#### 1.0 Roll Call

<i>Attendance: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>											
<b>First Nation Tuition Agreements</b>	OS	TC	VC	A	R	<b>Representatives</b>	OS	TC	VC	A	R
(Aroland) Annamarie Majiskon				X		Tamara Vernier, Native Language Teacher			X		
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano				X		Bernadine O'Brien, Grad Coach			X		
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay)</i> Yvonne Kowtish				X		Sarah Park, Grad Coach					X
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay)</i> Christine Hardy			X			Student Representative Erin Couture					X
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay)</i> Gabrielle Swerdlyk					X	Nancy O'Donnell, Regional Education Council Coordinator			X		
(Ginoogaming #77) Victor Chapais					X	Tim Robbins, Metis Representative					X
(Ginoogaming #77) Sheri Taylor					X	Patti Pella, Education Officer, Ministry of Education			X		
(Marten Falls FN) Sandy Moonias				X		Debra Grebenc, Metis Representative			X		
(Pays Plat) Valerie Auger					X	<b>Trustees</b>					
(Pic Mobert) Nicole Simpson				X		Dr. Paul Cormier ( <i>IEAC Chair</i> )			X		
(Pic Mobert) Stan Sabourin				X		Mark Mannisto			X		
(Red Rock) Judy Wawia			X			Christine Major					X
(Red Rock) Marilynn Netemegesic			X			Pinky McRae ( <i>Ex-officio</i> )					X
(Bingijiwe Neyaashi Anishnaabek) Tracey Gibson				X		<b>Board Administration</b>					
(White Sands) Barbara Ann Wynn				X		Nicole Morden Cormier, <i>Director of Education</i>			X		
<b>First Nation (Other)</b>						Shy-Anne Bartlett, <i>Interim Indigenous Education Lead</i>			X		
<i>Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek</i> Denise Bottle			X			Charlie Bishop, <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			X		
(Longlac 58 First Nation) Veronica Waboose (Chief)				X		Will Goodman, <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			X		
Randi Ray, Wabun Education Partnership Program.				X		Bev Vachon, <i>Principal, Marjorie Mills Public School</i>			X		
Angela McLeod ( <i>Flying Post First Nation</i> )				X		Stephen Wilson, <i>Principal, Marathon High School</i>			X		
(CEP Program Liaison) Skylene Metatawabin			X			Tom Rivers, <i>Vice-Principal, Geraldton Composite High School</i>			X		
						Jennifer Rissanen, <i>Principal, Nipigon-Red Rock District High School</i>			X		
						Erik Leroux, <i>Vice-Principal, George O'Neill Public School</i>			X		
						Leslie Blackwood, <i>Vice-Principal, Schreiber Public School</i>			X		
Carol Leroux, <i>Student Success Lead</i>			X			Christopher Martin, <i>Principal, Lake Superior High School</i>			X		
Alex Marton, <i>Superintendent of Business</i>			X			Mahejabeen Ebrahim, <i>Human Rights and Equity Advisor for SGDSB</i>					X



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### **2.0 Opening Prayer**

The meeting was opened with a prayer by Marilyn Netemegestic.

### **3.0 Welcome and Introductions**

Committee Chair Paul Cormier welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **4.0 Approval of the Minutes**

Quorum could not be established; therefore, the draft meeting minutes from September 24, 2020 will carry over to the next meeting for approval. The agenda review notes for October 27, 2020 will be posted to the board website.

### **5.0 Celebrations: Newsletter**

Interim Indigenous Education Lead Shy-Anne Bartlett advised that the next edition of the newsletter will be sent out in a few weeks. The newsletter will focus on the work through the TRC recommendations, building capacity at the school level, and building relationships with community partners. She described how work continues to help educators in schools with new ideas on how to present Indigenous knowledge, work with communities and knowledge keepers. Committee members are welcome to share items for the newsletter. If there are any suggestions or submissions, please contact Shy-Anne.

### **6.0 Introduction of our new Superintendent of Business**

The Director provided an introduction for the new Superintendent of Business Alex Marton. She advised that he joined the Board in January and will be replacing current Superintendent of Business Cathy Tsubouchi who will be retiring on March 31, 2021.

### **7.0 FNMI Self-ID – Why is this important?**

S. Bartlett and Committee Chair Paul Cormier discussed the importance of voluntary self-identification for First Nation, Metis and Inuit students. They provided a review of how the data is collected and how it is utilized to identify additional student supports within the education system. They noted that funding provided to the school board is based upon the number of students who identify as Indigenous.

The committee discussed various ways that the information regarding the importance of self-identification can be shared within the communities to help foster a better understanding of why the data is collected and how the data supports students. Shy-Anne will connect with the communities who offered to include the information in their community newsletters.

### **8.0 Board Action Plan**

S. Bartlett advised that the Board Action Plan is nearing completion for submission to the Ministry of Education. She noted that she will continue to connect with community representatives to discuss the plan. She expressed her gratitude to the many community representatives who she has met with to date and for the valuable input on the Board Action Plan. The suggestions have included an increase in the professional development regarding racism, ideas for student transition activities, and deeper learning in the curriculum with knowledge keepers.



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### **9.0 Partnership with Turtle Lodge; Elder Dr. Dave Courchene**

S. Bartlett introduced the partnership with the Turtle Lodge and Elder Dr. Dave Courchene, respected elder and knowledge keeper of the Anishinaabek Nation. The Indigenous Youth Council was honored to receive a presentation from Dr. Courchene regarding the journey of reconciliation and gaining new understanding of Indigenous perspectives and world views. The Committee discussed the importance of also engaging with local elders that can also support this learning. Shy-Anne will continue to work with community representatives to identify community knowledge keepers that the school board can engage with for student learning opportunities. Committee members are encouraged to please send Shy-Anne the names and contact information for community elders.

### **10.0 Review of Virtual Learning Platforms and Protocols of use for each Platform**

Superintendents of Education Charlie Bishop and Will Goodman provided a review of the learning models that students have engaged in during the year. They discussed the choices available to families and the safety measures in place within our schools for the health and safety of our students, staff and communities. They discussed the arrangements in place that allow schools the option to pivot to the learning model recommended based on the safety need of the region or a community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **11.0 Transitions**

Student Success Lead Carole Leroux provided an overview of the ways that students are supported through transitions. She highlighted the ways that this work continues through virtual methods to help ensure safety during the pandemic.

### **12.0 FNAC Meeting Scheduling**

S. Bartlett encouraged the scheduling of FNAC meetings and discussed how each meeting is unique and individualized for each community. She expressed gratitude to the communities who have already engaged in FNAC meetings.

### **13.0 Open Discussion of Areas of Need**

Committee Chair Paul Cormier provided an opportunity for anyone to share. This will be a regular part of each meeting to provide increase opportunity for everyone's voice to be heard and an opportunity to discuss areas of need.

The committee members did not have anything to discuss at this time.

The Chair discussed the number of committees he participates in as the Indigenous Trustee for the school board. He reviewed the initiatives that have been brought forward through these various Indigenous advocacy committees that include topics such as knowledge keepers in the classroom, internet connectivity and broadband issues. He encouraged the committee members to reach out to him at any time with areas of need.

### **14.0 Open Discussion and Suggestions for Discussions for Next Meeting**

There were no items brought forward at this time.

### **15.0 Schedule of Meeting Dates for IEAC:**

- *April 27, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.*
- *June 1, 2021*



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**16.0 Adjournment:**

The meeting ended at 11:54 p.m. and Marilyn Netemegetic honored the committee with closing remarks and a prayer.