



## 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, January 18, 2022 – 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.: 522 937 419#

## MINUTES

### 1.0 Roll Call

Attendance: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)											
First Nations Communities	OS	TC	VC	A	R	Representatives	OS	TC	VC	A	R
(Aroland)						Sarah Labonte, Nokiwiin Education Navigator					X
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano					X	Robyn O'Loughlin, Nokiwiin Education Advisor			X		
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Yvonne Kowtish</i>			X			Sarah Park, Grad Coach			X		
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Christine Hardy</i>			X			Sonya Belisle, Indigenous Student Success Advocate			X		
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Cheryl Checkley</i>			X			Patti Pella, Education Officer, Ministry of Education			X		
(Ginoogaming #77) Victor Chapais			X			Tamara Vernier, Native Language Teacher					X
(Ginoogaming #77) Martha Taylor					X	Student Representative Erin Couture					X
(Marten Falls FN) Wanda Coaster					X						
(Pays Plat) Valerie Auger			X			<b>Trustees</b>					
(Pic Mobert) Stan Sabourin			X			Dr. Paul Cormier ( <i>IEAC Chair</i> )			X		
(Red Rock) Judy Wawia			X			Mark Mannisto					X
(Red Rock) Norma Lesperance			X			Christine Major			X		
(Red Rock) Marilynn Netemegestic			X			Pinky McRae ( <i>Ex-officio</i> )			X		
(White Sands) Barbara Ann Wynn					X	<b>Board Administration</b>					
<i>Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Denise Bottle</i>			X			Nicole Morden Cormier, <i>Director of Education</i>			X		
<i>Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Yvette Metasinine</i>			X			Shy-Anne Bartlett, <i>Indigenous Education Manager</i>			X		
<i>(Flying Post First Nation) Angela McLeod</i>			X			Charlie Bishop, <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			X		
<i>(Bingijiw Neyaashi Anishnaabek) Camilee Borysewicz</i>					X	Will Goodman, <i>Superintendent of Education</i>			X		
(Longlac 58 First Nation)						Alex Marton, <i>Superintendent of Business</i>			X		
						Mahejabeen Ebrahim, <i>Human Rights and Equity Advisor for SGDSB</i>					X
<b>Representatives</b>											
CEP Program Liaison,											
Randi Ray, <i>Wabun Education Partnership Program.</i>					X						
Joshua LeClair, <i>Regional Education Council Coordinator, KEB</i>			X								
Tim Robbins, <i>Metis Representative</i>			X								



## 2.0 **Opening Prayer**

Elder, Marilyn Netemegestic honored the Committee by opening the meeting with a prayer.

## 3.0 **Welcome and Introductions**

Committee Chair Paul Cormier welcomed the Committee to the meeting and provided an opportunity for introductions for new members.

## 4.0 **Approval of the Minutes**

*Moved by: Yvonne Kowtiash      Second: Denis Bottle  
That, the minutes for the Superior-Greenstone DSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting, October 26, 2021 be accepted and approved.*

*Carried*

## 5.0 **Standing Agenda Items**

### 5.1 **Celebrations: Newsletter**

Manager of Indigenous Education Shy-Anne Bartlett provided an update regarding the recent issue of the newsletter. The newsletter highlighted the Indigenous Youth Council achievements. To continue to build on student leadership, the Manager advised that the Youth Council may provide a presentation at a future meeting to help showcase student voice.

### 5.2 **Community Updates**

To encourage information sharing and the voice of the communities, this standing item is now a regular portion of the agenda to provide communities an opportunity to share updates or discuss their community activities related to education. At this time, no community updates were provided.

### 5.3 **Update from Special Meeting**

S. Bartlett provided a detailed update regarding the Special Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting that took place on November 16, 2021, to discuss the topic of the Secondary School Schedule. The Committee members wishing to participate in the discussions reviewed the Quadmester and regular Semester schedule and discussed the strengths and weaknesses of each option. They also reviewed the scheduling used at other school boards. The school board will look at a hybrid model to review the potential benefits for students.

The Director provided a review of the discussions that took place at a Special IEAC meeting regarding September 30<sup>th</sup>, National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. The members present at the meeting shared their feedback to determine if the day should be honoured in school or if the day should be honoured as a statutory holiday in the board calendar. The Director thanked the group for the deep, meaningful discussions and insight. It was determined that the day should be honoured as a day of learning and to engage in what it means to be part of reconciliation. The Board will work with communities to develop learning opportunities and honour the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. The Committee discussed the importance of giving consideration for the week leading up to September 30<sup>th</sup> and recommended that meetings not be scheduled so that students and staff can fully engage in the learning and activities.

Discussions began regarding the de-streaming for Grade 9 students. Further information will be brought forward to the Committee as it is available.



S. Bartlett will be reviewing the terms of reference for the IEAC meetings and amend to include the new practice of Special Meetings and seek collaboration and input for this work.

## **6.0 Director of Education Updates**

*Nicole Morden Cormier*

### **6.1 Quarterly Director's Report**

Director Nicole Morden Cormier provided a review of the quarterly report that showcased topics that are in alignment with the mandate of IEAC. The updates included NTIP initiative to create a resource for teachers on how to authentically embed Indigenous Perspectives and Land Based Learning in the Early Years Classroom, creating virtual learning opportunities that focus on science through land-based learning and research partnership with Nokiiwin and SGDSB. The report also highlighted the collaboration for successful implementation of de-streamed Grade 9 Math and collaboration with Dilico Anishinabek family care mental health team for presentations connecting mental health and culture.

### **6.2 Return to In-Person Learning**

The Director discussed the return to in-person learning and requested committee discussion regarding any challenges and any suggested improvements to communications. She advised that the Board will continue to notify families when there is a confirmed case in schools with communication sent to parents/guardians of the students impacted within a cohort. The committee discussed the variation in return to in-person learning between the federal and provincial schools and the additional student supports that may be needed to account for the extended break. The Director advised that Rapid Antigen Test kits will continue to be provided and additional kits have been requested from the Ministry. New HEPA Filters have been shipped and will be used in the isolation rooms. The Director discussed the quality of the mechanical ventilation systems within our schools and have been advised that they surpass Ministry standards.

### **6.3 Proposed School Year Calendar – 2022-2023**

The Director advised that the proposed 2022-2023 School Year Calendar has been posted for stakeholder feedback. The proposed calendar was created in collaboration between the area school boards who share transportation. Your input is encouraged and can be submitted through the Board website.

## **7.0 Indigenous Education Updates**

### **7.1 Graduation Coach Update**

Graduation Coach Sara Park provided an update of the work completed since last reported. She advised that computers and food hampers have been distributed. Students have also been assisted with mental health referrals, college and university applications.

## **8.0 Additional Agenda Items**

### **8.1 Before & After School Process**

Early Years System Principal Hillary Freeburn, discussed the before and after school program consultation process that takes place annually. The program is designed for students aged 4-12 and is provided by the school board. The annual survey helps to determine the viability of the program and the interests of students and parents. In March the school board will be connecting with our families to determine the level of interest and what the program could look like.

Note: Trustee Mark Mannisto joined the meeting at 11:14 a.m.



## 8.2 Period Purse

H. Freeburn discussed The Period Purse project and the work the school board has engaged in with the not-for-profit organization. Through the partnership, The Period Purse and SGDSB have successfully made menstruation products available for free in all school board buildings across the district. As part of this ongoing collaboration, the board would like to enhance the program and create moon time education materials to promote menstruation equity. Funding is being resourced to create this project in collaboration with the communities and students. Robyn and Josh offered their assistance for the project. The committee discussed the importance of moon time teachings and how women have been honoured historically by Anishinaabe people.

## 8.3 Introductions & Job Description: Indigenous Student Success Advocate

Sonya Belisle, Indigenous Student Success Advocate introduced herself to the Committee and provided an overview of the job description and upcoming work. The system role of Relationship Building with First Nation Communities within the Greenstone area has been appointed to Principal Bev Vachon. These enhancements are part of the school boards commitment to build capacity within in the Indigenous Education portfolio. KEB, Regional Education Council Coordinator Josh LeClair provided an introduction of the role and discussed his experience and passion that he brings to his new position.

## 8.4 Elders in Residence: Possible Funding Grant

S. Bartlett discussed the funding grant available to support an Elders in Residence program. An application is currently being worked on and the idea brought forward to the committee for discussion and input. She explained that the communities would select the appropriate elder and that the potential program would provide students with regular access to their elders and to engage with them in their spaces. Additional information will be provided if the application is successful.

The Committee briefly discussed Professional development days. S. Bartlett advised that when the school board engages in Professional Development opportunities once again, invitations will be sent to the communities to participate. The Director discussed the PD Day topics that are required by the Ministry of Education.

Note: The Director gave her regrets as she had to leave the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

## 9.0 Open Discussions:

*Chair, Paul Cormier*

### 9.1 Destreaming Process Update

The discussion was deferred due to meeting time constraints. The Committee discussed holding a special meeting and the potential for a working group in the future.

### 9.2 Areas of Need

Nil.

### 9.3 Suggestions for Discussions for Next Meeting

Nil.

## 10.0 Next Meeting Dates:

### 10.1 Special IEAC Meeting Dates

#### 10.1.1 Progressive Discipline Presentation by Charlie Bishop

A survey will be sent out to the Committee to propose different dates in March to determine the availability of those wishing to attend the special meeting.



10.1.2 Data Review by Kathleen Schram

A special IEAC meeting will be scheduled for a presentation from Kathleen Schram regarding Data. The proposed meeting date will be between February 15<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

10.2 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Dates

- April 5, 2022,
- May 26, 2022
- October 4, 2022

11.0 **Adjournment:**

Elder Marilyn Netemegestic honored the committee by ending the meeting with a closing prayer.

*Moved by: Marilyn Netemegestic      Second: Christine Hardy  
That, the IEAC Meeting on January 18, 2022 adjourn at 12:14 p.m.*

Carried