



**SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Special Education Advisory Committee**

February 11, 2020 @ 3:00 pm

Videoconference Sites:

Board Office, Marathon | Geraldton Composite High School, Geraldton | SGDSB Learning Centre, Red Rock
Lake Superior High School, Terrace Bay | Manitouwadge High School, Manitouwadge

Call-In Information:

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Toll number: +1 (807) 701-5980, 637425405# (Dial-in Number) English (United States)

-or-

Join by phone via toll number: +1 (807) 701-5980, (Dial-in Number), Conference ID 637425405

Agenda

Voting Members (4/7)	OS	TC	VC	A	R
MCINTYRE, Margaret: <i>Trustee (Chair)</i>	X				
MANNISTO, Mark: <i>Trustee (Vice-Chair)</i>				X	
CORMIER, Paul: <i>First Nation Trustee</i>	X				
NELSON, Teresa: <i>Greenstone Social Services</i>					X
BEAULIEU, Nicole: <i>North of Superior Counseling Programs (NOSP)</i>		X			
BRAKE-WELDON, Brandy: <i>Dilico</i>		X			
AUDIA, Jessica: <i>Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living</i>		X			
GAGNON, Carmen: <i>Municipality of Greenstone-Community Services</i>		X			
DAVIES, Candace: <i>North of Superior Programs (NOSP-Alternate)</i>			X		
MARCHAND, Dawn: <i>Dilico (Alternate)</i>					X
GROENEVELD, Sharon: <i>Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living (Alternate)</i>					X
ZAPPITELLI, Sheila: <i>Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living (Alternate)</i>					X
NESBITT, Jason: <i>Trustee (Alternate)</i>					X
MAJOR, Christine: <i>Trustee (Alternate)</i>					X
PELLETIER, Allison: <i>Trustee (Alternate)</i>					X

Resource Members	OS	TC	VC	A	R
McRAE, Pinky: <i>Board Chair (Ex-Officio)</i>					X
MORDEN CORMIER, Nicole: <i>Director of Education</i>	X				
GOODMAN, Will: <i>Superintendent of Education</i>	X				
RATHWELL, Stephanie: <i>Student Trustee</i>				X	
SCHWANTZ, Sydney: <i>Student Trustee</i>				X	
RENAUD, Deana: <i>Mental Health Manager</i>	X				
BIANCO, Melissa: <i>Positive Behaviour Support Consultant</i>	X				
CURTIS, Sara: <i>Principal Terrace Bay and Schreiber Public School</i>			X		
NICOL VELLA, Janice: <i>Secretary</i>		X			

Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)

1.0	Call to Order:	at 3:03 by Chair, M. McIntyre
2.0	Approval of Minutes from January 14, 2020:	
	With quorum, a motion to approve minutes was made by: Carmen Gagnon	

	Seconded by: Jessica Audia	
3.0	Additions to the Agenda:	
	None	
4.0	Business Arising from Minutes:	
	None	
5.0	Agenda Items:	
	Host	
5.1	Milo Presentation	Will Goodman & Melissa Bianco
	<p>Milo is a robot that was reported on at the last board meeting and was introduced to SEAC through a video presentation. Milo has different functions, facial expressions and a screen to help support learners. The board has purchased Milo with a software package and requires curriculum along with training to get up and running. Milo is a practicing tool and not therapy and can help develop skills through practice and time. This is being trialed and we are receiving components daily to get up an running. There will be a press release with dates, plans and an introduction to the district and schools.</p> <p>M. McIntyre asked about the age for Milo and W. Goodman advised that there is no age range, the use would be based on need. M. Bianco added that there are assessments to determine whether Milo is the right match for a student.</p> <p>M. McIntyre asked if Milo tracks student progress and M. Bianco replied that yes it does and can help with IEP goals and that once a student has achieved the skill, there are programs to transfer the skill from classroom to others.</p>	
5.2	May SEAC Meeting	Will Goodman
	<p>The May SEAC meeting date is currently set for May 12, though due to scheduling considerations for SGDSB senior admin is requesting a change to May 5.</p> <p>With there being no comments or issues with the change, the May SEAC meeting will be held on May 5th.</p>	
5.3	RSEC Update	Will Goodman
	<p>W. Goodman provided an update from the last RSEC meeting, specifically around budgets. The NSI budget proposed this year is similar to last year and will bring in continued funding for social work and social services, along with funds for Chi Cheng to build capacity with staff and give support (psych, or social work or psychiatry and help differentiate between them). This has been a shared with SNCDSB and we get 1 session per month. Regarding other funding, there are urgent response funds which are specific for crises, trauma or tragic events to provide short term support, and social worker support (1 in Greenstone, which is shared with SNCDSB. Highlights of NSI funding components was provided by R. Boisvert.</p> <p>There were no comments or questions.</p>	
5.4	Ministry of Education presentation	Will Goodman on behalf of Catherine McCready
	<p>W. Goodman introduced the Ministry of Education Special Education PPF Funding 2019/20 with a PowerPoint presentation, noting that this was not his report and that C. McCready welcomed questions. A few things to note from the presentation are that the data is from 2018-19 (this years' data will be available next year); that different boards have different practices with formal process for IPRC identification. Our board looks the same as the province with 50/50 informal/formal identification mix. He added that with good programming and by knowing our learners, we can make great impacts. The definition of 'giftedness' was raised, and W. Goodman described this a greater skill or knowledge of a subject area or domain over others.</p> <p>Regarding grants, W. Goodman noted that Cathy Tsubouchi would prepare a presentation on the components as there are some grants that we cannot access (e.g. we are not a treatment centre, therefore we cannot access related grants), though we can access extra multi-disciplinary team positions such as the pilot at GOPS. These grants also need to be applied for each year.</p>	

	<p>With reference to the mental health slide it was added that there are more MH workers to come in our high schools, and that their role is very prescribed and regulated.</p> <p>The service animals slide introduced the requirement for boards to put in procedures and ours is up for stakeholder review and will be on our website.</p> <p>MACSE was delayed last year and it is going to continue with our northern rep's 3-4-year term has just expired. These reps are key players in meetings with the minister and W. Goodman encouraged anyone from our committee to apply to work with 20 or so people as this is a great opportunity to be an advocate for the north as part of the Minister's Advisory Council on Special Education.</p> <p>If there are any questions regarding the Ministry's presentation, they may be brought to C. McCready through our committee.</p>	
5.5	Multi-Disciplinary Team Update	Sara Curtis
	<p>S. Curtis' update focused on SEA claims through our district where all items purchased are specific to student need and require a referral from an outside organization to enable a student to access curriculum. SEA claims go through S. Curtis then the board for processing. Within our district, the areas we are supporting are as follows:</p> <p>Sensory items, sensory room items: \$94,000</p> <p>Physical need support (change tables, tricycles, adjustable chairs/desks, toys): \$49,000</p> <p>Communication support (fm systems, associated software): \$6,700</p> <p>Technology (note: this has decreased over the last few years), includes iPads, laptops: \$10,000</p> <p>W. Goodman added that a lot of students are using laptops and that the board has put many into the system for grade 5 and 9 students (new in high school as an older laptop would not meet requirements for REM and internet); that they're accessible by everyone (not just spec ed students).</p> <p>M. McIntyre asked if the laptops for Gr 5 & 9 were made through the board and not a grant; W. Goodman confirmed that this was correct.</p> <p>M. McIntyre asked if the laptops are specialized (for vision/speech problems), with S. Curtis advising that it is the software and specific packages that are the differentiating piece, not the laptop, and that Google Read&Write allows access to specific learning.</p> <p>M. McIntyre inquired as to how referrals work, through a family or us? Generally, referrals come from us, but family often supports, and reports are submitted with the school and family highlighting / identifying equipment for SEA applications.</p>	
5.6	SGDSB Spec Ed Data	Will Goodman
	<p>W. Goodman advised that a report with data similar to the provincial data will provided at the next SEAC, allowing comparisons to be made. Our data will show our population but will be generic enough to not single out individuals, we will see context and it will help us understand our needs.</p> <p>P. Cormier inquired as to whether it's possible to see if there is any overlap with this and first nations data and where funds come from, with others commenting that this would be interesting to see if this is possible.</p>	
6.0	Correspondence:	Host
6.1	Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board	Will Goodman
	<p>This correspondence was summarized by W. Goodman with the recommendation that we do not get involved with this politically charged letter, that we should wait until we get through this period of labour unrest and see what happens with negotiations occurring, and proposals and landscape changing.</p> <p>M. McIntyre agreed, asking for other comments, of which there were none.</p>	
7.0	New Business:	Host
	None	
8.0	Information Items:	Host

		None
9.0	Agenda Items: Next meeting Date/Time/Venue:	March 10, 2020 at 3 pm
	Please forward any agenda items to Janice Nicol Vella.	
10.0	Adjournment:	3:54 p.m.
	Motion to adjourn made by Paul Cormier	
	Motion to adjourn seconded by Candace Davies	