



**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:**

*“Small schools make a difference”*

**Our Values:**

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

**Videoconference Site Locations**

Superior-Greenstone District School Board (SGDSB) ..... 12 Hemlo Drive, Marathon, ON  
 Manitouwadge High School ..... (MNHS) ..... 200 Manitou Road W., Manitouwadge, ON  
 Lake Superior High School ..... (LSHS) ..... Hudson Drive, Terrace Bay, ON  
 Superior-Greenstone DSB Learning Centre (SGDSBLC) ..... 46 Salls Street, Red Rock, ON  
 Geraldton Composite High School ..... (GCHS) ..... 500 Second Street West, Geraldton, ON

**Indigenous Education Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, February 5, 2019 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.  
 Superior-Greenstone District School Board Learning Centre, Red Rock, Ontario

Teleconference Dial-In Information: 1-866-214-2743;  
 CONFERENCE ID #: 6183933 PARTICIPANT CODE: 44335

**MINUTES**

**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) Margaret Matasawagon		X				Tamara Vernier	X				
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano		X				Shy-Anne Bartlett	X				
(Bijnjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Yvonne Kowtish	X					Lauren Coaster, Student Representative	X				
(Ginoogaming #77) Victor Chapais	X					Bernadine O'Brien	X				
(Marten Falls FN) Sandy Moonias					X	Cindy Fisher, Regional Education Council Coordinator	X				
(Pays Plat) Valerie Auger					X	Kelly Crawford	X				
(Pic Mobert) Nicole Simpson					X	<b>Trustees</b>					
(Red Rock) Judy Wawia	X					Vacant (IEAC Chair)					
(Red Rock) Marilynn Netemegesic	X					Mark Mannisto					X
						Margaret McIntyre			X		
<b>First Nation (Other)</b>						Pinky McRae (Ex-officio)					X
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Denise Bottle					X						
(Longlac 58 First Nation) Veronica Waboose (Chief)				X		<b>Board Administration</b>					
(Flying Post First Nation) Angela McLeod				X		Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education	X				
(White Sands) Allen Gustafson (Chief)				X		Nancy O'Donnell, Indigenous Education Lead	X				



## **SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**

### **2.0 Approval of the Minutes**

*Moved by: J. Wawia*

*Second: M. Netemegesic*

*That the minutes for the Superior-Greenstone DSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting, September 18, 2018 be accepted and approved.*

*Carried*

### **3.0 Celebrating Success at SGDSB**

Indigenous Education Lead Nancy O'Donnell provided a review of the success that has taken place at SGDSB. The successful initiatives included the Blanket Exercise workshop, resources purchased for elementary and secondary schools, Indigenous Grad Couch hired at Geraldton Composite High School (GCHS), development of a culture room for students, presentation by author Joanne Robinson and drum groups participating with the Thunder Bay Symphony Orchestra.

N. O'Donnell also advised that the Early Years program has seen some enhancements to incorporate the Ojibway language in the classrooms as well as the making of an Ojibway book of animals.

Additional highlights include the expansion of the Native Language course at GCHS so that students can benefit from a second course to accommodate the increased student interest in the program.

### **4.0 Smudging Pamphlet Draft**

N. O'Donnell provided a review of the draft smudging pamphlet that was included in the meeting package. She noted the opportunities that students currently have to smudge and noted that the pamphlet will assist in communication of the opportunity to smudge and the parameters to do so. The committee discussed the pamphlet and provided valuable feedback. The pamphlet will be revised to reflect the feedback received.

### **5.0 Mathematics in Elementary Schools – Embedding Indigenous Knowledge**

N. O'Donnell provided a review of the initiative to enhance Elementary School mathematics by embedding indigenous knowledge. She discussed the upcoming Indigenous Mathematics Education Conference that has been organized and will include educators from Thunder Bay and Southern Ontario.

### **6.0 Indigenous Student Leadership Council**

An Indigenous Student Leadership Council initiative is currently in development. The intent for the Council is to promote and develop student leadership amongst our Indigenous students and provide students with the opportunity to gather, collaborate and share ideas.

Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier discussed the structure and meeting schedule of the Student Senate. She provided a review of the technology updates that will be taking place in each of the schools during the summer. These updates will allow students to virtually connect from each school and provide opportunity to expand student participation in meetings.

### **7.0 Supports for Students from Remote Communities**

N. O'Donnell discussed the transition supports available to students who transition from a federal school to provincial schools. These student transitions include remote communities as well as the elementary to high school transitions. She noted that by working in collaboration with community partners, together we identify and address topics relevant to the overall health and well-being of First Nation, Metis and Inuit students. Current student supports include Child and Youth Workers, Indigenous Grad Coach and transition days organized at the area schools. N. O'Donnell provided an opportunity to the group to provide suggestions and feedback. Suggestions included the increasing



### ***SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD***

of opportunities for school visits, lengthening the time for school visits of up to a week, providing health and wellness workshop for newly transitioned students, resume writing, increased special education assessments and supports, increased supports for students who are attending school remotely, and improved planning to better understand the student's future goals to better guide their Highschool course selection.

#### **8.0 Indigenous Language in our Schools**

The Committee discussed the FNMI framework and SGDSB's commitment to the continued enhancement of Ojibway language initiatives. N. O'Donnell reviewed the current initiatives that include the language courses at Marathon High School, Nipigon-Red Rock District High School and the 2 courses running at Geraldton Composite High School. The language is now being imbedded in to the Early Years classrooms through literacy. The committee shared their suggestions on the initiatives and ideas to work towards students knowing their language.

The school Board will continue to increase opportunities for Indigenous languages and education, based on local demographics and the student and community needs.

#### **9.0 Community Partnerships – Impact on Schools**

The school Board is supported by many valued partnerships in order to meet the education needs of our students. These positive relationships and collaboration between the school Board and First Nation communities impact student learning. The Indigenous Education Lead Nancy O'Donnell provided a review of these valued partnerships as outlined below;

- Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek – Indigenous Advocate
- Red Rock Indian Band – Indigenous Grad Coach
- Aroland first Nation – Support Worker
- Biigtigong Nishnaabeg – Education Counselor
- Pic Mobert First Nation - Indigenous Advocate
- Matawa (Ginoogaming and Marten Falls) – Youth Panel

#### **10.0 Indigenous Trustee**

Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier discussed the Indigenous Trustee vacancy on the Board. She advised that a nomination has been received from one First Nation community and the Chief is seeking support of the nomination of Paul Cormier from the other area First Nation Band Councils. IEAC representatives were requested to discuss the nomination with their community Chiefs to assist in bringing the discussion to the Band Council meetings for decision.

#### **11.0 Suggestions for Future Agenda Items**

There were no future agenda items provided at this time. Committee members were encouraged to message the Indigenous Education Lead or the Director with any suggested topics.

#### **12.0 Schedule of Meeting Dates:**

June 25, 2019

September 10, 2019

#### **13.0 Adjournment**

*The IEAC Meeting on February 5, 2019 adjourned at 12:11 p.m.*