



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”

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Superior-Greenstone District School Board Learning Centre, Red Rock, Ontario

Teleconference Dial-In Information: 1 – 8 0 7 – 7 0 1 – 5 9 8 0;
Access Code/Conference ID #: 5 6 5 2 2 5 9 3

Videoconference Site Locations

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

MINUTES

1.0 Roll Call

Attendance: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)											
First Nation Tuition Agreements	OS	TC	VC	A	R	Representatives	OS	TC	VC	A	R
(Aroland) Margaret Matasawagon					x	Tamara Vernier					x
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano				x		Shy-Anne Bartlett					x
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay)</i> Yvonne Kowtish	x					Student Representative Keira Mannisto					x
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay)</i> Christine Hardy					x	Bernadine O'Brien			x		
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay)</i> Gabrielle Swerdlyk					x	Cindy Fisher, Regional Education Council Coordinator					x
(Ginoogaming #77) Victor Chapais		x				Rene _____ for Regional Education Council Coordinator		x			
(Marten Falls FN) Sandy Moonias					x	Trustees					
(Pays Plat) Valerie Auger	x					Dr. Paul Cormier (IEAC Chair)	x				
(Pic Mobert) Nicole Simpson		x				Mark Mannisto					x
(Pic Mobert) Stan Sabourin				x		Christine Major			x		
(Red Rock) Judy Wawia	x					Pinky McRae (Ex-officio)					x
(Red Rock) Marilynn Netemegesic					x						
First Nation (Other)						Board Administration					
<i>Animigigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek</i> Denise Bottle	x					Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education			x		
(Longlac 58 First Nation) Veronica Waboose (Chief)				x		Nancy O'Donnell, Indigenous Education Lead	x				
Randi Ray, Wabun Education Partnership Prgm.		x				Charlie Bishop, Superintendent of Education					x
(White Sands) Allen Gustafson (Chief)				x		Will Goodman, Superintendent of Education					x
(CEP Program Liaison) Skylene Metatawabin		x				Hillary Freeburn, Early Years Lead			x		
Angela McLeod (Flying Post First Nation)					x	Dean Renaud, Mental Health Manager	x				



2.0 Welcome and Introductions

Committee Chair Dr. Paul Cormier welcomed everyone to the meeting and allowed for introductions of new members and presenters.

3.0 Celebrating Success at SGDSB

- Grad coaches Bernadine O'Brien and Sara Park shared the success stories of those students who have applied to College and University.
- The Indigenous Education Lead Nancy O'Donnell shared the success of transition activities created to assist grade 8 students entering school at Nipigon-Red Rock District High School.
- Geraldton Composite High School is working with graduates on their post-secondary applications, completing workshops to assist in transition to the workforce and for life after school. Additional highlights also included students working to develop a community garden, planning for annual powwow and bannock making with students.
- Dorion Public School celebrates the success of the monthly visit from community elders.
- Beardmore Public School continues to have local language speaker Mary Blakely support the teacher and students weekly.
- Red Rock Indian Band's partnership with Nelson has resulted in the Circle of Life books being translated into local dialect and now available for purchase at George O'Neill Public School.
- Geraldton Composite High School benefited from a presentation on Powwow etiquette, a presentation to parents, sacred medicine teachings and student drumming and singing.
- The Nelson resources are used currently at MTPS, MMPS, BAPS, and TBPS to support the learning for grade 3 – grade 6 students.
- Celebrating a collaborative project with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg designed to enhance curriculum with Indigenous history, perspectives and ways of knowing. To include local perspectives and Indigenous history. An exciting partnership opportunity for teachers and community members.

4.0 Presentation: The National Centre for Collaboration Indigenous Education

The Committee received a presentation from The National Centre for Collaboration in Indigenous Education regarding their mission and objectives. The presenters included Leisa Desmoulins, Melissa Oskineegish and Mac Orlando. The project connects communities with each other to share their stories about indigenous education across Canada and around the world. The project has been in existence for 3 years. They have successfully created a digital space that highlights Indigenous perspectives on Indigenous education and where educators can learn from each other. Their goal is to facilitate collaboration between community leaders, educators, practitioners, and researchers to advance Indigenous Education. The website is www.nccie.ca and features video and audio interviews, featured films, lesson plans and articles.

5.0 Reciprocal Education Approach Update

Nancy O'Donnell, Indigenous Education Lead and the Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier provided an update regarding the Reciprocal Education Approach (REA). They provided the REA highlights and outlined that eligible students living off-reserve will be funded to attend First Nations operated schools and that eligible students living on-reserve could be admitted to provincially operated schools. They discussed the process that parents and guardians will follow that include notification provided to the First Nation community as well as the school. The Committee discussed the shared excitement for this positive move forward in education.

6.0 Special Education Update

Superintendent of Education Will Goodman provided a review of the Special Education Plan document. He noted that this document is updated annually and is reflective of feedback received from community stakeholders. The plan provides information about the Special



Education program and services available within SGDSB. A copy of the plan will be emailed to all IEAC members with a request for feedback. Committee members are encouraged to submit feedback by March 30, 2020 by emailing wgoodman@sgdsb.on.ca

7.0 Presentation: Mental Health

Mental Health Manager Deana Renaud provided an informative presentation regarding the focus on mental health and well-being within the school board. Ms. Renaud discussed topics such as the impacts of developmental trauma and its impact on brain development, toxic stress and our bodies response to trauma. She discussed the education that staff have engaged in regarding Trauma informed practices and the development of a “tool kit” for educators so that they have the necessary resources to support students through a trauma informed lens. At the request of the Committee a copy of the presentation will be emailed to the group so that they may access the links and resources contained within the slides. The Communities are welcome to invite Ms. Renaud to provide this presentation to parents.

8.0 Indigenous Youth Council Update

The school board has been marketing the creation of an Indigenous Youth Council to the student population. Ms. O'Donnell advised that student sign up and feedback have been positive. An initial meeting is being planned for April and will include a presentation from Brent Edwards that is titled “Leader in Me”. A copy of the poster will be shared with the Community Education Departments in order to help encourage more students to join. Ms. O'Donnell reviewed the plan to first begin the Indigenous Youth Council and work with the group to assist in the appointment of an Indigenous Trustee. Provincially, 15 of the 75 school boards have created Indigenous Trustee position and SGDSB looks forward to strengthening student voice with the creation of this position for the school board.

9.0 Additional Items

- The growing of traditional seeds such as tobacco. Nancy advised that GCHS has started growing the traditional tobacco.
- Ms. O'Donnell discussed the upcoming youth gathering and advised that the group is leaving March 4, 2020. She will provide feedback on the gathering at the next meeting.

10.0 Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: D. Bottle Second: Y. Kowtiash

That the minutes for the Superior-Greenstone DSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting, January 7, 2020 be accepted and approved.

Carried

11.0 Schedule of Meeting Dates:

The next scheduled meeting is June 16, 2020. However, the Committee discussed alternate dates as the dates conflicts with graduation ceremonies. A survey will be emailed to the Committee with date selections.

12.0 Adjournment:

Moved by: D. Bottle Second: V. Auger

That, the IEAC Meeting on March 3, 2020 adjourn at 12:17 p.m.