



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, June 16, 2020 - 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams

Microsoft Teams Meeting

Teleconference Dial-In Information: 1 – 8 4 4 – 6 1 3 – 3 1 2 0;

Access Code/Conference ID No.: 7 2 8 9 3 3 5 0 5 #

MINUTES

1.0 Roll Call

<i>Attendance: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>											
First Nation Tuition Agreements	OS	TC	VC	A	R	Representatives	OS	TC	VC	A	R
(Aroland) Margaret Matasawagon					X	Tamara Vernier			X		
(Aroland) Krista Bouchard					X	Shy-Anne Bartlett			X		
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano			X			Student Representative					X
(Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Yvonne Kowtish		X				Bernadine O'Brien			X		
(Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Christine Hardy					X	Renee, Regional Education Council Coordinator					X
(Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Gabrielle Swerdlyk					X	Sarah Park			X		
(Ginoogaming #77) Victor Chapais			X			Patti Pella, Education Officer, Ministry of Education			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 Netemegestic			X								
(Sandpoint)											
(White Sands) Allen Gustafson (Chief)				X		Board Administration					
First Nation (Other)						Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education			X		
Animigiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Denise Bottle					X	Nancy O'Donnell, Indigenous Education Lead			X		
(Longlac 58 First Nation) Veronica Waboose (Chief)				X		Charlie Bishop, Superintendent of Education			X		
Randi Ray, Wabun Education Partnership Prgm.			X			Will Goodman, Superintendent of Education			X		
Angela McLeod (Flying Post First Nation)					X	Bev Vachon, Principal, Marjorie Mills Public School			X		
(CEP Program Liaison) Skylene Metatawabin					X						



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The committee was graced with an opening prayer and blessing from elder Marilyn Netemegestic.

2.0 Welcome and Introductions

2.1 The Chair introduced and welcomed Patti Pella, Education Officer, Indigenous Education Office of the Ministry of Education

3.0 Approval of the Minutes

Quorum could not be established, therefore the March 3, 2020 IEAC meeting minutes will be brought forward to the next meeting for review/approval.

4.0 Celebrating Success During Distance Learning

Shy-Anne Bartlett and Tamara Vernier provided an update of the student success during distance learning. Through an online format, students and their families have participated in hoop dancing, powwow dancing, drumming, and guitar lessons. Students have also had access to traditional hand drum teachings with Diana and another opportunity to learning about smoking a moose hide. The feedback received from families has been positive.

5.0 Indigenous Graduation Coach Update

Indigenous Graduation Coaches Sarah Park and Bernadine O'Brien provided a detailed updated regarding the student and parent engagement they have facilitated. Prior to shifting to the online platform, they accompanied a youth group to the Inspire Youth Gathering in Ottawa. The conference was very beneficial for the students and featured inspirational messaging and career exploration opportunities.

With the onset of online learning, the Graduation Coaches have delivered technology resources to students and assisted with log in and troubleshooting issues. They also coordinated the delivery of the Food Security Program for students as well as a food hamper program for the Greenstone area. They increased efforts to monitor the well-being of students and connecting them with available supports. Supporting students in their transition to Post-Secondary school and the uncertainties of the fall semester for those students planning to attend College or University. They also assisted in the delivery of caps and gowns to the 26 graduating students. The Director advised that the Graduation Coach from GCHS also attended the ground blessing ceremony held at the Geraldton Composite High School. The project includes a Child Care Centre expansion and a cultural room for students. Discussions have begun regarding a cultural room planned for Marathon High School.

6.0 ETFO Extension Agreement Position at MMPS

Charles Bishop and Bev Vachon discussed the new position created at Marjorie Mills Public School as part of a one year project funding through the Central Table Negotiations with the Elementary Teachers' Federation of Ontario. The project includes working with a group of educators and leaders to develop culturally responsive and relevant pedagogy. The project goals include a focus on becoming more familiar with the communities and learning from the communities. This will be a half time position made available as a supportive position to support special education needs and Indigenous Education.

7.0 Ojibwe Language Class (VC Option for Fall 2020)

Nancy O'Donnell announced that students will have Ojibwe Language Class available to them through video conference beginning in the Fall. The Coordinator of IT Services provided an overview of what video conferencing learning is and how students access the learning.



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8.0 Summer Learning Programs – Initial Planning

Sarah Park and Bernadine O'Brien discussed the planning that is currently taking place in preparation for Summer Learning Programs. They also discussed the planning of a week of activities schedule to help students who are transitioning from grade 8 to grade 9. Suggestions provided included meeting parents online, video tour of the school, community highlights, and engagement activities. The Committee highlighted the importance of family and community involvement as this is a source of knowledge and support for students.

9.0 Sharing Input from First Nation Communities Regarding Fall 2020 Return to School

An update was provided regarding the discussions with First Nation Communities for the shared concerns regarding students return to school in the Fall. The committee members are encouraged to contact the Director with any additional concerns that have not already been identified as this will assist in the planning process. The Director advised that the school board is currently awaiting further direction and clarification from the Ministry of Education for the Return to School plans. The Ministry has indicated that the plan will be finalized in the middle of August. The Director requested continued meetings with each of the communities during the summer months to plan and prepare.

10.0 Update Regarding Planning for September Safety and Learning

The Director provided a review regarding the current planning for the safe reopening of schools and continuation of learning.

11.0 SGDSB Indigenous Education Lead: Replacement Consultation

The committee discussed the recent announcement of the resignation of the Indigenous Education Lead Nancy O'Donnell. The announcement was shared previously with communities who have an Education Service Agreement and announced during the meeting with all other committee members. Nancy O'Donnell received several acknowledgements from the members who shared their heartfelt gratitude for her work and many contributions during her time as Indigenous Education Lead.

The Director advised that Shy-Anne Bartlett would be appointed to the role of Indigenous Education Lead on an interim basis to allow for a full requirement process. She requested the formation of a subcommittee from IEAC that would be dedicated to providing advice and perspective for the essential qualities they would be seeking in a replacement and to begin consultation process with the subcommittee beginning this fall. She recommended the hiring committee consist of 2 IEAC members, 2 Superintendents and the Human Rights Equity Advisor. The committee expressed concern that the decision to appoint a staff member on an interim basis was made prior to consultation with the communities. The committee discussed the designing of a consultation process and a clear definition of the term consultation.

The committee concluded that this matter has created an opportunity for the enhancement of the board's policy and an opportunity for the committee to assist in the creation of something new and meaningful. The discussions will resume at the October meeting to determine the subcommittee members and available meeting dates.

Trustee and Committee Chair Paul Cormier expressed his personal thanks to Nancy for the work she has done to create a path for us to move forward with. He announced that he would like to honour Nancy with the gift of an Eagle feather as a symbol of appreciation.

12.0 End of Year Reporting as Part of FNAC Meetings



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A review of the end of year reporting process was provided. N. O'Donnell advised that this year will be the first year for reporting back formally to the First Nations with Education Service Agreements. Principals will be sending a report outlining student data, programs and services provided to students, how schools have included culturally responsive pedagogy, provided opportunities for staff professional development, and how local First Nations communities have been invited into schools.

These reports will help to frame the discussions through FNAC meetings with each First Nation, on how to best meet the needs of students/communities.

13.0 Indigenous Youth Council Update

N. O'Donnell advised that there has been a great deal of interest from students to join the Indigenous Youth Council. She advised that the Youth Council requested their meeting to take place face to face and hope to hold it in September 2020. The commitment to ensuring that student voice is shared defines the work that is happening at each of the schools. Additional information will be shared in the fall.

14.0 Student Trustee

The Director advised the Committee of the appointment of new Student Trustee Erin Couture who attends the Nipigon-Red Rock District High School. Erin will officially begin her role in August when Student Trustee Stephanie Rathwell's term concludes. The Board has two Student Trustee positions. Erin will be mentored by Student Trustee Sydney Schwantz.

15.0 Additional Items

Nancy O'Donnell expressed her gratitude to the Committee for always creating a safe place to speak openly together and keeping the students as the focus. She thanked the committee for their work and teachings.

Chi-Miigwech Nancy for the positive work you have done for the student and SGDSB.

16.0 Schedule of Meeting Dates:

October 27, 2020

17.0 Adjournment:

The meeting ended at 12:04 p.m.