



SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Our Mission:

"Working together to engage students through meaningful learning and empower them to build the skills they need to be successful today and in the future."

Our Vision:

"To meet the needs of all learners while sparking curiosity and joy in learning."

Our Motto:

Gikino'amaadiwigamigoonsan ezhi-gichi-apiitendaagwag "Small schools make a difference"

Our Values:

"Positive, professional relationships & sense of team, Kindness with expectations, Learner mindset & dedication to ongoing innovation, Belief that experience teaches, engages & connects."

Anishinaabe Gikino'amaagewin Gaa-anokaadamowid (Indigenous Education Advisory Committee)

Wednesday, November 5, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Pays Plat First Nation & Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams –

Teleconference Dial-In Information: Phone 1(844) 613-3120 Conference ID No:

Maawanji'idiwin Wiindamaagewi-Ozhibi'igewinan (Meeting 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	Tribal Councils & Representatives	OS	TC	VC	A	R
(Aroland) Angela Towedo					X	EEP Program Liaison - Matawa, Shelby Chng			X		
(Biigtigong Nishnaabeg) Lisa Michano			X			Randi Ray and/or Wabun Education Partnership Program.				X	
Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Yvonne Kowtiash	X					(to be determined) Regional Education Council Coordinator, KEB				X	
Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Christine Hardy				X		Tim Robbins, Metis Nation of Ontario - Senator			X		
Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Pamela Hardy			X			Nokiiwin Education Advisor – Scott Baker / Loretta Sky				X	
(Ginoogaming #77) Martha Taylor				X		Representatives					
(Ginoogaming #77) Dallas Fisher				X		Tamara Vernier, Native Language Teacher					X
(Ginoogaming #77) Chris Hill			X			Sara Carlson, Grad Coach - GCHS			X		
(Marten Fall FN) Suzanne Baxter					X	Sara Park, Grad Coach - NRHS			X		
						Delaney Michano, Grad Coach - MRHS			X		
						Melissa Lanovaz, Grad Coach - LSHS					X
(Marten Falls FN) Louise Coaster					X	Sheila Cassie, Secretary - Portfolio Support					X
(Pays Plat) Valerie Auger	X					Patti Pella, Education Officer, Ministry of Education			X		
(Netmizaaggamig) Joe Moses				X		Trustees					
(Netmizaaggamig) Amber Deveraux			X			Julie Michano					X
(Netmizaaggamig) Lori Guinchard				X		Pinky McRae (Ex-officio)			X		
(Netmizaaggamig) Monique Brownlee				X		Megen Brunskill					X
(Red Rock) Marilyn Netemegesic			X			Board Administration					
(Red Rock) Ted Wawia				X		Will Goodman, Director of Education	X				
(Red Rock) Kellie Wrigley			X			Carole Leroux, Superintendent of Education	X				
(White Sands) Sue Taylor					X	Shy-Anne Bartlett, Manager of Indigenous Education	X				
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Denise Bottle			X			Flora Love, Superintendent of Education	X				
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Claudette Rody / Mary Blakely			X			Alex Marton, Superintendent of Business			X		
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek, Nikki Goodman			X			Anthony Jeethan, Human Rights & Equity Advisor					X
Wabun (Flying Post First Nation) Angela McLeod			X			Loretta Lemon, Indigenous Special Education Facilitator	X				
(Bingwi Neyaashi Anishnaabek) Tylyn Silander					X	Lisa Zeleny, Executive Assistant	X				
(Longlac 58 First Nation)					X						

Trustee Pristanski attended on site



2.0 **Opening Prayer**

Claudette Morrisseau introduced herself and opened the meeting with a thank you prayer and smudge for members onsite. C. Morrisseau thanked the great spirit for everything and for this day. She encouraged everyone to walk a straight life and to live this good life. Pray we keep our focus on our children, our future, our future generations.

3.0 **Welcome and Introductions**

Shy-Anne Bartlett welcomed everyone to the meeting and provided the Land Acknowledgement; to reflect on our past to move forward.

4.0 **Approval of the Maawanji'idiwin Wiindamaagewi-Ozhibii'igewinan (Meeting Minutes)**

4.1 IEAC Meeting Minutes, May 22, 2024.

Moved by: D.Bottle

Second: Y. Kowtiash

That the minutes for the Superior-Greenstone DSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting, May 22, 2024, be accepted and approved.

Carried.

5.0 **Apane go Dazhindamowaad (Standing Agenda Items)**

5.1 Community Updates

Pamela Hardy, Education Director for BZA provided the following community update. There has been a renovation to the school yard, to the school with a new building for administration, a new teacher has been hired, an approval for 9 EA's has gone through, the school worked with consultants to have all teachers appraised, had OSR's reviewed to ensure compliance is met, the creation of school goals and staff goals. Also, the school is in the process of hiring an ECE and an assistant to work with Early Years to support students who are coming to school and to work with community partners. P. Hardy stated there are 45 students enrolled this year; 5 being in grade 8 who will be attending high school next year. What transition will look like is Transition worker to work on homework in the evenings twice a week in community. Feelings are positive and school environment is positive and happy.

Yvonne Kowtiash provided the following community update. The Summer Program was great, and students received credits, this is the third year of Summer Programs for students to get certificates for training, like first aid, land base learning. Looking forward to next year to see the students graduate who will have achieved 4 credits toward their graduation. It has always been a challenge for students in grade 12 who have not had the required credits to graduate. They will not be short like in previous years. Language camps this past summer were also well received. BZA has begun the process to look at Summer 2025 programs for students. Everyone has been busy supporting students to ensure they are successful.

P. Hardy applied for funding for Reach Ahead and for the Language camp. The Language Bowl is more successful each year. There were 3 schools in the first year which increased to 9 last year. May 2025 for Language Bowl – Land Base program is still going well. Students were busy processing rice, setting traps for beavers, processing moose hides. There are also five structures being built with the hopes of them being filled in the spring.

S.Bartlett will potentially be travelling to AZA Dec 4 and invited team members to join her..

Amber Devereaux provided the following Netmizaaggamig update. Students in Reach Ahead program travelled to Vancouver with EF Tours. The opportunity allowed students to earn a



geography credit; 7 students were successful. There was enhanced land base learning every day; students are excited and engaged.

A new portable has arrived for extra space for learning for cultural and land-based learning. There are six grade 8 's this year and a focus on transition at the forefront. Students are looking forward to transition events to support them going into grade 9.

Kellie Wrigley, the new Education Director for Red Rock Indian Band introduced herself to IEAC members and community members. K. Wrigley provided the following community update for RRIB. There is a new Education Facility/Learning Building onsite. Construction has taken place and there will be an open house, Thursday, November 7 for community members to see the space and provide input on how the facility may be used.

Chris Hill provided the following Ginoogaming update. There has been recent success working with the Principal at Marjorie Mills Public School. It was noticed that some students were having difficult seeing. With the support of Matawa, Dr. David Cranton, Optometrist came to the community and stayed for a week to provide eye exams. During this time 90 eye exams were completed, and students were provided with 2 pairs of glasses each. One pair is for home and one pair is for school. There were also 15 community members who received eye exams. Dr. Cranton has an office in Thunder Bay and a mobile office to travel and work remotely.

P. Hardy will reach out to Dr. Cranton to see if travel to BZA is possible.

Ginoogaming First Nation has partnered with Longlac #58 First Nation to provide lunches in the school. The lunch program workers have completed safe food handling course and learned about budgeting and cooking from scratch. The lunch program is a great success.

W. Goodman thanked all members for sharing and welcomed K. Wrigley as the new Red Rock Indian Band Education Director

5.2 Follow-up from May 22, 2024 IEAC meeting

Shy-Anne Bartlett provided the following update. Sharing of engagement framework – S. Bartlett reached out and will provide update. The Immersion camp had 26 students enrolled with a waiting list of 12. The Board will be partnering with Catholic Board to organize a summer camp in 2025.

S. Bartlett thanked Anthony Jeethan, Human Rights & Equity Advisor and IEAC members for their input and work to implement the Truth and Reconciliation policy.

The next steps: Action Plan.

The Indigenous Education Advisory Committee was thanked for their suggestion to host IEAC meetings in communities. Thank you to Val Auger for the invitation. The November 5 meeting is the first in community IEAC meeting.

6.0 Nonde-ayaan ji-gaagiigidoyaang (Open Discussion of Areas of Need):

6.1 Ontario's Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting Policy

Flora Love provided the following information for the Ontario's Assessment, Evaluation & Reporting Policy. should have received an email from S. Bartlett from the ministry for feedback and insight to the growing success document, to revamp (assessment form). Deadline for feedback is December 5. If members require the original email to be resent, please reach out to S. Bartlett.



6.2 Powwows

S. Bartlett said Powwows will take place in three locations across communities. Geraldton Composite High school has requested their location be one location. If the IEAC members agree, GCHS can host one, there can be one for the Nipigon, Red Rock, Dorion area and one in the Marathon, Terrace Bay, Schreiber area.

The floor was open for feedback. There were no objections to GCHS hosting or the other areas suggested. Comments and suggestions can be sent to S. Bartlett at sbartlett@sgdsb.on.ca

6.3 FNMI Self-ID Data

The Board was asked to revamp the current Self-ID form to include the community the students belong to. This change was done in June 2024. We have currently received very few forms at the time of this meeting. S. Bartlett will contact the EDO of each Community listed on the form. Although not as many were received as hoping but we will keep providing communication to parents/caregiver for the reasoning for the update and the form.

The floor was open for questions and comments to members. There were no questions at this time; members can contact S. Bartlett via email.

6.4 Special IEAC meeting

S. Bartlett provided the following update with no Special IEAC meeting currently on the agenda. However, if there is a topic a member or members would like discussed, it can be forwarded to S. Bartlett at sbartlett@sgdsb.on.ca or W. Goodman at wgoodman@sgdsb.on.ca. The topic must meet IEAC mandates. An example for a Special IEAC meeting may be de-streaming.

6.5 Feast & Feedback

W. Goodman addressed the recent Feast and Feedback date. Feast and Feedback was successful however, still in the process of collecting data from schools. Some communities had 80 participants. What are people most excited about that pertain to the strategic plan. Positive piece and will have a Spring Session in community and will look at communities and dates that would work. SGDSB will do all the work, just need a place and time.

7.0 **Anishinaabe Gikino'amaagewini-Dazhindamowaad (Indigenous Education Updates)**

7.1 Graduation Coach Update

7.1.1 Graduation Coach Update – NRHS

Members to review Report attached in agenda package.

7.1.2 Graduation Coach Update – GCHS

Members to review Report attached in agenda package.

7.1.3 Graduation Coach Update – MRHS

Members to review Report attached in agenda package.

7.1.4 Graduation Coach Introduction – LSHS

The following new format will be implemented for Graduation Coach section at our IEAC meetings to take in account our time together. We will have one of four graduation coaches present their report at the meeting, with the remaining three to be read only one Graduation Coach will provide a verbal update at each IEAC meeting. All reports will be attached for review in the agenda package, with only one Graduation Coach



providing a verbal update.

The Lake Superior High School Grad Coach update was provided by S. Bartlett on M. Lanovaz behalf. Melissa Lanovaz is the new grad coach for LSHS, replacing Chelsea Boyd.

The Stingers gathered to craft personal jingle dress as part of an Anishinaabemowin Boodawae Committee activity. The students had a goal to complete their handmade jingle dress before the annual Powwow. In recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day and Orange Shirt Day, the Stinger community in partnership with Pawgwasheeng Pays Plat, were honoured to host the student-led Powwow. Students from Pays Plat, Rossport, Schreiber and Terrace Bay joined together.

The cultural room has been busy as post-secondary planning has begun. The Grad Coach has met with potential graduates about their plans. The Metis Nation of Ontario, Northwest Employment Works and post-secondary liaisons are coming to help students with a successful transition to their next pathway.

V. Auger expressed gratitude for M. Lanovaz.

7.2 Up coming IEAC meeting locations

S. Bartlett spoke on the current tentative dates for IEAC meeting which are provided at the bottom of the agenda. If a community would like to host the IEAC meeting please reach out to S. Bartlett.

D. Bottle has tentatively agreed to host the May 20 IEAC meeting in the community of Beardmore.

P. Hardy invited IEAC members to BZA community for the tentative April 2025 date.

7.3 Action Plan Development for TRC Policy

S. Bartlett implemented the TRC policy and management guidelines. The policy is reviewed every few years and management guidelines can be worked on throughout the year. S. Bartlett is looking for members to be part of action plan for TRC.

P. Hardy acknowledged the loss of the Honorable Murray Sinclair who was the provinces first, and Canada's second, indigenous judge. Sinclair served as chief commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada. We cannot forget those who provided the pathway for us. With this week being Treaty Week, it is a good time to reflect on what we are doing in community to move forward.

W. Goodman thanked P.Hardy for the recognition of the Honorable Murray Sinclair.

7.4 Indigenous Special Education Facilitator: Update

Loretta Lemon provided the following verbal update. L. Lemon role to support Indigenous Students within Special Education programming, focusing on their achievement, well-being and transitions through a culturally responsive and holistic approach.

Since moving into the position L Lemon has visited numerous communities and schools, attended transition meeting in Biigtigong Nishnaabeg and Netmizaaggaming Nishnaabeg, work collaboratively with Grand Coaches, SETS, and Principals.



In May L.Lemon travelled to Marten Falls to participate in an Anishinaabemowin class, supported a student transitional into GCHS, spent time in Schreiber Public School collaborating with the Positive Behaviour Interventionist.

July was busy being part of week-long Language Immersion camp with the Anishinaabemowin Boodawe Committee in partnership with Superior-Greenstone District School Board.

Most recently, working with parents and caregivers from Red Rock Indian Band, as well as their children, with transitioning in Kindergarten and in new grade through a summer transition program, including re-entry into school. Currently working with Marjorie Mills Public school in Longlac and the Education Director in Ginoogaming in supporting families and students with re-entry into school.

L.Lemon has connected with the Ontario First Nations Technical Services Corporation to explore their First Nations Youth Mentorship Program, attended various workshops, and conferences and cultural events.

K. Wrigley provided information on a potential opportunity to attend a two-day conference with the Chiefs of Ontario at the end of the month. K. Wrigley will share information for the professional development with S. Bartlett.

P.Hardy reach out to Leif. L. Lemon reached out to Leif about attending land base learning days and Pam would like to sit with L. Lemon to create a solid plan for students coming in.

7.5 Indigenous Student Trustee: Update

S. Bartlett provided the following update for the Indigenous Student Trustee. There are six names put forth for the position. An update will be provided at the next IEAC meeting.

7.6 Indigenous Trades Program at Nip-Rock High School

Carole Leroux provided the following information for the Indigenous Trades Program at Nip-Rock High School. The new Indigenous Education program has begun, and a new person was hired for the position. Although the new hire is not OCT qualified, the individual has incredible experience to bring forth to the program. A presentation will be provided at the next IEAC meeting. Currently students are building tiny homes and student engagement, and attendance is good. Any specific questions regarding the program can be forwarded to S.Bartlett.and will be included in the presentation.

S.Bartlett acknowledge and thanked the partnership with with Red Rock Indian Band, Ginoogaming , BZA and Matawa.

8.0 Ginkino-amaagewini-Odaakewigimaa Oshkichigaadewinan (Director of Education Updates)

8.1 Director's Quarterly Report

W. Goodman shared the Directors Quarterly report as attached in the agenda package. It showcases our system leads and their work within our organization. The floor was opened for questions.

No questions at this time.

8.2 Indigenous Trustee - Update

W. Goodman provided the following verbal update for the Indigenous Trustee vacancy.



W. Goodman reminded members Paul Cormier, the previous Indigenous Trustee, left the position due to scheduling conflicts last year. The successful candidate is not chosen by SGDSB, but rather the voice of all First Nation communities. The opportunity to put forth a name has taken place. The hope is the vacancy will be filled before the next IEAC meeting; with the First Nation Communities endorsement.

The floor was open for questions and comments. There were no questions or comments at this time from members.

8.3 MYSP Update

The final copy of the Multi-Year Strategic Plan is attached in agenda package. This is an informed plan which was created collaboratively from feedback from stakeholders. All communities have been mailed a copy with an accompanying letter and an electronic version is also available on the SGDSB website. If there are any questions regarding the MYSP; please feel free to contact W. Goodman.

W. Goodman summarized part of the MYSP with the focus of finding joy in learning and high expectations but being kind to our students. This is a five-year plan which we are currently in year one. W. Goodman thanked the First Nation Community partners.

Feedback was given by members and addressed by W. Goodman.

9.0 **Awashime Dazhindamowaad (Additional Agenda Items)**

9.1 EQAO Report

Annick Brewster summarized the EQAO report as attached in the agenda package. Students attending SGDSB participate in four assessments:

- Grade 3 – Assessment of reading, writing and math
- Grade 6 – Assessment of reading, writing and math
- Grade 9 – Assessment of reading, writing and math
- Grade 9 – OSSLT – Ontario Secondary Literacy Test

The results from 2023-2024 EQAO demonstrate how students from SGDSB are achieving and are able to compare the results to the 2022-2023 and 2021-2022 school years. The results for student achievement varied but, students are achieving at or above provincial standard is consistently improving overall.

Results for students self-identified as Indigenous indicate minimal disproportionality in comparison to students not self-identified as Indigenous. In comparison to the province, particularly in Junior (Grade 6) Reading, the percentage of students achieving at or above provincial standard and self-identify as Indigenous is higher than that of the province, which is consistent with students not self-identified as Indigenous.

The achievement results for each of the following years 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024, as well as results for students have self-identified as indigenous for 2023-2024 can be seen in the charts provided in the report.

Kyle Thomson thanked and acknowledged the impactful efforts of students, teachers, Math Coaches, Learning Leads, Graduation Coaches with the leadership of Tara Balog and Carole Leroux dedication to the progress in numeracy reflected in the EQAO results. It was observed a 14% (13.3%) increase in the number of Grade 9 Math students achieving at or above the provincial standard to the previous year. The Ministry of Education and representatives are now working with Tara and inquiring about best practices present at SGDSB due to the increase. For self-id students, it is a 8.2% increase in success rate.



The OSSLT, Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test results remain consistent at 60.4% with a positive trend in the growing number of first-time eligible students participating. When we review data for self-id students, it is a 12. &% increase in success rate compared to the previous year.

Next steps: school teams including Learning Leads, and Math Coaches at each secondary school, continue to support educators with instructional practices aimed at improving literacy and numeracy outcomes. To further enhance student success on the OSSLT. A new platform called Litguide is being introduced, offering targeted preparation for the assessment.

Committee members Lisa Michano, Kellie Wrigley, Pamela Hardy and Mary Blakely provided feedback on the EQAO test results focusing on the gaps in achievement between self-id students and non-indigenous students, what strategies the coaches are using and student voice and if the student voice can be used at the elementary level which may help students at the high school level. A safe place is important for students to bring forth concerns should they want to.

W. Goodman thanked and acknowledged member feedback recognizing not all options work for students. It would be valuable to hear from students at FNAC where their voice can be shared.

9.2 Board Action Plan IEAC Team

S. Bartlett will send an email to members who wish to be part of the Board Action Plan.

If members are interested in being part of the team, please respond to email Shyanne will provide in the next week.

10.0 Gaagiiqidowin gaye wawiindamowinan aanie-maanwinji'idiwin ge-dazhindamoyaang (Open Discussion and Suggestions for Next Meeting Dates):

10.1 Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Date

- February 18, 2025 – *tentative - virtually*
- April 22, 2025 – *tentative – BZA*
- May 20, 2025 – *tentative - AZA*
- November 4, 2025 -tentative

W. Goodman opened the floor for discussion or comments on dates.

11.0 Adjournment:

Moved by: V. Auger

Second: Y. Kowtiash

That, the IEAC Meeting on November 5, 2024, adjourn at 11:40 am..

Carried.