



SUPERIOR-GREYSTONE 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:

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

Our Values:

"Character, Citizenship, Collaboration, Communication, Creativity and Critical Thinking"

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

Tuesday, April 23, 2024 – 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

SGDSB Learning Centre & Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams -

Teleconference Dial-In Information: 1 – 8 4 4 – 6 1 3 – 3 1 2 0; Conference ID No

Maawanji'idiwin Wiindamaagewi-Ozhibii'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) Robinson Meshake				X		EEP Program Liaison - Matawa, Shelby Chng			X		
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano			X			Randi Ray and/or Wabun Education Partnership Program.				X	
Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Yvonne Kowtiash			X			Joshua LeClair, Regional Education Council Coordinator, KEB , Kristen Kewagean			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		Nokiwin Education Advisor – Scott Baker / Loretta Sky				X	
Nikki Goodman			X			Representatives					
(Ginoogaming #77) Martha Taylor				X		Tamara Vernier, Native Language Teacher				X	
(Ginoogaming #77) Dallas Fisher				X		Sara Carlson, Grad Coach - GCHS			X		
(Ginoogaming #77) Chris Hill			X			Sara Park, Grad Coach - NRHS			X		
						Delaney Michano, Grad Coach - MRHS			X		
						Chelsea Boyd, Grad Coach - LSHS			X		
(Marten Fall FN) Suzanne Baxter			X			Sheila Cassie, Secretary - Portfolio Support			X		
(Marten Falls FN) Louise Coaster				X		Patti Pella, Education Officer, Ministry of Education			X		
(Pays Plat) Valerie Auger			X			Trustees					
(Netmizaaggamik) Amber Deveraux			X			Julie Michano				X	
(Netmizaaggamik) Lori Guinchard				X		Pinky McRae (Ex-officio)					X
(Netmizaaggamig) Monique Brownlee			X			Megen Brunskill				X	
(Netmizaaggamik) Joe Moses				X		Board Administration					
(Red Rock) Marilyn Netemegesic			X			Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education			X		
(Red Rock) Ted Wawia				X		Shy-Anne Bartlett, Manager of Indigenous Education			X		
(Red Rock) Tymara Ruth			X								
(White Sands) Sue Taylor				X		Eric Fredrickson, Superintendent of Education			X		
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Denise Bottle				X		Will Goodman, Superintendent of Education			X		
Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Claudette Rody / Mary Blakely			X			Alex Marton, Superintendent of Business					X
Wabun (Flying Post First Nation) Angela McLeod				X		Anthony Jeethan, Human Rights & Equity Advisor				X	
(Bingwi Neyaashi Anishnaabek) Tylyn Silander				X		Carole Leroux, Superintendent of Education			X		
(Longlac 58 First Nation)						Lisa Zeleny, Executive Assistant			X		



					Loretta Mangoff, <i>Indigenous Special Education Facilitator</i>			x	
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2.0 **Opening Prayer**

Marilynn Netemegesic opened the meeting with prayer by thanking the Creator and grandmothers and grandfathers for watching over us in all that we do. Marilynn offered prayers for those who are suffering with illnesses and for the missing and murdered women, girls and boys and those impacted by war. M. Netemegesic thanked our Creator for all that he offers us and for our new young learners and leaders in our schools.

3.0 **Welcome and Introductions**

Shy-Anne Bartlett welcomed everyone and thanked all the members who were able to join today. S. Bartlett also introduced Nicki Goodman from Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek

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

4.1 IEAC Meeting Minutes, February 20, 2024.

*Moved by: Valerie Auger Second: Monique Brownlee
That the minutes for the Superior-Greenstone DSB Indigenous Education
Advisory Committee meeting, February 20, 2023, be accepted and approved.
Carried.*

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

5.1 Celebrations/Updates

Shy-Anne Bartlett also spoke about the PD on April 19 was successful. Angela Gladu presented on the difference between appreciating and appropriating. Guest speaker, Dr. Marie Battiste gave a presentation on decolonizing education, and the difference between equity and sovereignty in education. S. Bartlett gave an introduction on units on how to introduce in the classrooms and how to implement them into the classrooms. Monthly newsletter will come out in a couple of weeks with more information.

Nicole Morden Cormier followed-up with information on the upcoming Excellence Awards taking place at the SGDSB Learning Center on May 17. This is the second year for the Award of Excellence celebration that not only celebrates internal educators but also external. One of the recipients is Lisa Michano who was nominated and chosen as a recipient for an Award of Excellent in Education. Congratulations Lisa.

5.2 February 20, 2024 IEAC Minute Updates

Senior Administration connected with communities for a discussion.

Nicole Morden Cormier updated IEAC Committee members regarding the new Indigenous Student Trustee position with SGDSB. April 2, 2024, members of IEAC who wished to participate in this conversation were invited to provide feedback and guidance to enhance the management guidelines. SGDSB is looking at appropriate titles and language for this position and the best way to conduct the elections. This position is not elected as other Student Trustee positions are but is mutually decided by First Nations who have Education Service Agreements with SGDSB.

Lisa Michano provided the following insight; when AES runs Youth Council they did it in a traditional way; using traditional governance and traditional election with the support of an Elder. An Elder explained the process of the traditional governance N. Morden Cormier indicated that there is an agreement to use a traditional way to hire the new Indigenous Student Trustee and asked L. Michano to follow-up with her with a contact that may be utilized for this process.



Del Michano reminded members the hiring of Chief and Council is a colonial construct which should not be used.

S. Bartlett presented the following information on Deana Renaud's behalf regarding the Substance Abuse Strategy. A special meeting was held April 4, 2024 as an action step from the last IEAC meeting to discuss the current state and concerns and moving towards building clear actions for the following school year. The following strategies have been identified and will be integrated in the Mental Health 2024-2025 Action plan to enhance mental well-being among students: Land-Based Learning, Earlier Education About Substance Use, Connection to People with Lived Experience. We look forward to working collaboratively with IEAC and other stakeholders to implement these initiatives.

5.3 Community Updates (and FNAC)

S. Bartlett invited community members to speak about upcoming celebrations and new things taking place in their communities.

Shelby Chng, Matawa EEP Program Liaison, shared the good news that a grant was applied for and received for books through Indigo for both Matawa and Maarten Falls. The grant provided \$100,000 in books and 30% discount, plus free shipping to all the communities. S. Chng indicated the new books are very much needed.

S. Bartlett added a gathering will take place that will include Student Senate, Indigenous Youth Council and the Equity Group. The 3 groups will meet on June 11 for the annual Youth Gathering instead of holding 3 separate meetings.

W. Goodman added that this will be the first time the three groups will be meeting and how exciting it is a great opportunity to be bringing our leaders from our schools together to share and celebrate their learning from the year.

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

6.1 Powwows and Youth Gathering

S. Bartlett indicated the consensus was to have 3-4 Powwows with each being provided \$2500 and one bus provided for each school. The following locations/sites have been selected for the Powwows: Beardmore Public School on June 19, Marathon High School on June 7 and Nip-Rock High on May 29; with First Nations communities supporting.

L. Michano provided the following feedback on thinking about our Indigenous students that perhaps there is an opportunity to break up our schools into smaller regions and switch up where the Powwows are taking place, so they are not occurring at the same location. L. Michano brought forth the student voice as they feel the site selection may not be fair for students. L. Michano suggested they would be in favor of a rotation system for Powwows.

S. Bartlett provided the following update regarding the Truth and Reconciliation and Anti-Racism Policy: Human Rights and Equity Advisor, and Manager of Indigenous Education are moving forward with the 2nd consultation meeting after updates and revisions were made based on the initial consultation meeting. An update will be provided at the May 22, 2024 IEAC meeting.

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

7.1 Graduation coach Update

7.1.1 Graduation Coach Update – NRHS

Sara Park presented her report attached in the agenda package. The projected student numbers and number of students accessing the space were highlighted.



The number of students accessing the space is difficult to capture as students move in and out of the space quickly.

Transitions is a focus at this time of year as NRHS will be welcoming 52 grade 8 students. The next transition activity is Grade 8 day on April 12, 2024.

S. Park reflected on a survey which was provided for students and filled out anonymously. The results for the last question were disappointing but there is always work to be done as relationships are key.

Elders and Residence Program continues at NRHS continues and is well received by both students and staff and drumming continues at NRHS, with senior student, R. Thompson, taking the lead and leading our drumming group at NRHS.

The Water Walk was supported by Judy Wawia and will be done yearly.

Next Steps: Delivery of the developed transition plan for grade 8 students, provide ongoing support for graduating students, plan and collaborate with community organizations to provide cultural opportunities, daily data collection.

7.1.2 Graduation Coach Update - GCHS

Sara Carlson presented her report as attached in the agenda package and highlighted the following: Trying to keep track of the numbers of students that are supported increases throughout the year. The number of grade 9 students has decreased. Transitions: a survey was sent out in September to potential graduates on life after high school. The student's confidence was not good. Another survey was completed in March which indicated the numbers are going up which is positive, but still work to do to support student and build confidence. S. Carlson highlighted three positives and three risk areas from the survey.

Elders and Residence Program is going well with a focus on getting Elders into the classroom. S. Carlson has encouraged teachers to reach out to S. Bartlett for support in this area.

On May 1st there is a transition day taking place for approximately 40 grade 8's

Next Steps: GCHS transition team is collaborating with staff and students at partnering schools, secondary visits to classrooms are planned for this spring, Transition Day is scheduled for May 1 at GCHS.

7.1.3 Graduation Coach Update – LSHS

Deferred.

7.1.4 Graduation Coach Update – MRHS

S. Bartlett introduced Del Michano. D. Michano provided a verbal report beginning with his previous work experience and gratitude for the opportunity to move into the Education field. D. Michano expressed there is a need for a role model for young men in the schools and is looking forward in building relationships and shared a 'feel good' moment with members. Drumming is being reintroduced at Marathon High School along with new learning with a focus on self-care with the students. D. Michano thanked the Grad Coaches for their support.

Gratitude was given to D. Michano by IEAC members as well as Grad Coaches by S. Bartlett for their commitment to students.

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

8.1 Director's Quarterly Report

The Director presented her Director's Quarterly Reports as attached in the agenda package.

On March 18, 2024, future Director of Education for SGDSB William Goodman began mentoring with the current Director of Education, Nicole Morden Cormier. As part of the



process W. Goodman has assumed responsibility for the supervision of the Indigenous Education Department at SGDSB, with the Director providing input behind the scenes. W. Goodman is also assuming the role of Director Designate at Committee Meetings, including IEAC, and thus will have more of an active role when meetings occur.

The 2024-2029 Multi-year Strategic Plan (MYSP) is well underway, with data from multiple sources being analyzed and themes identified. A draft document will be brought for input in coming weeks, once the Board of Trustees have completed their review. The document will be formerly published and released through a formal campaign once the final review is completed. We are grateful to those who have already provided valuable input into this plan.

The Financial Team, Brent Harris, Manager of Financial Services and Connie Chouinard, Team Lead, Business Services are working to streamline the billing cycle/financial cycle to ensure it works and aligns with the communities.

Math Achievement Action Plan: Objective is to empower instructional coaches to engage in equity-driven practices that foster positive educational mathematics outcome for students across the district. To ensure we continue to work to narrow gaps and foster inclusive learning environments to exploring innovative approaches to cater to the needs of our math learners.

Mental Health Profile: Land-Based Learning, Earlier Education About Substance Use, Connection to People with Lived Experience strategies have been identified and will be integrated into the Mental Health 2024-2025 Action Plan to enhance mental well-being among students. Specific action steps for each of these strategies will be developed and reported on as they are developed.

Our attendance teams are working to support students in having regular attendance at school (falling into the low risk %), actively looking into our data that shows a discrepancy between students that self ID or attend through an ESA and the whole student body to discover why these students have a greater risk of absenteeism. We are looking into the effects of transportation concerns as well as reaching out to student with a High Risk % of absenteeism to is what is preventing them from making it to school.

Research shows that although Kindergarten is a program and parents can decide if their child will attend, it is important to start building habits early as early learning is key for success. There is research that shows regular attendance supports routine.

Questions and concerns were brought forward by L. Michano with how post covid trends still exist and how to lower high absenteeism percentage; as well as access to resources.

N. Morden Cormier addressed L. Michano's concerns and indicated the attendance team will reach out and share information.

8.2 Indigenous Trustee

N. Morden Cormier provided a verbal update on the resignation of Indigenous Trustee Paul Cormier.

P. Cormier held positions as a Board Trustee, as well as an IEAC member. P. Cormier's resignation creates a vacancy with SGDSB. A letter will be sent to Chiefs and Council and IEAC members for nominations for this role. N. Morden Cormier reminded members, the Board does not choose or appoint the Indigenous Trustee. This position is chosen by community members. The goal is to have a new Trustee in place for September 2024.

8.3 Indigenous Student Trustee- (refer to section 5.2)



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

9.1 **Student Achievement Plan**

Annick Brewster presented their report as attached in agenda package and reminded members it is a requirement to post on the SGDSB website. The Board is looking for feedback from IEAC members on sharing information on other platforms.

A discussion regarding concerns on low math achievement numbers took place and how there has been a decrease in communication and networking with Leads. L. Michano indicated this is a concern from students, support staff and parents/guardians.

W. Goodman suggested a special meeting to discuss these concerns. Also reminded members the data presented is very prescribed by the Ministry on what the school board is required to report on. There will be a couple of different touch points throughout the year. This information will be shared to all our committees and not just IEAC. We want to get as much feedback and information.

P. Pella will share concerns brought forward by L. Michano with the Ministry.

9.2 **Summer Learning**

A. Brewster shared a poster on Summer Learning and the programs being offered and has individual posters to be sent out.

S. Bartlett was excited to share a new pilot program for SGDSB. The new program will be in person Anishinaabemowin ages 5-9 will work with language keepers. The site for the pilot program will take place at George O'Neill Public School for one week and is open to students registered at a SGDSB school.

W. Goodman added SGDSB Summer Program has been growing every year. This year we have steady programs happening and the programs offered will make a difference for our students and meet the needs of our students. ABC is a key component in creating these opportunities for our students.

L. Michano – commented AES system able to access funding to be able to award 21 credits on a trip to Spain and this year with a trip to Hawaii. Great opportunity to bring their culture and identity to a new community to share their heritage and learn about others culture and share theirs as well.

W. Goodman it is important to note that the Board dollars received for Summer Learning is very prescribed for SGDSB.

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

10.2 **Indigenous Education Advisory Committee Meeting Dates**

- May 22, 2024
- November 5, 2024

11.0 **Adjournment:**

Moved by: L. Michano

Second: M. Brownlee

That, the IEAC Meeting on April 23, 2024, adjourn at 11:44.

Carried.