



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 Motto:

"Small schools make a difference"

Our Vision:

"Inspiring our students to succeed and make a difference"

Our Values:

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

Indigenous Education Advisory Committee

Thursday, September 24, 2020 – 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting – Microsoft Teams
 Teleconference Dial-In Information: 1 – 8 4 4 – 6 1 3 – 3 1 2 0;
 Access Code/Conference ID No.: 5 9 8 8 0 1 2 6 3 #

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) Annamarie Majiskon			X			Tamara Vernier, Native Language Teacher					X
(Biigtigong Nishnabeg) Lisa Michano					X	Bernadine O'Brien, Grad Coach		X			
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Yvonne Kowtish</i>		X				Sarah Park, Grad Coach		X			
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Christine Hardy</i>		X				Student Representative Erin Couture			X		
<i>Biinjitiwaabik Zaaging Anishinabek (Rocky Bay) Gabrielle Swerdlyk</i>		X				Nancy O'Donnell, Regional Education Council Coordinator		X			
(Ginoogaming #77) Victor Chapais					X	Tim Robbins, Metis Representative					X
(Ginoogaming #77) Sheri Taylor					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			Board Administration					
(Bingijiw Neyaashi Anishnaabek) Tracey Gibson					X	Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education			X		
(White Sands) Barbara Ann Wynn					X	Shy-Anne Bartlett, Interim Indigenous Education Lead			X		
First Nation (Other)						Charlie Bishop, Superintendent of Education			X		
<i>Animgiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinabek Denise Bottle</i>			X			Will Goodman, Superintendent of Education			X		
(Longlac 58 First Nation) Veronica Waboose (Chief)					X	Bev Vachon, Principal, Marjorie Mills Public School			X		
Randi Ray, Wabun Education Partnership Program.					X	Stephen Wilson, Principal, Marathon High School			X		
Angela McLeod (Flying Post First Nation)					X	Tom Rivers, Vice-Principal, Geraldton Composite High School			X		
(CEP Program Liaison) Skylene Metatawabin					X	Jennifer Rissanen, Principal, Nipigon-Red Rock District High School			X		
Tracy Gibson					X	Erik Leroux, Vice-Principal, George O'Neill Public School			X		
						Leslie Blackwood, Vice-Principal, Schreiber Public School			X		
						Chris Martin, Principal, Lake Superior High School			X		



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2.0 Opening Prayer

Marilyn Netemegsic opened the meeting with a prayer.

3.0 Welcome and Introductions

Chair Paul Cormier and Shy-Anne Bartlett provided introductions of the new additions to the committee meetings including Tim Robbins as Metis Representative, Erin Couture as Student Trustee and the SGDSB Principals.

4.0 Approval of the Minutes

Moved by: M. Mannisto

Second: N. O'Donnell

That the minutes for the Superior-Greenstone DSB Indigenous Education Advisory Committee meeting, March 3, 2020 and June 16, 2020 be accepted and approved.

Carried

5.0 Updates: School Reopening and Virtual Schools Update

Superintendent of Education Will Goodman provided an update regarding opening of schools for in person learning within the school buildings. He advised that both students and staff have been happy to return to learning. He provided a review of the current safety measures including masking, cleaning, physical distancing and school cohorting. Teachers have been implementing many innovative strategies, increased learning outdoors and engaged in experiential learning opportunities. Superintendent of Education Charlie Bishop discussed the newly created Virtual School that currently has 140 students enrolled. The Virtual School has teachers specifically assigned for instruction, as well as 2 half time Administrators and a half time Secretary.

6.0 Identifying the Strengths, Concerns & Next Steps for Reopening Schools – Group Discussion

Committee Chair Paul Cormier lead the Committee in a group discussion to review any concerns or positive feedback regarding the reopening of schools. Committee members discussed the fear of the Pandemic that many parents and students are facing. Some transportation issues were identified and the community is currently working with the school on the matter. An issue was identified with the GCHS cafeteria arrangements and the school Administrator will review the matter further with the community representative. Committee members offered positive feedback regarding the safety measures implemented such as kids entering separate doors, masks, using separate washrooms, separate recess times, and keeping students in cohorts.

The Director discussed Operational Guidance document provided by the Ministry and the communications process that will be followed when a positive case of COVID-19 is identified in one of the area schools. She advised that this information is also available on the Board website on the COVID-19 Advisories page. The entire school board will receive notice of an identified case and First Nation communities will be notified immediately along with the Parents/Guardians. The Thunder Bay District Health Unit will manage the contact tracing and immediately contacting anyone with close contact to the infected staff member or student. The Director reviewed the plans in place for student learning to pivot to virtual learning if a student is required to isolate, a class/cohort is required to isolate or if the schools close.

7.0 Board Action Plan Development

Interim Indigenous Education Lead Shy-Anne Bartlett reviewed the purpose and process of development for the Board Action Plan. She requested volunteers from the Committee to assist in the design and development of the plan. Committee members are requested to reach out to Shy-Anne if they are interested in helping build and this annual plan.



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8.0 Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The Chair expressed his gratitude to the Committee for making room in their schedules for this additional meeting. He noted the importance of keeping open lines of communication during the start of the school year with all of the challenges caused by the Pandemic and urged everyone to continue to reach out as soon as any issues arise.

The Chair requested Committee members to email Shy-Anne with any requested agenda items for the next scheduled meeting.

A recommendation was made to offer the “Blanket Exercise” to teachers and staff. The committee discussed the value of the program and noted that it is very educational for cultural awareness.

9.0 Schedule of Meeting Dates:

October 27, 2020

10.0 Adjournment:

Marilynn Netemegesic honored the committee by closing the meeting with a traveling song.

*Moved by: D. Bottle Second: J. Wawia
That, the IEAC Meeting on September 24, 2020 adjourn at 1:57p.m.*