

**SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**



**Mission Statement**

*In partnership with the students, the home and the community,  
Superior-Greenstone District School Board will address  
individual students' needs by providing:*

- ❖ *a diverse education that prepares for and honours their chosen path for success,*
  - ❖ *avenues that foster a love of learning, and*
  - ❖ *the means to honour varied learning styles.*

**First Nation's Advisory Committee**

Friday, October 5, 2007 — 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

Designated Site: Red Rock Inn, Fireside Meeting Room, Red Rock ON

Chair: Cindy Fisher

Director: Lise Haman

Note: A light lunch will be served at approximately 11:30 a.m.

**1.0 Roll Call**

<i>Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)</i>											
<b>First Nation Members</b>	OS	TC	VC	A	R	<b>Trustees</b>	OS	TC	VC	A	R
Auger, Valerie				X		Bartlett, Bette	X				
Lake Nipigon Ojibway First Nation				X		Fisher, Cindy	X				
Desmoulin, Jeff				X		Mannisto, Mark	X				
Ferris, Joanne				X		Notwell, Kathryn	X				
Lesperance Valda				X							
Misner, Robert				X		<b>Board Administration</b>	OS	TC	VC	A	R
Millard, Judy				X		Chaboyer, Melanie				X	
Panamick, Edna				X		Haman, Lise	X				
Sabourin, Faye						Kappel, Colleen					X
Taggart, Rachel	X					Morden-Cormier, Nicole					X
Thompson, Xavier				X		Newton, Valerie	X				
Wilson Earl	X					Simonaitis, Fred				X	

**1.0 Welcome & Introductions**

Chair Cindy Fisher conducted a smudging ceremony.

**2.0 Minutes: June 18, 2007**

**2.1 Review and Adopt NEAC Minutes**

*Moved by: Rachel*

*Seconded by: Bette*

*Resolved that, the minutes from NEAC Meeting dated June 18, 2007 be and are hereby adopted.*

**3.0 Discussion**

**3.1 Follow-up: Voluntary Aboriginal Self-Identification Process**

Lise Haman reported that brochures and letters were sent out to all families about Voluntary Self-Identification.

At the time of the meeting, the Board had received 187 forms from those who had self-identified. The information will be used to implement strategies to continue to support the needs of our Aboriginal students.

### 3.2 NOEL: Oral Language Project

Lise Haman informed members that the Board is involved in a significant research project along with other NOEL boards. The purpose of the project is to develop an assessment tool which can be used in the early identification of language needs of Aboriginal students. The project also involves the development of effective instructional programs and practices for students.

The Board is required to commit funding to this project. A request was made and approved by NEAC that approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000 be directed to support the project. This money will come from the per pupil amount that the board receives based on Statistics Canada data.

Members expressed an interest in receiving the assessment tools and the training for First Nations teachers.

### 3.3 Later Literacy

Student Success Coordinator Valerie Newton, reported that the Board received \$61,000 from the Light house Project to support the Later Literacy project. Four ½ time educational assistants have been appointed to deliver the program at the elementary level and the equivalent of one full-time position has been allocated to the secondary schools.

She also reported that a gr.11 course: Aboriginal Voices – a College pathway course, is presently being offered in all five high schools in the Board. Another Aboriginal based course will be offered during second semester.

Valerie also presented data describing the results of the Later Literacy program in the Board. Evidence demonstrates that students are experiencing success as a result of the program.

## **4.0 Indian and Northern Affairs Canada**

### 4.1 Presenter: Ruth Yesno (INAC)

An open discussion took place between NEAC members and Ruth. Highlights of this discussion include:

- negotiable items in tuition agreements between First Nations and Boards include transportation, special education and native counselors
- funding for tuition agreements is based on formula
- First Nations communities can apply for New Pathways Initiatives. Proposals must focus on three priorities: professional development, parent engagement and capacity building.
- Boards and First Nations can work jointly to establish initiatives
- Other negotiable items in tuition agreements include costs for traveling to NEAC meetings and supporting participation of Aboriginal student trustees

### 4.2 Open Forum: Question / Answer

Members expressed interest in expanding partnership opportunities between First Nations schools and schools within SGDSB. A professional development/training plan should be developed and shared so that teachers have access to pd and training with their counterparts.

## **5.0 Items for the Next Meeting**

- Tuition Agreements – invite Bruce Rousseau and finance person from INAC
- PD sharing opportunities between First Nations and SGDSB
- Update from Parent Involvement Committee
- Update on student achievement initiatives: Student Success OLA project

## **6.0 Next Meeting Date**

To be set at the Board Organizational meeting on December 3, 2007

## **7.0 Adjournment**

*Moved by: Rachel*

*Seconded by: Bette*

*Resolved that, the NEAC Meeting be adjourned at 2:40 p.m.*