

SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Report No: 38
Date: June 17, 2013

TO: Chair and Members of the
Superior-Greenstone District School Board

FROM: Aaron MacGregor, Student Trustee

SUBJECT: Student Trustee Report

**STRATEGIC
PRIORITY:** Student Achievement and Well Being

Student Senate Meeting

The Student Senate held its final meeting of the year on Wednesday, June 12. Since many schools are involved in field trips, final projects, and otherwise very full schedules, attendance was not as large as usual. The meeting was brief, with agenda items including possibilities for next year, the continued discussion of creating a Student Senate constitution, and an outline of the Ontario Student Trustees' Association's Student, Parent, and Educator Survey.

Senator Reports

Dorion Public School students recently collaborated to show their school spirit by painting the school picnic tables.

Nakina Public School reported that students have recently held a flower sale fundraiser, which successfully raised \$500 for the school. Students are anticipating playing in a baseball tournament in Longlac on Thursday, June 13, and on Friday receiving a presentation from Science North. On the last day of school, students are looking forward to a field trip to the beach.

Red Rock Public School reported that they will be hosting a track meet on Friday, June 14 for elementary schools in the region.

Marjorie Mills Public School will also be participating in the baseball tournament in Longlac. Students are also busy preparing for upcoming graduation ceremonies.

Geraldton Composite High School had a successful prom, which raised over \$300 and was attended by over half of the school population. At a recent track and field event, GCHS placed second in javelin and 100m dash. Grade eight tours have been taking place to prepare upcoming high school students for the next chapter of their education.

Nipigon-Red Rock District High School recently participated in NSSSAA soccer finals in Wawa. Senators reported that graduating students are currently preparing for their graduation ceremony on Friday, June 14.

Manitouwadge High School Student Council was busy preparing for its prom, which will be held on Friday, June 14. Also, MNHS Athletic Association is holding its annual Athletic Banquet on Tuesday, June 18, which is catered by the grade 10 Hospitality and Tourism class. Graduates are busy preparing for the upcoming graduation ceremony on Wednesday, June 26.

Ontario Student Trustees' Association

From May 23 to May 25, the Ontario Student Trustees' Association held its Annual General Meeting (AGM), which I had the opportunity to attend along with incoming student trustee Maria Visintin. The conference was well attended, with representation from 36 school boards across Ontario. Several excellent keynote speakers, a press release, professional development, a constitutional amendment session, and the election of next year's executive council were on the AGM agenda.

The first keynote was from Minister of Education Liz Sandals. Minister Sandals congratulated OSTA-AECO for our work to represent the students of Ontario, and highlighted triumphs and challenges of this year. She took questions, which was an excellent opportunity for student trustees to bring to the attention of Minister Sandals issues and ideas.

The next keynote was from Olivia Chow, Trinity-Spadina MP. Speaking of youth advocacy, Olivia recounted stories of her leadership experiences, and provided advice on how to campaign for change. Questions were taken, and productive discussions took place surrounding challenges that student trustees may face.

The third keynote was motivational speaker and teambuilding expert Bobby Umar. Bobby presented advice and facilitated discussion to guide student trustees in their future endeavors, and all were left with a sense of fulfillment and confidence for the future.

This year, a new OSTA-AECO initiative was developed and released as a result of the hard work of several student trustees from across the province. The Ontario Student Voice Awards (OSVA) had a successful first year, with over 50 nominations received. The winners of each award were announced in a press release at AGM. Award winners and their can be viewed at the OSVA website: studentvoiceawards.osta-aeco.org.

Next on the AGM agenda was the launch of the fourth annual Ontario Student, Parent, and Educator Survey. There are ten survey questions, with three unique to public and Catholic board students. The survey can be viewed and completed at <http://studentsurvey.ca/>.

My final OSTA-AECO conference was a memorable experience. The professional development and introduction to the roles of a student trustee was an asset to incoming student trustees, and Maria commented on how positive the conference was for her. After a year of work, seeing the culmination of our efforts and being available to help new student trustees understand their position was a valued experience.

Administrative Summary

The report entitled Student Trustee Report has been presented to the Superior-Greenstone DSB for information.

Respectfully submitted by:

Aaron MacGregor,
Student Trustee

David Tamblyn
Director of Education