



# 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 Vision:**

*"Inspiring our students to succeed and make a difference".*

**Our Motto:**

*"Small schools make a difference".*

**Our Values:**

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

**Videoconference Site Locations**

Superior-Greenstone District School Board..... (SGDSB)..... 12 Hemlo Drive, Marathon, ON  
 Manitowadge High School .....(MNHS) ..... 200 Manitou Road W., Manitowadge, ON  
 Lake Superior High School ..... (LSHS)..... Hudson Drive, Terrace Bay, ON  
 Superior-Greenstone DSB Learning Centre..... (SGDSBLC) 46 Salls Street, Red Rock, ON  
 Geraldton Composite High School..... (GCHS).....500 Second Street West, Geraldton, ON

**Parent Involvement Committee (PIC)**

Tuesday, November 26, 2019 — 6:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

On-Site at SGDSB Learning Centre Meeting Room  
 Electronic Access via Videoconference and/or Teleconference

**Dial-in: 1-833-247-7123 Conference ID: 6183933 Conference Password: 44335**

Chair: Director

Recorder: GerriLynn Christianson

**1.0 Roll Call**

| Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R) |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Parent Involvement Committee  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Elementary Schools  | O | T | V | A | R | Secondary Schools                                     | O | T | V | A | R |
|   | S | C | C |   |   |   | S | C | C |   |   |
| BAPS – <i>Natalie Cormier, School Cncl</i>  |   |   |   | x |   | GCHS – <i>Matthew Donovan, School Cncl</i>            |   |   |   | x |   |
| BEPS – <i>Nikki Goodman, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>  |   |   |   | x |   | GCHS – <i>Johanna Liscomb, School Cncl</i>            |   |   |   | x |   |
| DOPS – <i>Meaghan Newton, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>   |   | x |   |   |   | LSHS – <i>Kim Figliomeni, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>   |   |   | x |   |   |
| GOPS – <i>Kelly Mangoff, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>  |   |   |   | x |   | LSHS – <i>Karen Figliomeni, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i> |   |   |   |   | x |
| MNPS – <i>Tanya Gagnon, School Council &amp; PIC</i>  |   |   | x |   |   | MNHS – <i>Tammy Rathwell...School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>  |   |   | x |   |   |
| MNPS – <i>Amanda Warford, School Council &amp; PIC</i>  |   | x |   |   |   | MNHS – <i>Shelley Hogan...School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>   |   |   | x |   |   |
| MNPS – <i>Gina Wheadon, School Council &amp; PIC</i>  |   |   |   | x |   | MRHS – <i>Paula Schwantz, School Cncl</i>             |   |   | x |   |   |
| MTPS – <i>Pam Fox, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>  |   |   |   |   | x | NRHS – <i>,School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>                  |   |   |   |   |   |
| MTPS – <i>Nicole L'Esperance, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>   |   |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| MMPS – <i>, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| NAPS – <i>Sam Poulin-Cloutier, School Cncl</i>  |   |   |   |   | x | Trustees/Administration                               | O | T | V | A | R |
| SCPS – <i>Jaime Cebrario, School Cncl</i>   |   |   |   |   | x | Jason Nesbitt   |   | x |   |   |   |
| TBPS – <i>Melissa Lanovaz, School Cncl &amp; PIC</i>  |   |   | x |   |   | Allison Pelletier (alt.)                              |   |   |   |   | x |
| Site Administrators   | O | T | V | A | R | Kal Pristanski (alt.)                                 |   |   |   |   | x |
| Sarah Curtis  |   | x |   |   |   | Pinky McRae ( <i>Ex-Officio</i> )                     |   |   |   |   | x |
| Cameron Craig   | x |   |   |   |   | Nicole Morden Cormier, Director of Education          | x |   |   |   |   |
| Bev Vachon  |   |   | x |   |   | GerriLynn Christianson ( <i>Recorder</i> )            |   |   | x |   |   |
| Amanda Gyori  |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Stephan Wilson  |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
| Leslie Blackwood  |   | x |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |

## **2.0 Welcome**

Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier welcomed the group to the second PIC meeting of the school year. She acted as the meeting chair in absence of Pam Fox.

## **3.0 Review and Approval of Minutes: May 21, 2019**

*Mover: P. Schwantz*

*Second: M. Lanovaz*

*That, the minutes of the Parent Involvement Committee meeting dated May 21, 2019, be accepted and approved.*

Carried

## **4.0 Presentations**

### **4.1 Self-Regulation (Book Study)**

Early Years System Principal Hillary Freeburn provided a comprehensive presentation on the topic of Self-Regulation. The presentation included a review of managing and coping with stress, tools and strategies to self-regulate during times of stress and a review of how to treat stress behaviour. The work of Dr. Shanker is being implemented throughout the Board. Hillary invited parents to contact her with any questions or suggestions for future presentations.

### **4.2 Developmental Trauma and Trauma Informed Schools**

Mental Health Manager Deana Renaud introduced herself to the committee and introduced her new role and work as Mental Health Manager. She provided a detailed presentation regarding Developmental Trauma and Trauma Informed Schools. The presentation highlighted the causes of trauma, the impacts trauma has on brain development and the health implications of toxic stress. She reviewed how mental health initiatives are being implemented across the district with staff and students. The presentation highlighted the connection between well-being and achievement as well as the importance of understanding each child to increase learning and fostering conditions for well-being.

### **4.3 Indigenous Education – Voluntary Self-ID for Students**

Nancy O'Donnell, Indigenous Education Lead provided an informative presentation that discussed the importance of voluntary self-identification for students of Indigenous heritage. Within the presentation Nancy outlined that the term "Indigenous" is defined as any person of First Nation, Metis and Inuit heritage. She discussed the importance of the data collection and how it impacts special funding received to support the specific education needs of our Indigenous students. Nancy discussed the action plan that is developed annually that outlines the Board's initiatives to support Indigenous students through cultural initiatives, professional development activities for staff and building relationships with First Nation communities.

## **5.0 Director of Education**

### **5.1 Director's Report**

A detailed report was provided by Director of Education Nicole Morden Cormier. The report included discussions regarding the labour action taken by the Unions as a result of contract negotiations taking place with the Ontario government. The Director advised that at this time the terms of the labour action do not impact the classroom and the safety of the students. Parents are encouraged to regularly monitor the Board website for ongoing labor action updates.

The Director also reviewed the policy and procedure updates recently completed such as the code of conduct regarding cell phone use and Health and Physical Education.

The Director discussed communication initiatives such as the benefits of the School Messenger app and the increase of information being shared with families through Edsby and the Board's social media outlets. Parents are encouraged to share the Director's report at their school council meetings.

## **6.0 PIC Representative Parents' Reaching Out Grant Presentations**

### **6.1 Parents' Reaching Out Grant Application Presentations**

The Director of Education discussed the changes made by the Ministry of Education to the funding provided and the application process for the Parent's Reaching Out Grants. Parent Council representatives or designates from each of the following schools provided a detailed review of their Parents' Reaching Out Grant applications. Copies of the applications were provided with the agenda package.

#### **6.1.1 Manitouwadge High School – Caring for Mother Earth Education Sessions**

The Caring for Mother Earth Education Sessions is a project designed to gather together with families and learn about mental well-being and stewardship off the land. Parents, Students and Staff would engage in a series of workshops to develop relationships and meaningful conversations around self-esteem, resiliency and mental health. Some of the project costs would be covered by the school and some covered by the Thunder Bay District Health Unit.

#### **6.1.2 Manitouwadge Public School – EDSBY Training and Cyber-Bullying**

The EDSBY Training and Cyber-Bullying project is designed to support parents in the use of the EDSBY platform to communicate with teachers and the school community. The training sessions will assist the parent community with the use of EDSBY and during the training sessions they will discuss Cyber-Bullying and review ways parents can help their children.

#### **6.1.3 Marathon High School – Parent Engagement Through the Arts**

The Parent Engagement Through the Arts project will host an artist for a night of creating and conversations with parents and staff. This may include Indigenous artists depending on availability. The goal would be to bring parents to the school and provide information regarding programs and services. Also, the goal is to encourage parents to take on additional roles and responsibilities toward student academic success and well-being.

#### **6.1.4 Margaret Twomey Public School – Family Art Night**

The Family Art Night project goal is to welcome parents to the school to engage in an art activity with their children. The aim is to make parents feel comfortable to visit the school environment, improve home to school connections and encourage parent involvement.

#### **6.1.5 Marjorie Mills Public School – Community Blanket Exercise**

Through the hosting of a Community Blanket Exercise presentation the goal is to bring parents, the First Nations community, students and staff together, to build stronger relationships and deepen our understanding of Indigenous perspectives. The project also hopes to increase parent engagement.

#### **6.1.6 Terrace Bay Public School – Parenting with Self-Reg Perspective**

The Parenting with Self-Regulation Perspective engagement sessions aim to engage parents and teach the importance of self-regulation, understanding stress and enhancing our relationships. The focus of the sessions will be to help parents implement self-regulation strategies at home as they are implemented at school.

### **6.2 Parents' Reaching Out Grant Vote**

The Director of Education provided a detail review of the process Parent Councils are to follow to collectively cast one vote for each school on their top three preferred projects. The deadline to vote is 12:00 p.m. on Monday, December 2, 2019 and the link to the online voting form was provided in the agenda. Schools and Parent Councils will be notified of the approved projects once the voting has concluded.

## **7.0 Suggestions: Future Agenda Items**

The Director of Education encouraged parents to email her or her assistant with any requested agenda topics for future PIC meetings.

**8.0 Next Meeting Dates**

The next meeting date is tentatively booked for January 21, 2020, pending Board approval on December 2, 2019.

**9.0 Adjournment**

*Moved by: T. Rathwell*

*Second: P. Schwantz*

*That, the Parent Involvement Committee meeting on November 26, 2019, adjourn at 7:43 p.m.*

*Carried*