

SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
"Inspiring our students to succeed and make a difference"

Report No: 25
Date: May 7, 2018

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

FROM: David Tamblyn, Director of Education

SUBJECT: Robotics Mentor

**STRATEGIC
PRIORITY:** Student Achievement

Background

Ontario schools have demonstrated notable success in the use of Robotics as a learning tool and as a way of engaging students in discovery and inquiry-based learning. For many reluctant learners, Robotics provides an incentive to engagement and enjoyment in the learning process. There are also many students, either in secondary school or in college/university, with the skills and interest to help support the use of Robotics in the classroom for both young students and teachers.

Funds from the Ministry of Education are available through CODE for both the purchase of Robotics for summer learning classrooms and the hiring of mentor/students to support the use of these teaching resources. The presence of a student mentor who has pursued or is pursuing a post-secondary education provides the additional benefit of exposing students, teachers and parents to pathway options they may not have considered or thought possible.

Current Situation

Superior-Greenstone District School Board has received approval for Ministry of Education funding through CODE to hire three Robotics Mentors to compliment the Summer Learning Programs in Geraldton, Terrace Bay and Marathon.

Boards are to follow their own selection and hiring processes. However, it is expected that the hourly rate will be at least \$20.00 per hour and that students will be engaged for a minimum of three weeks and at least five hours per day. In addition, boards are encouraged to extend this funding to support the use of Robotics outside the minimum required 45 hours. The duties assigned to the mentor/students are the responsibility of the summer school coordinator and teacher and should be designed to maximize the background knowledge and expertise of the mentor/ students.

We recommend hiring 3 Robotics Mentors, to support the use of robotic technology as a teaching resource in the Summer Literacy Program.

Administrative Recommendation:

That the Superior-Greenstone DSB receive as a recommendation to approve hiring of 3 Robotics Mentors for a minimum of three weeks and at least five hours per day to compliment the Summer Literacy Program during the summer of 2018.

Respectfully submitted by:

David Tamblyn
Director of Education