

**SUPERIOR-GREENSTONE DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD**  
**Special Education Advisory Committee**

Tuesday, December 9, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

**Videoconference Sites:**

Board Office, Marathon  
Geraldton Composite High School, Geraldton  
Lake Superior High School, Terrace Bay  
Manitouwadge High School, Manitouwadge  
Nipigon-Red Rock District High School, Red Rock

**Call In Information:**

1-888-289-4573  
Access code: 6955626

**MEETING NOTES**

<b><u>Voting Members</u></b>					
Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)		OS	TC	VC	A R
AUDIA, Jessica: Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living					X
PELLETIER, Allison: Trustee			X		
FIGLIOMENI, Kim: Trustee			X		
FISHER, Matthew: Trustee (Alternate)					X
GROENEVELD, Sharon: Superior Greenstone Association for Community Living			X		
MACKENZIE, Lisa: North of Superior Counseling Programs		X			
McIntyre, Margaret: Trustee (Alternate)		X			
NELSON, Theresa: Greenstone Social Services					X

<b><u>Resource Members</u></b>	Attendance Mode: On-site (OS); Teleconference (TC); Videoconference (VC); Absent (A); Regrets (R)				
	OS	TC	VC	A	R
McRAE, Pinky: Board Chair (Ex-Officio)					X
TAMBLYN, David: Director of Education					X
PETRICK, Nancy: Superintendent of Education	X				
HOUSTON, Cassidy: Student Trustee					X
SCHRAM, Kathleen: Special Education Coordinator	X				
DRAZENOVICH, George: Mental Health Lead	X				
BIANCO, Melissa: Positive Behaviour Support Consultant	X				
FREEBURN, Hillary: Teacher Diagnostician	X				
BAKER, Nina: Mental Health Nurse					X

1.0 Call to Order 7:00 pm

2.0 Approval of Minutes

**Motioned by:**

**Seconded by:**

3.0 Additions to the Agenda

4.0 Business Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Membership

Nancy Petrick

- Every Board must have a SEAC Committee.
- One representation from each of the local agencies within the jurisdiction of the Board with one alternate from each agency.

- 2 Trustees appointed to the SEAC Committee with one alternate for each.
- 1 or 2 persons to represent Native pupils.
- No more than 12 members on the SEAC Committee.

#### 4.2 Peers Helping Peers (follow-up from last meeting)

George Drazenovich

- Peers Helping Peers program was the starting point for the Youth Mental Health Champion program at the Nip-Rock High School. A pilot project for secondary schools.
- The Youth Mental Health Champion program is a partnership between Registered Nurses Association of Ontario and Public Health Unit. The concept was to engage students in mental health activities, things that would be student driven to improve the student body.
- Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> - A team went to Toronto for training; 4 students were from Nipigon along with a teacher and a Health Nurse.
- Students received certificates and accommodations from the Registered Nurses of Ontario and Thunder Bay Public Health Unit.
- This does align with the Safe Talk program.

### 5.0 Agenda items

#### 5.1 Identify a Chair

Nancy Petrick

- Kim Figliomeni is still chair.

#### 5.2 Special Education Coordinator Report

Kathleen Schram

- Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> – Nancy, myself, an Elementary Principal along with Educational Assistances met to review the EA resource book. We are looking at making changes to the resource book; we will meet again in January.
- Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> – Trillium training for Special Education Resource Teachers.
- We are beginning to engage in assistive technology. We do have a theory of action “If we build an understanding of learning disabilities and assistive technology, our education environments will be more responsive to meeting the needs of all learners.”
  - Embedded in this is 2 big goals,
    - 1<sup>st</sup> – Understanding learning disabilities and the cognitive processes.
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> – Continuing the work around IEP’s and assuring they are working documents.

#### 5.3 Positive Behaviour Support Lead

Melissa Bianco

- Still have 7 Special Education teachers who are continuing with the Applied Behaviour Analysis Certificate course.
- 5 Educators participated in the Autism and Anxiety webinar.
- Providing training on the Behaviour Documentation System.
- Looking at the measurement of the IEP skills that we are developing particular in the alternative skills; social skills, communication skills, self-regulatory skills.
- Looking at the role of the Educational Assistant (EA) I was asked to sit on an advisory committee at Confederation College. They are revamping the role of an EA and looking at the math’s instructional practices, behavior analysis, behaviour management and technology.

#### 5.4 Teacher Diagnostician

Hillary Freeburn

- I went to each community 3 times and looking forward to starting over again in January.
- I have been focusing on IEP’s and working with parents and students to help them understand the IEP.
- Our psychologist is going on maternity leave in January and I am hopeful they will be hiring a replacement.

- George Jeffrey has hired a new therapist in the Marathon area covering Terrace Bay, Schreiber, Manitouwadge and Marathon.

## 5.5 Mental Health Lead

George Drazenovich

- Violence and Risk Assessment Training in October
  - Elementary and Secondary Principals, SERTS and Guidance Councillors attended.
- Dec 10<sup>th</sup> – presented at the Principal's meeting
  - Being Mental Healthy Schools
    - What it looks like and what well-being will look like.
  - Suicide Intervention, Prevention and Post-vention
  - Supporting Minds, which is available online.
- Equity and Inclusion
  - Cyber Bullying – affects more girls than boys
  - Identity Theft

## 5.6 Mental Health Nurse

Nina Baker

- No Report

## 6.0 Correspondence

### 6.1 Durham Catholic DSB: SEAC support letter

Nancy Petrick

- Bachelor of Education in University was a 1 year course now it is a 2 year course.
- We are going to information sessions at Lakehead University regarding what the 2 year program will look like and the changes made from the 1 to 2 year program.
- They asked if we would write a letter of support to mandate Special Education as a core component of the 2 year program and make Special Education Part 1 a requirement for all teachers.
  - Nancy – Not sure if BEd students need to take Special Education Part 1 in their first year, instead they should be introduced to the following:
    - What the IEP is saying
    - Classroom management
    - How to write good day plans using curricular documents and being familiar with other Ministry documents etc.

It is up to the committee and since we do not have quorum we will defer till the next meeting.

## 7.0 New Business

### 7.1 Board Learning Plan – Assistive Technology & IEP

Kathleen Schram

- Addressed in 5.2

### 7.2 Mental Health information evening – October 28, 2014

George Drazenovich

- Will Goodman Principal in Red Rock and Dorian hosted a Mental Health Night in Dorian. Jen Welsh, Dr. Bruce Ferguson from Sick Kids, Hillary Freeburn, and Nina Baker attended to speak about what they do and Mental Health.

## 8.0 Information Items

### 8.1 Upcoming Professional Development Dates:

i)	January 30, 2015	Elementary	Report Card Writing
ii)	January 30, 2015	Secondary	Inquiries/PLCs/Student Success Mtgs.
iii)	April 24, 2015	Elementary and Secondary	School Improvement Planning
iv)	June 8, 2015	Elementary	Report Card Writing
v)	June 8, 2015	Secondary	School improvement/timetabling/SS Mtgs.

### 8.2 Secondary Exams:

- January 23 – 29, 2015
- June 22 – 26, 2015

9.0 Agenda Items: Next Meeting Date/Time/Venue

9.1 January 13, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.

9.0 Adjournment

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

✓ ***That***, the SEAC Meeting be adjourned at 8:15 pm.