



Huron-Superior Catholic

DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

Indigenous Education Committee Agenda/Minutes

Date: Thursday January 12, 2023

Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm

Location: Google Meet

To join the video meeting, click this link: <https://meet.google.com/yyc-imxe-rsc>

Otherwise, to join by phone, dial +1 778-736-9885 and enter this PIN: 335 281 520#

To view more phone numbers, click this link: <https://tel.meet/yyc-imxe-rsc?hs=5>

Attendees: *Akeshia Trudeau* Indigenous Lead Teacher, *Hannah Syrette* Elementary Transitions Coach, *Pat Carter* Faith Animator, *Christine Durocher* Superintendent of Education, *Danny Viotto* Director of Education, *Marlene Essex* NSL teacher at Elliot Lake, *Nadia Zanatta* Vice Principal at OLOL, *Dom Rosso* Principal at HALC, *Sherri Kitts* Garden River Education Unit, Special Education Support program, *Debbie Mayer* Mississauga FN Director of Education, *Deanna Jones* Garden River, *Paula Trainor* Experiential Learning Lead Teacher, *Deanna Heyde* Kinoomaadzin Education Body - region 2, Professional development portfolio, *Hillary Trudeau* Director of Education for Serpent River FN, *Carolyn Hepburn* Sault College Dean of Indigenous Studies and Academic Upgrading, *Dorothy Eastwind* North Channel Metis Council, *Nikki McDonald* New Education Manager for Garden River, *Stephanie Jones* Secondary Liaison Worker Garen River

Regrets: Marnie Yourchuk North Shore Tribal Council

Chair: Akeshia Trudeau

Minutes: Hannah Syrette/Pat Carter

AGENDA ITEMS		ACTION	WHO
1.	Prayer and Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Welcome ● Land acknowledgement ● Prayer 	Akeshia Trudeau Sister Pat Carter
2.	Introductions		Akeshia Trudeau
3.	Approval of Minutes from October 20, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indigenous Education Committee Minutes October 20th, 2022 W IEC agenda/minutes Oct 20, 2022 - IEC .docx 	All
4.	Community Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Debbie Mayer- continuing to address the needs of students. New staff member at St. Mary's Blind River <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Space for culture and special education. ○ Shared concern about lag in students' skills from pandemic shutdowns and distance learning ○ get a tutoring program to assist students in the skills necessary for success ● Hillary Trudeau- New to IEC meeting, departments growing- special education worker, peer mentor (attend schools and support concerns- grade 12 graduation rates) and youth worker. Made connections with OLOF ● Sherri Kitts- continuing to meet with principals and parents regarding behavior concerns. Meetings regarding transitions into JK. ● Nikki Macdonald- New to Education Director role. ● Deanna Heyde- Professional Development Education Programs & workshops - Coming up in January for Special Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ February: Supporting Students with Autism Disorder ○ February: Supporting Students within Utero with drug and alcohol exposure 	Community members

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ March: Supporting students with learning disabilities/ ADHD, and ... ○ Supporting Students in the school setting. ○ Here to support and assist. ● Carolyn Hepburn- Continuing to support students and seeing self regulation concerns and capacity to handle conflict- what they are viewing as a crisis. Seeing students direct from highschool that do not have the required skills to be in school. New project officer- Melanie Catherine Jones. Carolyn will forward her contact information to the group. If there is anything Sault College can do preparing Grade 12's, transitions, or workshops, let Carolyn know. ● Danny Viotto- In response to a concern that students are behind and a request for tutors: HSCDSB has tutors placed in most schools. Shannan Flint- Indigenous Graduation Coach at SMC works with High school students making connections with Algoma U and Sault College. Algoma University has a bank of tutors available to students focusing on math. Inquired with Algoma U to assist in the schools. Tutors and Hannah with K-8. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tutors are in person at all elementary schools. ○ Next Steps: Talk to Superintendents and report what is currently in place and evaluate gaps. Recognizing that a one size fits all approach may not work per school. ○ Danny will follow up with Joe Chilelli for dedicated space for special education for Indigenous students at St. Mary's 	
5.	Director's Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cyber Incident <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Occurred December 15, 2022- classes were canceled for the christmas break. ○ No access to basic technological resources. ○ Schools resumed classes Tuesday January 3, 2023. ○ Resulted in files stolen, since then the files that were stolen have been deleted by thieves and risk is low. ○ Data continues to be scanned, and if a student's data was compromised, the family would be contacted directly within 	Danny Viotto

		<p>the next few weeks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Additional perimeters were put in place since. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nikki Macdonald- when families are identified, request that information be shared with the communities as well. ■ Cyberincident@hscdsb.on.ca Danny Viotto looks into every request for information 	
6.	Presentations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Holy Angels Learning Centre (tentative) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dom could not be in attendance. Defer to the next meeting April 6, 2023. ● <i>Learning From and With Each Other</i> - presentation - Opportunities for Professional Education Learning from and with each other - Strengthening the partnership (OLOLFI and Serpent River FN) Presentation at INSPIRE 2022 National Gathering virtually <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Each teacher was granted half a day release to collaborate with Marlene to develop a cultural block plan from Jan.-June ○ The Blanket Exercise - May 11, 2022 ○ Cultural Professional Development- June 2022 ○ Overall Impact & Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Establishing cultural block programming ■ Continued field trips ■ School was approved for students to attend SKG & Algoma U Residential School Grounds ■ Queen's Conference on Reconciliation in February 2023. ■ Reach out to Nadia Zanatta or Marlene Essex if you have any questions. ■ Nadia.Zanatta@hscdsb.on.ca ■ Marlene.Essex@hscdsb.on.ca ■ Link to presentation: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1exjnFiLbEETnOIT-SlbfWyQeXKRLQh3S/view?usp=sharing 	<p>Dom Rosso</p> <p>Marlene Essex, Nadia Zanatta</p>

		<p>U visited the Culture room Jan 5 for a lunch and learn presentation on Algoma U, there was a prize given for attending</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Melvin Pelletier visited the Culture room January 10th to assist with applications for Sault College and provide information on programming ○ Melvin and Colter return Friday January 13 to have a lunch and learn to discuss pathways from Sault College to Algoma U in the Culture room <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indigenous Transition Coach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Visited school visits <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ North Schools - October 17 & 18, 2022 ■ East Schools- December 5, 2022 ○ Continue Student Visits ○ Weekly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Holy Cross ■ St. Francis French Immersion ■ Holy Family ■ St. Paul's ■ St. Basil ○ Monthly <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Our Lady of Lourdes ■ St. Mary's French Immersion ○ Preparing Grade 8 students for their transition to high school ○ Beginning with Transition Meetings ○ Tentatively planning an outing on March 3, 2023- at Dan Pine Healing Lodge - Name, Clan, Colour, & Fire Teachings ○ Indigenous Transition Day- Initial Meeting this morning. Both transition events and an Indigenous People in the Trades event. ○ Attending BFN Education Meet & Greet January 25, 2023 ○ Continuing with Monthly Indigenous Transitions Coach 	<p>Hannah Arnott (Syrette)</p>
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		<p>Newsletters- if you would like to be on the email list, let me know.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Attending Waabinong Head Start next week to chat about Pre-K Students with transition to K ○ Connected with GRFN Education Department regarding students. ○ Looking to connect with other First Nation Education Departments. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vice Principal of Equity, Diversity and Indigenous Education: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lina was not in attendance and her update will be deferred to the next meeting April 6, 2023. 	Lina DiPasquale
8.	BAP (Board Action Plan)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is the BAP? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Board Action Plan - Indigenous Initiatives ○ 4 Aspects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Supporting Student Wellbeing ■ Supporting Educators (PD) ■ Engagement and Awareness ■ Student achievement ● Planning for this year and the initiatives we would like to support with the BAP in 2022-2023 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Boardwide Powwow on June 21 at the GFL. Organizations are underway and students from across the board would be bussed to SSM. ○ Steam Lab at Holy Angels Learning Centre. Curriculum team is organizing activities and there is a dedicated Indigenous themed room where students will learn about beading, ribbon shirts and skirts, connected to art and math. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Debbie Mayer suggested reaching out to YORK University representative who runs an Indigenous 	Akeshia Trudeau

		<p>STEM program at W.C. Eaket- possibility HSCDSB can expand on the program to their students.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Supporting NSL teachers and Anishinaabemowin ○ Elders and Knowledge Keepers in the Classroom ○ Elder in Residence at St. Mary's College ○ Outdoor Education Program ○ Community visits like the ones that occurred between Serpent River and Our Lady of Fatima <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Once the BAP is in draft we will consult with this committee for feedback 	
9.	Discussion Topics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cultural Competency Opportunities (Staff focused) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Debbie Mayer- Curriculum must change for the students' competency education. ○ Carolyn Hepburn will share a resource that Sault College is using with their facility to address cultural competency. Cultural Competency needs to be offered to not just faculty but front line staff. ○ Sister Pat is going to host three sessions in the next three months for any staff- Workbook "Listening to Indigenous Voices" provided. Following up on our Faith Day Focus. Elders will be in attendance to contribute if needed. ○ Nadia Zanatta- Cultural Block- Every Day 5 Marlene attends classes for a whole group instruction. Staff was released to bridge links between curriculum and Indigenous Education that not just Marlene can deliver but the classroom teacher. Every staff member was released for professional development in collaboration with SRFN. This involves more than just the teachers. This can be used as a framework. ○ Nikki Macdonald- Curriculum needs to change. Creating trauma-informed schools will assist all students. OFIFC did 	All

a trauma-informed schools project with principals across Ontario. Possible discussion topic.

- Carolyn Hepburn- Work needs to be sustainable and the fabric of the system. Accountability mechanisms in this work and it needs to be addressed. Artificial Intelligence that writes essays for students. Compromising academic integrity.

- ChatGPT (openai.com), ChatSonic (writesonic.com), Cactus (https://www.cactus.ai/cactus_student)

- Format of the Meetings

- Virtual vs In person? Hybrid?
- Possibly in SSM or communities.
- April 6, 2023- Hybrid Format

- Absenteeism

- Debbie Mayer- Bring back to the table and discuss the reports from NSTC. Possibly the NSTC can host a meeting to discuss absenteeism and recommendations in the reports. Debbie will provide Akeshia with the report.
- Sister Pat attended a pre-pandemic workshop that addressed absenteeism. Pandemic has heightened student anxiety. How do we help students feel comfortable attending school after spending time at home?
- Deanne Heyde - What supports are available for parents in the communities? Getting children to school starts at home. Many First Nations have Family Support Services, could the First Nation Education dept's work with Family Support Services collaborate to getting their needs met and then when the children are in school they can get the school supports offered as well.
- Tutoring Services
 - Garden River First Nation has contracted a local tutoring agency to support students.

10.	Recommendations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Committee Terms of Reference 	All
11.	New Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Carolyn Hepburn- Larger strategic planning - long term goals as a board (examples: language retention outcomes, increasing indigenous faculty and staff, increasing and improving relationships with communities, cultural competency) ● Nikki Macdonald- does this group have a terms of reference or action plan to move throughout the school year? ● Create an agenda item- Discuss committee terms of reference- Refresh and guide our conversations. 	All
12.	Meeting Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Thursday, April 6, 2023 (Tentative: Hybrid located in Sault Ste Marie HSCDSB Board Office) ● Thursday, June 8, 2023 	All
13.	Closing Prayer	Closing Prayer Miigwetch, baamaapii	Akeshia Trudeau