

Minutes of the First Nations Advisory Committee meeting held on Monday, April 29, 2019 at 4:30 pm at the Board Office.

**Present**

Senior Administration     Anna Marie Bitonti – Director of Education  
   Paula Mann - Superintendent of Education  
   Jody Weller – Superintendent of Education

Trustees                         Judy Manitowabi – IEAC/FNAC Chair  
   Jacques Begin  
   Linda Jamieson

Other                               Nancy Allaire – Nipissing First Nation  
   Audrey Gribbons – Elementary Principal  
   Stacey Malette – Elementary Principal  
   Susan Wardell – Elementary Principal

**Regrets**                         Derek Belanger – Secondary Principal  
   Mary Lou Cappadocia – NPSC Coordinator  
   Tony D’Agostino – Elementary Principal  
   Kathy Fortin – North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre  
   Brandon Manuel – North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre  
   John Willemsen – Trustee

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**1. Call to Order**

Judy called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

**2. Prayer**

Judy led the committee in prayer.

**3. Agenda/Minutes**

- a. Agenda was approved as amended.
- b. Minutes were approved as presented.  
One question arose from Nancy Allaire regarding the status of the TRC Resource Writing Team from summer 2018. Information was shared regarding the completion of the resource and some challenges that were faced with timelines and availability of writers.

#### **4. NPSC Indigenous Education Initiatives Updates**

##### **a. NPSC TRC**

- i. Jody Weller will update the document and bring to the committee in June.
- ii. An addition to the document - Indigenous Student Trustee - ensures representation of FNMI student voice.
- iii. Document will be brought to June meeting to reflect connected learning in Indigenous culture.

Next Action: Bring summary document back in June.

##### **b. Board Action Plan**

- i. Jody provided an update that all activities are being implemented as planned; educator retreat in fall 2018 was very successful.
- ii. Plans for the Junior Student Retreat are underway for June 6, 2019.

Next Action: Bring BAP to June meeting to reflect initiative for the 2018-2019 school year.

#### **5. Ministry of Education Updates**

##### **a. Provincial Overview 2019-2020**

- i. GSN Memo received April 26, 2019 and Priorities and Partnerships Fund Memo received April 26, 2019. Both memos provided broad overview of funding, still awaiting technical details.
- ii. A broad overview of the areas of funding were released. Class size through attrition, Priorities and Partnership Funds (PPFs) to focus on particular areas, Grade 9-12 Indigenous Studies curriculum implementation and some PD support. Indigenous Education strategic priorities included funding for the Indigenous Graduation Coach and Indigenous Youth Entrepreneurship

##### **b. Indigenous Grad Coach**

- i. Pilot provides supports to Indigenous learners with the goal of obtaining an OSSD. Also supports successful transition into the provincially funded secondary school system as well as to post-secondary education, training or labour market opportunities.
- ii. Key component of the pilot is the Indigenous Graduation Coach has deeply rooted ties to an Indigenous community or communities and to Indigenous cultures.
- iii. The Coach acts as a mentor and an advisor to students, facilitating access and referrals to academic supports and community resources. The Coach also plays an essential role as an advocate for each learner with teachers, other staff and families. Indigenous Grad coach to be important member of the student success and guidance team.
- iv. NPSC was selected to be one of the recipient boards for the - plans for summer months are underway.

c. Curriculum

- i. Use the same model as occurred in the elementary revisions and funding will be received to support implementation of Grade 9-12 Indigenous Studies curriculum.
- ii. Social Studies/History/Geography Curriculum Writing Team continues to be postponed. We are awaiting further updates.

**6. AES Update**

a. AES Symposium

- i. Nancy Allaire updated the committee and highlighted the AES website.
- ii. Student Voice - guide decisions around programming and curriculum writing. NPSC student trustee K. George was in attendance as a youth representative. Student voice continues to be paramount.

Next Action: Jody Weller will bring AES highlights to our next meeting.

**7. Other**

a. OCSTA Guest Speaker

Judy shared a speaker Maggie MacDonnell who shared her teaching experience in Nunavut. Her journey involved teaching students with high risk. She was very inspirational speaker. The strategies on engagement and re-engagement she shared really showed how much she believed in the students and that she never gave up on them. A powerful message and journey.

b. Education Services Agreement

Anna Marie Bitonti, Director of Education and Nancy Allaire, Director of Education of NFN shared that an education services agreement was achieved

**8. Next Meeting**

Next meeting scheduled for June 17, 2019 at 4:00 p.m.

**9. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:24 p.m.