



**First Nation Advisory Committee
Monday, February 22, 2021
4:00 p.m.**

Trustees	Judy Manitowabi – Committee Chair Linda Jamieson
Administration	Anna Marie Bitonti, Director of Education Jody Weller, Superintendent of Education Paula Mann, Superintendent of Education Derek Belanger, Principal, St Joseph-Scollard Hall Sue Wardell, Principal, Our Lady of Fatima Audrey Gribbons, Principal, St. Alexander Stacey Malette, Principal, Our Lady of Sorrows Samantha Andrusiek, English Catholic Curriculum Coordinator Jordan Mowat, Indigenous Graduation Coach
Members	Nancy Allaire, Nipissing First Nation Marianne Daur, North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

2. Prayer

Judy Manitowabi led the committee meeting with an Anishinabe prayer.

A special welcome was extended to new committee member, Marianne Daur, representing the North Bay Indigenous Friendship Centre.

3. Agenda/Minutes

- a) Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as presented.
- b) Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the meeting held on Monday, October 19, 2020 were approved as presented.

4. NPSC Indigenous Education Initiatives Update

a) Board Assessment on Indigenous Education 2020-2021

Jody Weller invited members to provide input on the tool. All members participated in reviewing promising practices included and providing additional input. Focus areas included the Promising Practices, Challenges, Feedback in the three pillars: Supporting Students, Supporting Educators, Engagement and Awareness, and Using Data to Support Student Achievement.

Some examples of the above include Indigenous Arts and History, student voice and engagement through Makwa Dodem and the Indigenous Student Trustee role, local partnerships, Kendaaswin Days, Maamwe Enchyang program. Most of the challenges presented in each pillar centred on navigating the virtual environment due to the COVID pandemic; other challenges included the recruitment of qualified Language Teachers.

b) Board Action Plan 2020-2021

Jody Weller shared the draft Board Action Plan, and invited further input to be shared, keeping in mind the current context, certain activities that we have been offering may have to be offered differently, for example, the annual Educator Retreat. It was suggested that the strong partnership with the AES is also included into the plan. We will be accessing the carry over amounts before accessing this year's funding. Feedback is requested by the end of this week, for the board's final submission to the Ministry.

c) Indigenous Grad Coach

Jordan Mowat was introduced to the committee as the new Indigenous Graduation Coach. Jordan provided an update on his role at SJSH, some contextual information as well as the type of support, both in-class and virtual in the areas of mental health, cultural support and schoolwork. Other examples include:

- Collaborating with both Student Success and Mental H teams
- Daily check-ins
- Providing learning materials for asynchronous learner
- Developing transition strategies for students transitioning from elementary to secondary
- Mentoring opportunities with Nipissing University, awareness and engagement opportunities
- SJSH is also looking into having Indigenous presentations by Indigenous speakers and knowledge keepers
- Exploring other services for support in the community
- Continuous reach-out to students who are not engaging, and helping them to engage (example of virtual learner now connected to their learning)

5. Ministry of Education Indigenous Education Update

- a) Ministry of Education Indigenous Education Strategy
Jody Weller shared the website and the updated elementary and secondary resources and additional materials posted.
- b) Engagement Session with Indigenous Education Leads – Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development (February 16, 2021)
Youth Advisors seeking advice and recommendation for Indigenous Education leads, for a future document regarding young people in the skilled trades, particularly on removing barriers and encouraging more Indigenous participation in the skilled trades, as well as other underrepresented groups in the skilled trades.

6. AES Update

- a) 2020-2021 Niigaan Gdizhaami Project: “Revitalizing Culture and Language through Innovative Strategies”
Stacey Malette, Principal of Our Lady of Sorrows provided a brief presentation on the first of the two-phase project, which is in partnership with Nipissing First Nation. This Experiential Learning project enhances student achievement and well-being by increasing the culture and Native language instruction in Grades 5 to 8 by infusing the use of modern technology and land-based teachings. The project will be presented and highlighted at the 2021 AES Symposium.

7. OCSTA FNAC Update

No update at this time, next OCSTA meeting is February 24, 2021

8. Next Meeting

Dates will be circulated, for a June 2021 meeting.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.