



ST. CLAIR CATHOLIC
DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD
Lighting the Way ~ Rejoicing in Our Journey

MINUTES

INDIGENOUS EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, January 23, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.
Teleconference Meeting

Chair: Cortnee Goure

Present: Carol Bryden, Lisa Demers, Ray Power, Liz Gibson, Cortnee Goure, Paul Teetzel, Mark Bernard, Vicki Ware,

Regrets: Candace Caron-Lennan, Robin Isaac, Steve DeGurse, Debbie Millward,

Absent: Celeste Noah, Beverly Bressette, Kimberly Sonneveld, Susie Jones,

Recorder: Cathy Calvert

1. Opening Prayer

Cortnee Goure opened the meeting with prayer.

2. Remarks from Lisa Demers

- Lisa Demers thanked Cortnee for making alternative arrangements for today's meeting. It was important that we meet today to review the 2018-19 Board Action Plan – Interim Report before it is submitted to the Ministry on February 1, 2019.
- Lisa reminded everyone that the *Thoughtexchange* process, which is a broad, online and confidential consultation with all our Board's stakeholders in order to build our new strategic plan can be accessed on our Board website. This process closes tonight at 11 p.m.

3. Review of Board Action Plan-Interim Report – Cortnee Goure

- Cortnee will be reaching out to our other Partners, whom she has not been able to contact, before next Friday's deadline. These partners are Beverly Bressette, Celeste Noah, Susie Jones, Robin Isaac and Friendship Centre.
- Cortnee walked through the Board Action Plan with the committee. Some of the points which were highlighted are:

- Partnerships are growing - Métis Nation of Ontario will be partnering with us but have not started yet;
 - Newsletters have been sent out by Cortnee to the schools and our partners;
 - A revised voluntary self-identification brochure has been made and will be going out with our Kinderstart program as well at our Grade 8 information sessions at Ursuline College Chatham and St. Patrick's Catholic High School;
 - Secondary Student Leadership are raising awareness in our secondary schools;
 - Grade 7 and 8 students at Walpole Island School have received mentoring from Ursuline College Chatham Secondary Student Leadership and our Pathways teachers using My Blue Print Pathways Learning.
 - There have been opportunities for schools who do not have school based opportunities for Indigenous Education across the year to participate in events i.e. Orange Shirt Day, Treaty Recognition Week;
 - Support for our students as they transition from high school to post-secondary education is increasing for both St. Patrick's Catholic High School and Ursuline College Chatham students
 - On April 5th we will be having Susan Dion come and speak to 500 staff at St. Patrick's Catholic High School High School and another 500 staff at Ursuline College Chatham. Susan will be doing a timeline visual as she speaks. Cortnee will be creating a poster to send out to our partners inviting them to attend as well;
 - The schools have been working on ways to give back to our partners: one way they have done this is to invite them back to the school to see the student's work;
- Mark Bernard and Ray Power, Principals, thanked Cortnee for her work on the excellent report and the work that she has been doing.
 - Carol Bryden, Trustee, expressed the importance of reaching out to Indigenous students and our partners to ensure that they have a place in our schools. Carol also thanked Cortnee for her excellent report.
 - Vicki Ware, Partner, expressed how nice it was to see all the detail in the report including the partners involvement.
 - Lisa Demers, Superintendent of Education, was very pleased with the report. Lisa expressed that without the leadership and partnerships we have developed this would not be possible. We need to reach out to other groups to ensure that everyone's voice is heard and expressed in the report.
 - Liz Gibson, Principal, commented that engaging with parents and our partners in bringing awareness is part of inclusion in capacity building and engagement.

4. Next Meeting Date

- Vicki Ware offered to have our next meeting at the Aamjiwnaang First Nation Band Office.
- The date of the meeting still needs to be decided; but will be communicated to the group via email.

5. The meeting was adjourned:

- The meeting adjourned at 3:07 p.m.