

A PARENT'S GUIDE TO SPECIAL EDUCATION

PHILOSOPHY

Superior-Greenstone District School Board will provide the best education possible within its means for each of its pupils.

The Board shall provide, or provide for, Special Education programs and services appropriate to the needs of the students identified as exceptional.

The following principles will apply to such provisions:

1. Attention will be focused on the capabilities of the student rather than on his/her exceptionalities.
2. Education will be provided:
 - a) As close to the student's home as feasible within the schools of Superior-Greenstone District School Board;
 - b) As close to the regular classroom environment as feasible;
 - c) In cooperation with local Boards, community agencies and Provincial services.

SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Elementary

Regular class placement supplemented by:

- Individual program modification;
- Resource/Withdrawal assistance.

Secondary

Instruction at the various levels supplemented by:

- Individual program modification;
- Resource/Withdrawal assistance.

WHERE DO I GO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

If you would like to know more about what is being done for children with special needs in the Superior-Greenstone District School Board, contact the Principal of your school in the following locations:

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

- BA Parker Public School**, Geraldton, ON
Tel.: (807) 854-1683
- Beardmore Public School**, Beardmore, ON
Telephone: (807) 875-2128
- Dorion Public School**, Dorion, ON
Telephone: (807) 857-2313
- George O'Neill Public School**, Nipigon, ON
Telephone: (807) 887-2107
- Manitouwadge Public School**, Manitouwadge, ON
Telephone: (807) 826-4011
- Margaret Twomey Public School**, Marathon, ON
Telephone (807) 229-3050
- Marjorie Mills Public School**, Longlac, ON
Telephone: (807) 876-2366
- Red Rock Public School**, Red Rock, ON
Telephone: (807) 886-2253
- Schreiber Public School**, Schreiber, ON
Telephone: (807) 824-2082
- Terrace Bay Public School**, Terrace Bay, ON
Telephone: (807) 825-3253

HIGH SCHOOLS

- Geraldton Composite High School**
Telephone: (807) 854-0130
- Lake Superior High School**, Schreiber, ON
Telephone: (807) 824-2555
- Lake Superior High School**, Terrace Bay, ON
Telephone: (807) 825-3271
- Manitouwadge High School**, Manitouwadge, ON
Telephone: (807) 826-3241
- Marathon High School**, Marathon, ON
Telephone: (807) 229-1800
- Nipigon-Red Rock High School**
Telephone: (807) 886-2201

A Parent's Guide to Special Education



Manitouwadge Public School
21 Wenonah Drive
Manitouwadge, ON P0T 2C0
Tel.: 807.826.4011
Fax: 807.826.4975
<http://we.sgdsb.on.ca>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHO IS TO BE CONSIDERED “EXCEPTIONAL”?

An exceptional pupil means a pupil whose behavioural, communicational, intellectual, physical or multiple exceptionalities are such that he/she is considered to need placement in a Special Education program.

Before a child can be considered an “exceptional pupil” under the law, an Identification Placement Review Committee (IPRC) must reach a consensual decision. The parent/guardian will be invited to attend the Committee meeting and to take an active part in the IPRC process.

WHAT STUDENTS WILL BE REFERRED TO THIS COMMITTEE?

Any student who does not appear to be benefiting from regular classroom instruction may be referred to the IPRC by the school. Parents also have the right to refer their child to the Principal, who will initiate an IPRC meeting.

WHAT WILL THE IPRC DO?

The responsibilities of the IPRC are:

- a) To identify a referred student as exceptional or not;
- b) To identify the areas of your child’s exceptionality according to Ministry definitions;
- c) To recommend placement of exceptional students;
- d) To notify the parent/guardian of the decision;
- e) To notify Superior-Greenstone District School Board of this decision.

To do this, the IPRC:

- a) Requires an Educational Assessment of your child;

- b) May request a psychological/intellectual and/or health assessment obtained with your written permission;
- c) Will request an interview with you (you may waive the right to participate);
- d) Will send you a written statement outlining your child’s identified needs, recommending placement and including the date Committee proposes to notify the secretary Superior-Greenstone District School Board of its determination;
- e) Will require you to sign a consent form if Special Education placement is recommended for your child.

SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM:

Within thirty (30) days a plan called an Individual Education Plan (IEP) containing specific objectives and an outline of special education services that meet the needs of the exceptional pupil will be implemented.

WILL THERE BE REGULAR REVIEWS OF MY CHILD’S PROGRESS?

Throughout the year, both the teacher and the school Principal will be reviewing your child’s program. You will be invited to meetings to review your child’s progress. No major changes can be made in your child’s Special Education placement without your written consent. At least once every twelve (12) months, the student’s placement must be reviewed by the IPRC, or you can request a review after three months.

WHAT IF I DISAGREE WITH THE DETERMINATION OF THE IPRC?

Should you disagree with the IPRC’s decision, consult your school Principal who will arrange for you to meet with the Committee to discuss the decision. After this meeting, should you continue to disagree, you may appeal the decision to the Secretary of Superior-Greenstone District School Board within fifteen (15) days.

The District School Board shall then establish an Appeal Board within thirty (30) days to review the IPRC decision regarding your child.

WHO IS THE APPEAL BOARD AND WHAT DO THEY DO?

Three (3) members will be appointed who have no prior involvement with the matter under appeal.

At the meeting, the disagreement and its issues under appeal are to be discussed. Members of the IPRC, parents/guardians, the pupil, and anyone else who can contribute will be invited to attend.

Once the Appeal Board feels all relevant information has been heard, the meeting will be adjourned and the Appeal Board will make its decision within three days.

The Appeal Board’s decision will be delivered in writing to you, to the IPRC, and to Superior-Greenstone District School Board.

WHAT DECISIONS MAY THE APPEAL BOARD MAKE?

First, the Appeal Board may disagree with the IPRC and refer the matter back to the IPRC. Secondly, it may uphold the IPRC’s decision and dismiss the appeal. In any event, the appeal decision must be sent to the District School Board for approval at its next regularly scheduled meeting.

DO I HAVE TO ACCEPT THE APPEAL BOARD’S DECISION?

No. If you are dissatisfied with the District School Board’s decision following the Special Education Appeal Board’s review, you may appeal to a Regional/Provincial Tribunal to have your child’s case considered by a third party.