

Northland School Division No.61 **Board Highlights**

Corporate Board Meeting – June 26, 2014

"Every student is a lifelong learner and successful in life"

www.northland61.ab.ca

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CTS and CTF Progress Report for NSD61



Northland School Division No.61 (NSD61) is making significant progress when it comes to Career and Technology Studies (CTS) and Career and Technology Foundations (CTF). CTS is designed for students between grades 10-12 and CTF is for students in grades 5-9. Randy Chernipeski, CTS School/Industry Partnership Administrator, says Northland schools and partnership schools are offering courses relating to communications technology, fabrication (welding), construction, cosmetology/esthetics, cooking, environment, wildlife, mechanics, business, entrepreneurship, design and culture. To help schools offer CTS courses, mobile trailers have been set-up to supply equipment and NSD61 is working with organizations such as KTC, Northern Lakes College, Keyano College, Skills Alberta, Alberta Education and various university/college institutions to create opportunities for students and offer professional development for teachers. Cenovus Energy is supporting NSD61 by donating \$450,000 over three years to help in the creation of CTS and CTF trailers, kits for schools and field trips. Heading into the 2014-2015 school year, NSD61 will be working towards developing more courses and work spaces for schools and providing more support for teachers. Chernipeski says the goal for NSD61 is to expose students to at least six different areas of CTS/CTF studies. He also shared a very important motto for students to live by, "If you can dream it, you can do it!"

Literacy Initiative Report Card

The division-wide Literacy Initiative for Northland School Division No.61 (NSD61) is helping students achieve academic excellence. Gail Sajo, Literacy Supervisor, presented year-end results through the use of assessment tools called PM Benchmarks and Jerry Johns. Both assessment tools have been used by NSD61 teachers for two years and the results show substantial growth by students across the board! Sajo says students are making major strides to read at grade level; one school in particular has students reading at grade level! "During the 2013-2014 school year, we worked with teachers





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on how to assess students properly and how to use assessments results to help students improve," said Sajo. "Professional development is very crucial for the success of students and the Literacy Initiative." PM Benchmarks and Jerry Johns assess reading and comprehension skills. Students will also be assessed when it comes to writing during the 2014-2015 school year.

NSD61 Graduation Video Project 2013-2014

Northland School Division No. 61 (NSD61) has completed an important journey to showcase student voice and recognize high school graduates. In March, 2014, Curtis Walty, Communications Coordinator and Terry Lynn Cook, Pedagogical Supervisor, spearheaded this movement by developing the "NSD61 Graduation Video Project 2013-2014". This project involved gathering short video clip interviews from grade 12 graduates. Students were asked a series of questions relating to their educational experience. The questions include:

- What are some positive experiences you have had at school?
- What motivated you to graduate?
- What inspirational message would you like to leave with future students?
- What are your future plans?
- Can you think of strategies to improve the learning experience at Northland School Division?

The "NSD61 Graduation Video Project 2013-2014" highlights many of the positive practices happening throughout the division. The video provides important feedback for the Northland Board and has the potential to assist with professional development sessions for educators.

Procedure Approvals

- The Northland Board approve the following Board Meeting dates for the 2014-2015 school year:
 - o Friday, October 3, 2014 and Saturday, October 4, 2014
 - o Friday, October 31, 2014 and Saturday, November 1, 2014
 - o Friday, November 28, 2014 and Saturday, November 29, 2014
 - o Friday, January 30, 2015 and Saturday, January 31, 2015
 - Friday, February 27, 2015 and Saturday, February 28, 2015
 - o Friday, March 27, 2015 and Saturday, March 28, 2015
 - o Friday, May 1, 2015 and Saturday, May 2, 2015
 - Friday, May 29, 2015 and Saturday, May 30, 2015
 - Friday, June 26, 2015 and Saturday, June 27, 2015
- The Northland Board approve changes to Procedure 418 Staff Education Leave (Divisional Office).
- The Northland Board approve changes to Procedure 420 Paraprofessional Staff Education Leave
- The Northland Board approve changes to Procedure 422 Support Staff Education Leave (Field Based)
- The Northland Board approve changes to Procedure 434 Salary Administration



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View the Board Agenda on our website at:

http://www.northland61.ab.ca/main/documents/June 26 2014 Board Agenda Package 001.pdf

View the Board Minutes on our website at:

http://www.northland61.ab.ca/main/documents/Board Minutes June 26 2014DRAFT.pdf

View Board Meeting Attachments on our website at:

http://www.northland61.ab.ca/main/documents/June 26 Board Attachments.pdf

Important Dates to Remember

August 19, 2014	Committee Meetings and Agenda Review, Grouard, Alberta
August 28 and 29, 2014	Board Meeting, Peace River, Alberta

Note: These writings do not constitute the official record of the Northland School Division No.61. They are however, provided as general information relating to action taken at board meetings. For further information, please call 780-624-2060 or 1-800-362-1360.



