



Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights

Corporate Board Meeting – February 27-28, 2015

“Every student is a lifelong learner and successful in life”

www.nsd61.ca

MEMBERSHIP

Colin Kelly, Official Trustee Local School Board Committee Chairs

Julia Cardinal, Acting Chair ADCS
David Czibere, Anzac
Greg Gauchier, Bishop Routhier
Cora Weber-Pillwax, Acting Chair,
Calling Lake
Jason Yuck, Chipewyan Lake
Margaret Quintal, Conklin
Kim Courtoreille, Desmarais
Shelly Auger, East Prairie
Shelley Bartman, Elizabeth
Janet Lynn McDonald, Fort McKay
Ken Shaw, Gift Lake
Jesse Lamouche, Grouard
Joan Daniels, J.F. Dion
Alice Fontaine, Janvier
Kathy Omoth, Keg River
Dwight Gladue, Little Buffalo
Candice Calliou, Paddle Prairie
Louis Cardinal, Peerless Lake
Violet Carlson, Pelican Mountain
Rachelle McDonald, Susa Creek
Elmer Gullion, Trout Lake
Robin Guild, Wabasca

Advisory Committee

Elmer Gullion, Trout Lake
Ken Shaw, Gift Lake
Kim Courtoreille, Desmarais
Rachelle McDonald, Susa Creek
Robin Guild, Wabasca
Louis Cardinal, Peerless Lake

Senior Administration

Donna Barrett, Superintendent
Don Tessier, Associate Superintendent
Wes Oginski, Director of Human
Resources
Trudy Rasmuson, Secretary-Treasurer
David Cox, Division Facility Manager
Delores Pruden, Director of First Nation
Métis Inuit Education

Visit to South Slave School Division



Back row left to right: Curtis Brown, South Slave
Superintendent, Leroy Sloan, Consultant

Front row left to right: Gail Sajo, Literacy
Supervisor, Donna Barrett, Superintendent of
Schools, Delores Pruden Director of FNMI
Education, Shelly Hamelin, Hillview School
Principal

The Northland School Division (NSD61) Board is encouraged that the jurisdiction is on the right path when it comes to improving literacy division-wide. This, after Donna Barrett, Superintendent of Schools, Gail Sajo, Literacy Supervisor and Delores Pruden, Director of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education, made a presentation to the Board about their recent learning experience in the Northwest Territories. The trio, accompanied by Dr. Leroy Sloan, Consultant, and Shelly Hamelin, Hillview School Principal, visited seven schools in Hay River, Fort Resolution and Fort Smith to observe literacy practices.

Since implementing a literacy initiative eight years ago, South Slave has increased student literacy by enacting evaluations so teachers can track student learning and create focused lesson plans. They provide support for teachers, through literacy coaches in every school. Their initiative has resulted in higher achievement for students, recognition from government and by in from parents. The literacy initiatives in NSD61 and South Slave share many similarities. Barrett says even though it was helpful to see resemblance of NSD61's work somewhere else, it was also important to leave with fresh ideas.



Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights

Corporate Board Meeting – February 27-28, 2015

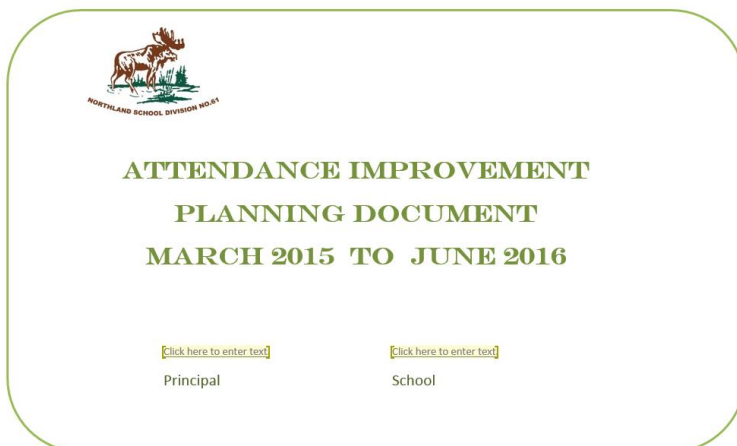
“Every student is a lifelong learner and successful in life”

www.nsd61.ca

“After observing literacy practices in South Slave, we believe more training is needed to support principals and teachers,” said Barrett. “We need to continue to enhance resources for schools, celebrate success and provide clear expectations.”

Even though there is room for improvement, Barrett adds that schools across Northland School Division are demonstrating measurable growth in the number of students reading at grade level. Between September 2013 and June 2014, 15 percent more students in grades 1-3 are reading at grade level, 13 percent in grades 4-6 and 11 percent in grades 7-12. She suggests that NSD61 should continue to stay the course when it comes to literacy and look at strategies to increase support for schools.

Attendance Improvement Initiative – ‘Every Day Counts’ Implementation Plan Update



Don Tessier, Associate Superintendent of Schools presented an *Attendance Improvement Initiative – ‘Every Day Counts’* planning document to the Northland Board. The planning document provides timelines and phases focussing on community engagement in school communities, establishing a process for monitoring student attendance with the intention of understanding where pressure points exist and specific dates for schools to report targets and strategies to central office staff. The document has been updated and will be presented to the Board at the March 27-28, 2015 Board Meeting.

Community Conversations – Guiding Principles for an Amended Northland School Division Act

Alberta Education is holding community conversations to develop guiding principles for an amended *Northland School Division Act*. To support attendance, there will be events in five communities within Northland School Division. Details are listed on the Northland School Division website <http://nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/guiding-principles-for-an-amended-northland-school-division-act>.



Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights

Corporate Board Meeting – February 27-28, 2015

“Every student is a lifelong learner and successful in life”

www.nsd61.ca

Procedure Approval Highlights

- Northland Board approves the Education Quarterly Report, as presented and attached.
- Northland Board approves the Finance Quarterly Report, as presented and attached
- Northland Board approves the Local Developed Course from Calgary School District /19, as foundation courses of study at the high school level: Film Studies 15-5 September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016.
- Procedure 4XX – School Volunteers passes first reading
- Northland Board tabled third reading of Policy 10 – Board Delegation of Authority, for further review in order to be consistent with the Education Act.
- Policy 15 – School Lunch Programs passes second reading

View the Board Agenda on our NEW website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/board-agendas>

View the Board Minutes on our website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/minutes>

View Board Meeting Attachments on our website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/board-attachments>

Important Dates to Remember

March 27-28 2015	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.