

Northland School Division

Board Agenda



September 17, 2021



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION REGULAR BOARD MEETING NO. 21-07 AGENDA

Location:

Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID:

Passcode:

Phone:

Date & Time: Friday, September 17, 2021 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

If you would like to join the public meeting, please contact Media Relations Manager, Curtis Walty at 780-624-2060, ext. 6183 or curtis.walty@nsd61.ca

Note: If agenda is ahead of schedule, items will be moved up

A. CALL TO ORDER - Chair Guild

No.	Title	Responsible	Action	Page No.
1.	Recognition of Traditional Lands	Chair Guild		-
2.	Opening Prayer, Cultural Reflection or Reflection	Trustee		-
3.	Approval of Agenda	All	Motion	-
4.	Remembering staff Kathryn Walmsley and Christine Janvier	All	Moment of Silence	
5.	In-Camera	All	Motion in/out of in-camera	-

B. MINUTES

No.	Title	Responsible	Action	Page No.
1.	Board Meeting Minutes, June 25, 2021	All	Motion	05
2.	Special Board Meeting Minutes, August 24, 2021	All	Motion	13
3.	Business Arising from Previous Meetings - Board Action Items	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Information	17



**NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING NO. 21-07
AGENDA**

C. CONSENT AGENDA (Motion to approve)

No.	Title	Responsible	Action	Page No.
1.	Superintendent Report	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Information	20
2.	Board Chair Report	Chair Guild	Information	23
3.	Committee and/or Board Representative Reports	Trustees	Information	-
4.	Trustee Activity Reports/Association Reports	Trustees	Information	-

D. ACTION ITEMS

No.	Title	Responsible	Action	Page No.
1.	Monthly Financial Report	Secretary-Treasurer Aird	Information	24
2.	Student Engagement, Attendance & Completion Report	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Information	26
3.	Long Service & Retirement Awards Celebration	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Motion	33
4.	Bus Contractor Tender Update and Award	Secretary-Treasurer Aird	Motion	34
5.	Fort McKay School, Land and Buildings Transfer	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Motion	35
6.	Education Services Agreement with the Fort McKay First Nation	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Motion	36
7.	Superintendent's Evaluation Report	Secretary-Treasurer Aird	Motion	37
8.	Board Evaluation Report	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Motion	38

E. TECH TALK WITH DR. TIM STENSLAND – DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT

F. MONITORING REPORTS (Motion to Approve)

No.	Title	Responsible	Action	Page No.
1.	Awards/Celebrations (1:00 p.m.)	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Information	-
2.	Board Chair Highlights	Chair Guild	Information	39
3.	Superintendent Highlights	Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras	Information	44
4.	Human Resources Department Report	Associate Superintendent Marran	Information	53



**NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
REGULAR BOARD MEETING NO. 21-07
AGENDA**

5.	Communications Department Report	Media Relations Manager Walty	Information	54
6.	Associate Reports	Deputy Superintendent Dr. Stensland	Information	71

G. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF BOARD ITEMS

No.	Title	Responsible
1.	Community Groups to Engage	Chair Guild

H. ADJOURNMENT & CLOSING CULTURAL REFLECTION



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Board Meeting Minutes, June 25, 2021
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS: June 25, 2021 Corporate Board Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Board of Trustees approve the June 25, 2021 Corporate Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

BACKGROUND:

RISK ANALYSIS:



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**BOARD MEETING NO. 21-06
MINUTES**

Location: Courtyard by Marriott, Edmonton West
Zoom Meeting

Date: Friday, June 25, 2021 Time: 9:00 a.m.

Membership					
✓	Carmen Laboucane	Trustee Ward 1	✓	Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras	Superintendent of Schools
✓	Cathy Wanyandie	Trustee Ward 2	✓	Dr. Tim Stensland	Associate Superintendent
✓	Randy Anderson	Trustee Ward 3	✓	Douglas Aird	Secretary-Treasurer
✓	Jesse Lamouche	Trustee Ward 4	✓	Dr. Don Tessier	Director of Student Engagement, Attendance & Completion
✓	Louis Cardinal	Trustee Ward 5	✓	Curtis Walty	Media Relations Manager
x	Silas Yellowknee	Trustee Ward 6	✓	Cheryl Osmond	Executive Assistant
✓	Robin Guild	Chair Ward 7			
✓	Loretta Gladue	Trustee Ward 8			
✓	Dr. Rubi Shirley	Trustee Ward 9			
✓	Jules Nokohoo	Vice-Chair Ward 10			
x	Skye Durocher	Trustee Ward 11			

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to Order

Chair Guild called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. with a traditional land acknowledgment.

2. Opening Reflection

Trustees Cardinal and Shirley provided the opening prayer, cultural reflection or reflection.

The Board of Trustees and participants had a moment of silence in memory of the 215 lives lost at the Kamloops Indian Residential Schools and to show their respect for all communities mourning.

3. Adopt Agenda

MOTION: Trustee Shirley moved that the Board of Trustees acknowledge that Trustees have reviewed and approved the agenda.

25289/21 CARRIED

4. In-Camera Session

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the meeting go in-camera at 9:21 a.m.

25290/21 CARRIED



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**BOARD MEETING NO. 21-06
MINUTES**

5. Regular Session

MOTION: Trustee Anderson moved that the meeting revert back to regular session at 10:24 a.m.

25291/21 CARRIED

Recess from 10:24 a.m. to 10:38 a.m.

6. In-Camera Session

MOTION: Trustee Nokohoo moved that the meeting go in-camera at 10:38 a.m.

25292/21 CARRIED

7. Regular Session

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the meeting revert back to regular session at 11:29 a.m.

25293/21 CARRIED

Recess from 11:30 a.m. to 11:38 a.m.

8. Auditor Presentation

The Metrix Group presented the Audit Planning Report to the Board of Trustees for the year ended August 31, 2021.

Recess from 12:07 p.m. to 12:42 p.m.

B. MINUTES

1. Board Meeting Minutes - May 29, 2021

Motion: Trustee Shirley moved that the Board of Trustees approve the May 29, 2021 Corporate Board Meeting minutes as presented.

25294/21 CARRIED

2. Board Action Items

Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras reviewed the current Board Action items.

MOTION: Trustee Anderson moved that the Board of Trustees accept as information the Board Action Items as attached.

25295/21 CARRIED



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**BOARD MEETING NO. 21-06
MINUTES**

C. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Adopt Consent Agenda

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees approve the consent agenda which approves the items as follows:

- C1. Superintendent's Report
- C2. Association Reports
- C3. Board Chair Report
- C4. Committee and/or Board Representative Reports
- C5. Trustee Activity Reports

25296/21 CARRIED

D. ACTION ITEMS

1. Policy 2 - Role of the Board

MOTION: Trustee Shirley moved that the Board of Trustees approve the housekeeping changes to Policy 2 - Role of the Board.

25297/21 CARRIED

2. Purchase of Three (3) 70 Passenger Diesel School Buses

MOTION: Trustee Anderson moved that the Board of Trustees approve the purchase of three (3) 70 passenger diesel school buses from Western Canada Bus, in the amount of \$354,371.82 with the funds coming from reserves.

25298/21 CARRIED

3. Monthly Financial Reports

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees approve as information the Monthly Financial Report, as attached.

25299/21 CARRIED



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**BOARD MEETING NO. 21-06
MINUTES**

4. Year End Audit Plan

MOTION: Trustee Shirley moved that the Board of Trustees approve the 2020-2021 audit plan as presented and authorize the Board Chair to approve the engagement letter.

25300/21 CARRIED

5. Contract Facilitator for Superintendent and Board Evaluations

MOTION: Trustee Nokohoo moved that the Board of Trustees authorize the Administration to proceed with the process of contracting T. Gunderson with Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) to conduct the Superintendent's and the Board's annual evaluation, as presented.

25301/21 CARRIED

6. Scholarships and Bursaries

MOTION: Trustee Nokohoo moved that the Board of Trustees received as information from the Scholarship and Bursary Committee, the recipients of scholarships and bursaries with funds coming from the current end budget, as attached.

25302/21 CARRIED

7. Update of Logo

The Board of Trustees and Administration discussed updating the Division's logo; C. Walty, Media Relations Manager will provide various samples for further review. This item has been tabled to the September meeting.

8. Long Service & Retirement Awards

There was a discussion on potential dates for the Long Service and Retirement Awards ceremony with no decision made; and will be tabled to the September meeting.

9. September 2021 Board Meeting Date

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees approve the board meeting of September 17, 2021, as presented.

25303/21 CARRIED



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**BOARD MEETING NO. 21-06
MINUTES**

10. May 2021 Enrollment Report

MOTION: Trustee Nokohoo receive as information, the May 31, 2021 Student Enrollment Report, as attached.

25304/21 CARRIED

11. Student Engagement, Attendance & Completion Report

Dr. Don Tessier, Director of Student Engagement, Attendance and Completions provided an overview to the Board of Trustees on student attendance for the month of May.

MOTION: Trustee Shirley moved that the Board of Trustees receive as information the Student Engagement, Attendance, and Completion Report for May 2021, as attached.

25305/21 CARRIED

12. Roofing Contracts Approval

MOTION: Trustee Nokohoo moved that the Board of Trustees approve two roofing contracts with Western Weather Protector Ltd. selected by tender totalling \$263,250, as attached.

25306/21 CARRIED

Trustee Laboucane left the meeting at this time.

E. TECH TALK WITH TIM STENSLAND
--

Dr. Tim Stensland demonstrated Hapara, a web based program that the teachers, students and parents have used to provide various teaching and learning experiences.

Trustee Cardinal left the meeting at this time.

Recess: 3:16 p.m. to 3:26 p.m.



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**BOARD MEETING NO. 21-06
MINUTES**

F. MONITORING REPORTS

Trustee Nokohoo moved that the Board of Trustees approve as information, the Monitoring Reports , as presented and attached.

- F1. Awards/Celebrations
- F2. Board Chair Highlights
- F3. Superintendent Highlights
- F4. FNMI Department Report
- F5. IT Department Report
- F6. Human Resources Report
- F7. School Food Services Report
- F8. Trustee Association/Zone Report - Trustee Anderson (Verbal Report)

25307/21 CARRIED

AWARDS/PRESENTATIONS

The Board of Trustees watched a short video from the Telus World of Science Edmonton, Science in Motion - Year in review with Northland School Division.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras thanked Dr. Tessier for his dedication to the Division over the years and wished him all the best in his retirement.

Chair Guild congratulated Dr. Rubi Shirley for receiving the PSBAA Promoting and Advancing the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada as it Relates to Education in Alberta Award.

Trustees Cardinal and Lamouche left the meeting at this time.



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**BOARD MEETING NO. 21-06
MINUTES**

G. PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION OF BOARD ITEMS

1. School Names

It has been brought to the Board of Trustees attention that due to the recent events with residential schools within Canada, there has been concerns about the names of some of the schools within the Division.

H. ADJOURNMENT & CLOSING PRAYER/CULTURAL REFLECTION

1. Adjournment

MOTION: Trustee Anderson moved that the Board of Trustees declare the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

25308/21 CARRIED

Robin Guild, Board Chair

Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras,
Superintendent of Schools

Douglas Aird, Secretary-Treasurer



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Special Board Meeting Minutes, August 24, 2021
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS: August 24, 2021 Corporate Board Meeting Minutes

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Board of Trustees approve the August 24, 2021 Special Board Meeting Minutes as presented.

BACKGROUND:

RISK ANALYSIS:



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Location: Zoom Meeting

Date: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 Time: 6:30 p.m.

Membership					
✓	Carmen Laboucane	Trustee Ward 1	✓	Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras	Superintendent of Schools
✓	Cathy Wanyandie	Trustee Ward 2	x	Dr. Tim Stensland	Associate Superintendent
✓	Randy Anderson	Trustee Ward 3	✓	Douglas Aird	Secretary-Treasurer
✓	Jesse Lamouche	Trustee Ward 4	✓	Curtis Walty	Media Relations Manager
✓	Louis Cardinal	Trustee Ward 5	✓	Cheryl Osmond	Executive Assistant
x	Silas Yellowknee	Trustee Ward 6			
✓	Robin Guild	Chair Ward 7			
x	Loretta Gladue	Trustee Ward 8			
x	Dr. Rubi Shirley	Trustee Ward 9			
✓	Jules Nokohoo	Vice-Chair Ward 10			
✓	Skye Durocher	Trustee Ward 11			

A. CALL TO ORDER

1. Call to Order

Chair Guild called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with a traditional land acknowledgment.

2. Opening Reflection

Trustees Cardinal provided the opening prayer, cultural reflection or reflection.

Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras notified the Board of Trustees of the passing of two NSD employees; Kathryn Walmsley, teacher at Elizabeth School and Christine Janvier, Family Wellness Worker in Chard.

3. Adopt Agenda

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees acknowledge that Trustees have reviewed and approved the agenda.

25309/21 CARRIED

B. ACTION ITEMS

1. National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Day (September 30th)

Motion: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees approve the amendment to the 2021-2022 Northland School Division Calendar by adding the National Day for



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

Truth and Reconciliation, September 30th as a day of closure and removing the Professional Learning Day previously scheduled for April 19, 2022.

25310/21 CARRIED

2. NSD 2021-2022 Back to School Plan

Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras presented the NSD 2021-2022 Back to School Plan which will be re-evaluated on September 30, 2021.

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees receive as information the NSD 2021-2022 Back to School Plan, as attached.

25311/21 CARRIED

3. In Camera Session

Motion: Trustee Cardinal moved that the meeting go In-Camera at 7:48 p.m.

25312/21 CARRIED

4. Regular Session

MOTION: Trustee Laboucane moved that the meeting revert back to regular session at 8:11 p.m.

25313/21 CARRIED

5. Bus Contractor Tender Awards for 15 Routes

MOTION: Trustee Nokohoo moved that the Board of Trustees approve the 15 contract awards to the recommended bidders, selected by tender, for the provision of contract bus service, as attached.

25314/21 CARRIED

6. Housing Renovation Contractor Tender Award

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees approve the contract award to CTS Interiors and Renos Inc. for the renovation of four housing units 47, 51, 247 and 249 in the amount of \$428,857.80 including GST with the funds coming from the Housing Renovation Program Budget.

25315/21 CARRIED



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES**

7. Portable CTS Trailer Deployment

Superintendent Dr. Spencer-Poitras gave an update on the status of the CTS Shop Trailers, which will be deployed to Paddle Prairie School.

MOTION: Trustee Lamouche moved that the Board of Trustees accept as information the update on the CTS Trailer deployment.

25316/21 CARRIED

C. ADJOURNMENT & CLOSING PRAYER/CULTURAL REFLECTION

1. Adjournment

MOTION: Trustee Cardinal moved that the Board of Trustees declare the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

25317/21 CARRIED

Draft

Robin Guild, Board Chair

Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras,
Superintendent of Schools

Douglas Aird, Secretary-Treasurer



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Board Action Items
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS: Board Action Items

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Board of Trustees receive as information the Board Action items as attached.

BACKGROUND:

RISK ANALYSIS:

Meeting	Date of Meeting	Assigned To	Agenda Item	Task	Due Date	Status	Action
Board	5/29/2021	Superintendent Spencer-Poitras	Round Table	Proposed Long Services and Retirement Award Date in September	6/25/2021	Complete	Recommendation in Board package September 17, 2021
Board	4/24/2021	Secretary-Treasurer Aird	Round Table	Trustee Anderson requested information on the carbon tax and how it affects utility costs.	5/29/2021	Complete	Board update September 17, 2021.
Board	4/24/2021	Secretary-Treasurer Aird	Round Table	Trustee Anderson requested information on bus contractors rates. Information will be used to present the opportunity of either being a bus contractor and/or a bus driver to parents.	5/29/2021	Complete	The August public tender for Bus Contractors included a widespread advertising and communications blitz. Social media was also employed and the success of the approach was proven by the fact most routes had 3 bidders, an increase of 50% from previous. At this time the opportunity to be a Bus Driver is advertised on our careers site and Social Media engagement continues.
Board	1/23/2021	Administration	Hillview School	Administration and Trustees to reach out to the Leadership, parents and staff to find out why students are attending school in High Prairie instead of Hillview; remind them of the potential risk of losing the school.	5/1/2021	In Progress	
Board	1/23/2021	Secretary-Treasurer Aird	Chipewyan Lake School	Secretary-Treasurer Aird to schedule meeting with MD of Opportunity to discuss Chipewyan Lake School septic tank.	3/31/2021	Complete	September 2021: Tank has been removed and septic field in use.
Board	1/23/2021	Secretary-Treasurer Aird	Electoral Boundary Map	Secretary-Treasurer Aird to contact Alberta Education to obtain an electoral boundary map for the Division.	5/29/2021	Complete	Received on March 31, 2021 however the provincial division boundary maps do not indicate the Wards. A contract has been issued for the creation of the required maps, and they are expected mid-September.
Board	8/24/2019	Board Chair/Vice Chair	Fort McKay Land Transfer	To meet with the elected officials of Fort McKay First Nation to discuss the transfer.	1/22/2021	Complete	At the Nov. 22, 2019 Board Meeting - Jules to make contact with FMFN to arrange. Dec. 6 - request for meeting dates sent to the Nation awaiting a response. March and April, 2020 - Meeting requests have been sent to the Nation. Nov. 2020 - scheduled to be reviewed for next month May 2021 - the transfer of the land will be determined by Alberta Education. Sept 2021 - the band has been verbally advised and the Board recommendation is that the Board consider a transfer effective Sept 2022 when the new school opens.



Superintendent's Report

SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

EDC Research Partnership Program Webinar: Indigenous Parent Involvement in Education	June 18, 2021
Attended an online webinar which discussed mixed method studies that examined the relationship between Indigenous parent/caregiver involvement in schooling and junior high school retention and high school completion among Indigenous students to inform educational programs and practices as well as teacher training and professional learning to improve academic outcomes for Indigenous students.	
Principals Meeting	June 22, 2021
Met with the school principals to discuss school closing reminders, 2021-2022 school start up, orientation week, school organization week and re-engaging with students and communities.	
Fort McMurray Public School Division Meeting	June 22, 2021
NSD Board Chair and Superintendent met with the Fort McMurray Public School Division.	
Alberta Education Quarterly Attendance Meeting	June 23, 2021
Met with Alberta Education and NSD representatives to discuss the Division attendance.	
Principal Meeting	June 23, 2021
Met with selected principals who will be participating in the Numeracy Pilot.	
Meeting with Deputy Minister of Education	June 24, 2021
Attended an introductory phone meeting with Deputy Minister of Education, Andre Tremblay.	
Corporate Board Meeting	June 25, 2021
Participated in the Corporate Board meeting that was held in Edmonton, Alberta.	
Alberta Education Meeting	June 30, 2021
Met with Ron Taylor, Lori Bell and Darlene Olson from Alberta Education to discuss NSD Community Engagement.	
Executive Team Employee Evaluations	July 5-6, 2021
Conducted executive team employee evaluations with consultant T. Gunderson.	
Legal Services Meeting	July 19, 2021
Met with McLennan Ross LLP to discuss legal issues.	

Embargoed Meeting with the Ministry of Education and Chief Medical Officer of Health	August 13, 2021
Attended an embargoed meeting with the Ministry of Education and Chief Medical Officer of Health via Zoom.	
CASS Summer Learning Conference	August 16 - 17, 2021
Attended online CASS Summer Learning Conference via Zoom. Sessions took place in the mornings.	
Executive Team Building Meeting	August 16 - 18, 2021
Met with the new Associate Superintendents and Secretary Treasurer Aird in Edmonton to discuss roles and responsibilities in the afternoon of August 16 and 17th and all day August 18th.	
Meeting with Minister of Education	August 17, 2021
Phone meeting with the Minister of Education regarding programming for a school.	
Legal Services Meeting	August 19, 2021
Met with McLennan Ross LLP to discuss legal issues.	
Alberta Education Quarterly Attendance Meeting	August 20, 2021
Follow up meeting with Alberta Education and NSD representatives from June 23, 2021 to discuss the Division attendance.	
Special Board Meeting	August 24, 2021
Attended the Special Board meeting via Zoom.	
Principal Orientation	August 25-26, 2021
The principal start up meetings were on August 25 and 26, 2021. The two days focused on learning leadership in schools and collective staff efficacy as the key driver of student success in literacy and numeracy.	
New Teacher Orientation	August 25 - 26, 2021
Attended and welcomed the new teachers to orientation.	
NSD Quarterly Review with Directorate, Alberta Education	August 25, 2021
Met with N. Callihoo, Assistant Deputy Minister, FNMI Education, Directorate with Alberta Education.	
Meeting with Dr. Emily Milne McEwan University	August 27, 2021
Met with Dr. Milne to discuss research around Indigenous community engagement.	

PSBAA PD Session: Resiliency	August 27, 2021
PD session on Resiliency, was facilitated by Olympian Sarah Wells. The <i>Believe Initiative</i> is a great program for high school students. It empowers and engages students to build resilience and recognize the power of self-belief.	
Interview with CBC Edmonton	August 30, 2021
Was interviewed by CBC Edmonton to discuss mandatory masks for rural Wood Buffalo and Fort McMurray students.	
Agenda Review Meeting	August 31, 2021
Participated in the monthly Agenda Review Meeting for the September 17, 2021 Board meeting.	
Native Instructors Meeting	September 3, 2021
Attended the Native Instructors meeting via Zoom which was hosted by Debbie Mineault, Supervisor of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Language and Culture and Land Based Learning.	
Welcome Back to All Staff	September 3, 2021
Board Chair Robin Guild and Superintendent welcomed all staff back to the new school year. Thanked staff for all their efforts last year.	
CASS: Draft Standards for Education Services Agreements (ESA)	September 9, 2021
Attended the development of standards for education services agreements engagement sessions which discussed the draft standards.	
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Calling Lake Playground	September 10 2021
This event has been delayed for a year and a half due to COVID restrictions.	



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
BOARD CHAIR REPORT TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Robin Guild, Board Chair, Ward 7
SUBJECT: June and September 2021

ACTIVITIES:

DATE	DESCRIPTION
June 21, 2021	Telus World of Science MOU Signing in Edmonton
June 22, 2021	Meeting with Fort McMurray Public School Division
June 24, 2021	St. Theresa School Secretary Interviews
June 25, 2021	Corporate Board Meeting in Edmonton
June 28, 2021	Farewell to Staff via Zoom
August 13, 2021	Media Update with Minister LaGrange
August 13, 2021	Meeting with ASBA and Minister LaGrange
August 24, 2021	Special Board Meeting via Zoom
August 25, 2021	New Teacher Orientation
September 3, 2021	Beginning of the Year Message to all
September 7, 2021	Meeting with Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement
September 10, 2021	Calling Lake Playground Grand Opening



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Douglas Aird, Secretary-Treasurer
SUBJECT: Monthly Financial Report
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS: July 31, 2021 Monthly Financial Report

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Trustees approve as information the Monthly Financial Report, as attached.

BACKGROUND:

RISK ANALYSIS:



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
Budget to Actual Variance
as of July 31, 2021

REVENUE	2020-2021					%
	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD	Variance		
Alberta Education	\$46,143,365	\$ 42,298,085	\$ 43,192,648	\$ 894,563		2
Federal Government & First Nations	15,349,464	15,349,464	\$12,968,164	(2,381,300)		(16)
Other Revenue	\$2,678,420	2,455,218	\$2,047,962	(407,256)		(17)
	<u>\$ 64,171,249</u>	<u>\$ 60,102,767</u>	<u>\$ 58,208,774</u>	<u>\$ (1,893,993)</u>		<u>(3)</u>
EXPENSES						
Schools (inc. school cert. staff)	\$ 24,556,710	\$ 22,510,318	\$ 21,811,920	\$ 698,398		3
Instructional Support	7,667,034	7,028,115	5,412,368	1,615,747		23
Instructional Supply	7,628,664	6,992,942	5,245,943	1,746,999		25
External Services	4,521,543	4,144,748	4,364,471	(219,724)		(5)
Board and System Administration	3,108,717	2,849,657	2,429,624	420,033		15
Operations and Maintenance	10,504,182	9,628,834	\$10,420,157	(791,323)		(8)
Transportation	4,611,762	4,227,449	\$3,666,486	560,963		13
	<u>\$ 62,598,612</u>	<u>\$ 57,382,061</u>	<u>\$ 53,350,969</u>	<u>\$ 4,031,092</u>		<u>7</u>
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	<u>\$ 1,572,637</u>	<u>\$ 2,720,706</u>	<u>\$ 4,857,806</u>	<u>\$ 2,137,100</u>		
Salaries and Benefits Detail						
Certificated salaries and benefits	\$ 21,567,108	\$ 19,769,849	\$ 18,147,232	\$ 1,622,617		8
Uncertificated salaries and benefits	15,743,015	14,431,097	13,589,568	841,529		6
	<u>\$ 37,310,123</u>	<u>\$ 34,200,946</u>	<u>\$ 31,736,801</u>	<u>\$ 2,464,146</u>		<u>7</u>

VARIANCE ANALYSIS

Overall - With one month in the fiscal year remaining and despite the pandemic, we are on track for a very positive result.

Both revenues and expenses are on track per the Fall Budget Update.

With 92% of the year gone we have received 91% of our planned revenues but spent just 84% of our planned expenses.

Revenue

Revenue is on track with the budget (-3%):

Provincial funding and COVID funding has been received in line with the initial budget.

The 27% reduction in Federal & First Nations revenues forecast in the Fall Budget update (\$12,046,517) was accurate.

Lower Federal/First Nations tuition rates have been slightly offset by additional students and federal COVID support.

Other revenues including SGF and donations have diminished from the pandemic in line with expenses (\$0.4 M)

Expenses

The \$4.0M (7%) favorable variance is due to operational changes offset by Housing renovations/ pandemic costs

Schools are 3% under budget due primarily to the pandemic, reducing subs and other expenses

Certificated salaries are 8% under budget (\$1.6M)

External Services is slightly overbudget due to Housing investment and forecast costs

Maintenance is 8% overbudget due to pandemic costs, contract custodial, insurance over plan and additional R&M

Pandemic-related slowdowns have reduced costs for Instructional Support, Supply and Transportation (\$3.8M)

Watching:	Budget	YTD Budget	YTD	Variance	%
Housing	\$ 1,404,991	\$ 1,287,908	\$ 1,265,944	\$ 21,964	2
Housing Renovations Program	\$ 1,900,000	\$ 1,741,667	\$ 910,959	\$ 830,708	48
Pedagogical	\$ 689,950	\$ 632,454	\$ 746,023	\$ (113,569)	(18)

Housing - Net Underbudget 2% YTD

Adjusting entries have been made to match Housing renovation YTD project costs to the funding sources.

Overall 18 units have been renovated with 6 more in process, from the program total of 37 units.

Pedagogical - Overbudget 18%

The budget had only 4 peds while there are and were planned to be 5.



Director of Student Engagement, Attendance, and Completion Report for Trustees

NSD Operational Plan Updates to June 2021

Strategy 1.1: Standardize attendance tracking processes

Year to Year Comparison - Division-wide Attendance Results for September 2020 to June 2021

Month	2019-2020	2020-2021	Difference
September	88%	76%	-12%
October	81%	73%	-8%
November	80%	76%	-4%
December	78%	73%	-5%
January	68%	68%	0%
February	78%	59%	-19%
March	77%	60%	-17%
April	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	56%	
May	LFH – No Data – Covid-19	58%	
June	LFH – No Data – Covid-19	48%	
Overall Average	79%*	64%	-15%

* Overall average does not include April to June 2020. Comparison average based on 7 months only (Sept. 2020 to March 2021)

June 2021 Attendance Highlights for Northland School Division

- Last year, commencing March 16, 2020, Alberta Government, in cooperation with Alberta Health Services, required all schools in the province to transition to home schooling. From March 16 to June 28, 2020, all NSD students were recorded in PowerSchool as 'learning from home'.
- The top attending schools (at-home & in-school combined) for June 2021 are:

Schools	Top Attending Schools for June 2021
Bishop Routhier School	87%
Susa Creek School	83%
Chipewyan Lake School	81%

- Overall average division attendance for September 2020 to June 2021 is 64%!
- For June 2021, division-wide, 33% of NSD students have attendance rates between 80% and 100%.



KEEPING ON TRACK!

June 2021

Attendance Improvement Across NSD

Are you keeping on track with your attendance improvement goals? Do you have the latest and most accurate attendance information for your school? Are you communicating your attendance successes & challenges with your school community? If not ... how we can help?

June 2021 Attendance Results by School

Northland Schools	June 2020	June 2021	
		At-Home	In-School
Bishop Routhier	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	0%*	87%
Gift Lake School	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	27%	49%
Grouard Northland	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	22%	55%
Hillview School	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	32%	57%
Paddle Prairie	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	46%	52%
Susa Creek School	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	69%	96%
Average		39%	66%
Calling Lake	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	28%	42%
Chipewyan Lake	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	100%	61%
Mistassiniy	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	13%	26%
Pelican Mountain	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	52%	49%
St. Theresa	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	28%	58%
Average		44%	47%
ADCS	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	27%	48%
Anzac	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	51%	65%
Bill Woodward	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	37%	79%
Conklin	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	0%	56%
Elizabeth	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	51%	71%
Father R. Perin	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	2%	28%
Fort McKay	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	33%	67%
J. F. Dion	LFH - No Data – Covid-19	56%	68%
Average		32%	60%
Overall Average		38%	58%

Note: Combined (at-home & in-school) attendance average is 48% (i.e. 38% at-home + 58% in-school / 2)

* 2 out of 60 students are home-schoolers; their attendance is calculated with in-school percentage

**Percentage of Students (at-home & in-school)
Attending Between 90% – 100% by School for June 2021**

Northland Schools	95-100%	90-94 %		90-100 %
Bishop Routhier School	75%	5%	=	80%
Gift Lake School	8%	4%	=	12%
Grouard Northland School	8%	3%	=	11%
Hillview School	15%	2%	=	17%
Paddle Prairie School	15%	1%	=	16%
Susa Creek School	62%	13%	=	75%
Sub-Total Avg.	31%	5%	=	35%
Calling Lake School	11%	2%	=	13%
Chipewyan Lake School	50%	8%	=	58%
Mistassiniy School	1%	1%	=	2%
Pelican Mountain School	19%	7%	=	26%
St. Theresa School	9%	2%	=	11%
Sub-Total Avg.	18%	4%	=	22%
ADCS	3%	1%	=	4%
Anzac Community School	19%	10%	=	29%
Bill Woodward School	16%	11%	=	27%
Conklin Community School	13%	9%	=	22%
Elizabeth School	23%	8%	=	31%
Father R. Perin School	0%	1%	=	1%
Fort McKay School	13%	9%	=	22%
JF Dion School	20%	6%	=	26%
Sub-Total Avg.	13%	7%	=	20%
Overall	21%	5%	=	26%

Percent by Attendance Category by School for June 2021 (combined)

Northland School	95-100%	90-94 %	80-89%	70-79%	60-69%	50-59%	Below 50%
Bishop Routhier School	75%	5%	3%	3%	1%	0%	13%
Gift Lake School	8%	4%	8%	4%	3%	12%	61%
Grouard Northland School	8%	3%	9%	7%	6%	6%	61%
Hillview School	15%	2%	2%	14%	2%	7%	58%
Paddle Prairie School	15%	1%	6%	8%	8%	9%	53%
Susa Creek School	62%	13%	0%	0%	0%	13%	12%
Sub-Total	31%	5%	5%	6%	3%	8%	43%
Calling Lake School	11%	2%	1%	5%	5%	6%	70%
Chipewyan Lake School	50%	8%	12%	8%	4%	8%	10%
Mistassiniy School	1%	1%	1%	2%	2%	5%	89%
Pelican Mountain School	19%	7%	2%	2%	2%	13%	55%
St. Theresa School	9%	2%	10%	9%	6%	8%	56%
Sub-Total	18%	4%	5%	5%	4%	8%	56%
ADCS	3%	1%	13%	8%	3%	6%	66%
Anzac Community School	19%	10%	11%	18%	2%	6%	34%
Bill Woodward School	16%	11%	11%	12%	9%	3%	38%
Conklin Community School	13%	9%	3%	3%	0%	0%	72%
Elizabeth School	23%	8%	13%	6%	10%	11%	29%
Father R. Perin School	0%	1%	4%	5%	4%	3%	83%
Fort McKay School	13%	9%	6%	3%	2%	5%	62%
JF Dion School	20%	6%	21%	6%	11%	7%	29%
Sub-Total	13%	7%	10%	8%	5%	5%	52%
Overall	21%	5%	7%	6%	4%	7%	50%

**Students attending between 80-100% compared with students
attending below 80% for June 2021 by School**

School	80-100%	Below 80%		Total
Bishop Routhier	83%	17%	=	100%
Gift Lake School	20%	80%	=	100%
Grouard Northland School	26%	74%	=	100%
Hillview School	19%	81%	=	100%
Paddle Prairie School	22%	78%	=	100%
Susa Creek School*	75%	25%	=	100%
Avg. Sub-Total	41%	59%	=	100%
Calling Lake School	14%	86%	=	100%
Chipewyan School *	70%	30%	=	100%
Mistassiniy School	3%	97%	=	100%
Pelican Mountain School	28%	72%	=	100%
St. Theresa School	21%	79%	=	100%
Avg. Sub-Total	27%	73%	=	100%
ADCS School	17%	83%	=	100%
Anzac School	40%	60%	=	100%
Bill Woodward School	38%	62%	=	100%
Conklin Community School	25%	75%	=	100%
Elizabeth School	44%	56%	=	100%
Father R. Perin School	5%	95%	=	100%
Fort McKay School *	28%	72%	=	100%
J.F. Dion School	47%	53%	=	100%
Sub-Total	31%	69%	=	100%
Overall Avg.	33%	67%	=	100%

* Note: Green highlights showcase schools with exceptional June 2021 attendance during Covid-19.

Student Attendance Percentages by Grade Grouping for June 2021

ECS	Grades 1 - 3	Grades 4 - 6	Grades 7 - 9	Grades 10 - 12
54%	58%	58%	39%	30%

Strategy 2.3: Create an atmosphere of respect and appreciation for individuals

June 2021 Attendance Award Winners

Award Strategy #4:

High School Leaders Group – 20 Credits Plus in a Semester

High school students earning 20 credits (or more) in a semester will have their names placed in a hat to win one of two \$100 gift cards per semester - January and June.

Winner of 20 Credits plus Award (draw of eligible 2 nd semester high school students)	= Shayte Cardinal, Grade 12, from Calling Lake School earned 30 credits
--	---

Award Strategy #6:

Monthly Attendance draws by division (e.g. K-3, 4-5, 7-9 & 10-12) for students achieving 90% or better

Congratulations to the following students who received a \$50 Gift Card for their outstanding June 2021 Attendance Successes!

Grade Groupings	Student	School	% Attendance Achieved
Kindergarten to Gr. 3	Jimmy, Rod Daniel	Elizabeth	95%
Grade 4-6	Decoine, Silver Rain	Paddle Prairie	96%
Grade 7-9	Karakuntie, Dominick Joseph	Susa Creek	97%
Grade 10-12	Crapeau, Shayleen Rose	Bill Woodward	96%



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Long Service & Retirement Awards Celebration
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Trustees approve, in accordance with the Alberta Provincial COVID-19 Guidelines, hosting the Long Service and Retirement Awards Celebration virtually/in person with the potential date of October 14, 2021 or October 15, 2021 as to be determined by the Administration.

BACKGROUND:

At the May 29, 2021 there was a discussion on holding a virtual Long Service Awards & Retirement celebration. It was tabled to the June 25, 2021 Corporate Board meeting. On June 25, 2021, a discussion took place on hosting the celebration in person, with consideration of possible COVID restrictions, the topic was tabled to the September 17, 2021 Corporate Board meeting.

With the increase of COVID-19 numbers rising in Alberta, effective September 4, 2021, the Alberta Government put in place the recommended measure that Albertans are encouraged to limit in-person contacts in social gatherings.



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Douglas Aird, Secretary-Treasurer
ORIGINATOR: Susanne Jones, Transportation Manager
SUBJECT: Bus Contractor Tender Update and Award
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:					
THAT the Board of Trustees approve the contract awards to the recommended bidders in the table below, selected by tender, for the provision of contract bus service.					
2021 Bus Contractor Recommended Award Summary				Contract amount	
<u>Route</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Recommended Provider</u>	<u>(3 year total, +GST)</u>	<u>Bids</u>	
442	Peavine to High Prairie	Dorothy Anderson	\$303,000	3	
450	Peavine to High Prairie	Al Anderson	\$303,000	3	

BACKGROUND:
<p>At the August 24, 2021 Special Board Meeting the Board approved the award of 15 Busing tendered bus routes for 3 year agreements. One of the successful proponents backed out as unbeknownst previously, their pricing was only valid if they won 4 routes (the cost of a spare bus had to be amortized over the routes). There were 3 bids received at that time, with the recommendation being \$229,967.20 per route.</p> <p>The two routes have been retendered. The Division selects vendors for major work through public tender. Requirements are developed and proponent responses are ranked based on objective criteria determined in advance, including cost.</p>
RISK ANALYSIS:
<p>Low risk as the Division has confirmed that these contractors are suitable, the process will offer the best value and that the work will meet operational requirements. Accordingly the risk is low.</p>



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Fort McKay School Land and Buildings Transfer Request
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Board of Trustees approve that Administration begin preparing for the transfer of the Fort McKay School, Land and Buildings to the Fort McKay First Nation, in anticipation of the opening of the new Nation School in September 2022.

BACKGROUND:
The Nation is building a new school with a planned opening for September 2022. The Nation and the Division have been working very successfully together for a number of years with a Co-Management Agreement to build capacity and collaborate on the operation of the current Northland school.

The majority of the students (89%) attending Fort McKay School are from the Fort McKay First Nation, and their tuition is funded by the Nation. Upon the new school opening they will presumably be transferring to it. The Nation had previously requested the transfer of the school land and building, to be converted to reserve land (2013).

Preparations would include transitional planning, legal research, administrative authority and the administrative requirements for the transition and transfer. Ultimately a recommendation to transfer the school land and building will be prepared by Administration for Board motion if the school is completed as planned.



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Education Services Agreement with the Fort McKay First Nation
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Board of Trustees approve the Education Services Agreement with the Fort McKay First Nation and authorize the Superintendent or designate to execute the agreement. The agreement provides for the payment of band members’ tuition to attend Fort McKay School effective Sept 2021, as attached.

BACKGROUND:
The Nation and the Division have been working very successfully together for a number of years with a Co-Management Agreement to build capacity through the operation of the current school. Effective September 2021 the Nation will be administering tuition payments rather than Indigenous Services Canada. Accordingly, in order for tuition payments for students attending the division school to continue, a new agreement is required.

The one-year agreement includes provision for tuition payments to the Division at the per student rate that provincial students are funded by the Government of Alberta. This will be an improvement on the previous cost-based model that generated financial uncertainty throughout the year, until the audited per student tuition rate was known and billings could be adjusted. It is anticipated that ISC will concur with the funding approach.

Provision is also made through the Co-Management Agreement for the Nation to guide school operations including staffing, planning and key support during this transitional year. The majority of the students (89%) attending the Fort McKay School are from the Fort McKay First Nation.

RISK ANALYSIS:
Low risk as the Division is collecting tuition from the Nation and requires this agreement to do so. Accordingly the risk is low.



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Douglas Aird, Secretary-Treasurer
SUBJECT: Superintendent Evaluation Report
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Board of Trustees approve the Superintendent’s Evaluation Report as developed in the Evaluation Workshop of September 15, 2021 as an accurate accounting of the Superintendent’s performance for the period September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021; and further, the Board of Trustees authorizes the Board Chair to make any required technical edits and to sign the report on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

BACKGROUND:

RISK ANALYSIS:



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD

TO: THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES **DATE:** SEPTEMBER 17, 2021
SUBMITTED BY: Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras, Superintendent of Schools
SUBJECT: Board Evaluation Report
REFERENCE(S):
ATTACHMENTS:

RECOMMENDATION:
THAT the Board of Trustees approve the Board self-evaluation report as developed at the facilitated workshop of September 16, 2021, and that the Board Chair be authorized to monitor the priorities and suggestions agreed to and bring items forward for the Board of Trustees consideration as deemed appropriate.

BACKGROUND:

RISK ANALYSIS:



BOARD CHAIR HIGHLIGHTS

September 17, 2021

2021-2022 Welcome Message from the Board Chair

Tansi, Edlanat'e, Greetings everyone:

I hope everyone had a safe and restful summer. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I welcome back returning students and staff. For new families and staff, welcome to Northland School Division (NSD).

The 2021-2022 school year is going to be a little different once again due to COVID-19. On August 24, 2021, the Board approved NSD's Back to School Plan. The plan outlines additional health measures such as mandatory use of masks for all staff and students grades 4-12 and highly recommended for students K- grade 3. While this strategy goes above and beyond the provincial requirements, we feel that extra precautions are necessary to reduce risk in the school communities we serve.

The Back to School Plan also outlines learning options for students. Families are able to choose between in-school learning or Northland Online School. Whatever learning path you decide, please make sure your child is registered. The registration helps NSD determine our teaching assignments, programming for your child, and funding we receive from the province.

Some of our community leaders and community members shared their expectations regarding COVID-19 protocols, for the new school year with Trustees and Administration. The Board appreciates this support when making important decisions. Please visit the NSD website to view the Back to School Plan in more detail <https://www.nsd61.ca/covid-19-resources>.

On May 29, 2021, the Board approved NSD's 2021-2024 Education Plan. The plan outlines NSD's priorities, outcomes, strategies and measures that have been identified as a result of conversations with various stakeholders. The Education Plan is available on the NSD website <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/348846>.

Northland School Division Priorities

Excellence in Learning	Excellence in Leadership	Excellence in Relationships
Students achieve or exceed the standards set by Alberta Education in literacy and numeracy.	Through excellent leadership practices, everyone feels welcome and valued.	Develop and actively promote healthy relationships with students, parents/guardians, staff, community, and educational partners.

During the 2021-2022 school year, NSD will continue and increase engagement with the communities we serve using video-conference, face to face when it's safe to do so and utilizing a new community engagement tool called Bang the Table. We are looking forward to sharing more details in the coming weeks.

Before I conclude, I wanted to take a moment to encourage parents and community members to consider running as a school board trustee and most importantly to vote. Nomination Day is September 20th and Election Day is October 18th. Visit the NSD website for more information <http://nsd61.ca/governance/elections>. Another way to get involved in education is becoming a school council member. Schools will be establishing school councils in September. Please contact your local school for more information.

Thank you for choosing and supporting the Northland School Division.

Alberta Education Correspondence

On August 9, 2021, the Division received a letter from Minister LaGrange confirming the board's operating reserves balances. The letter stated that accumulated reserve balances for school boards have increased from \$383 million in August 2020 to over \$431 million projected for August 2021. This is a \$131 million increase from the May 2020 estimated reserve balance projection received from the school boards and a \$48 million increase year over year. [Original letter is attached.](#)

The Division received a letter on August 9, 2021 from Minister LaGrange advising the Division that in 2020-2021 Alberta Education provided a grant to offset property insurance premiums due to historical catastrophic losses. This hardship still exists for the 2021-2022 school year and that premiums remain significantly higher than previous years; as a result Alberta Education has approved a one time grant for property insurance premiums for the Division pending the finalization of property insurance premiums as approved by the insurance broker. [Original letter is attached.](#)



ALBERTA
EDUCATION

Office of the Minister

AR116358

JUL 20 2021

Mr. Robin Guild
Board Chair
Northland School Division
9809 - 77 Avenue
P.O. Bag 1400
Peace River AB T8S 1V2

Dear Mr. Guild:

The purpose of this letter is to confirm your board's operating reserve balances.

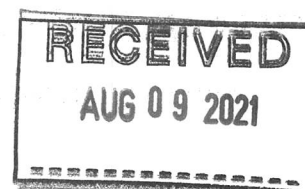
As part of the reporting process for school boards, an annual budget report is required to be submitted to Alberta Education by May 31 of each year.

Accumulated reserve balances for school boards have increased from \$383 million in August 2020 to over \$431 million projected for August 2021. This is a \$131 million increase from the May 2020 estimated reserve balance projection received from school boards and a \$48 million increase year over year.

Financial information provided by Northland School Division provided the following information:

Adjusted Accumulated Surplus from Operations 2019/20	\$2,893,332.00
Adjusted Accumulated Surplus from Operations 2020/21	\$3,766,860.00
Projected Adjusted Accumulated Surplus from Operations 2021/22	\$4,974,279.00

For the 2021/22 school year, Northland School Division has requested \$0.00 in reserve spending.

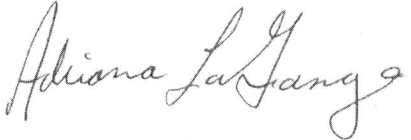


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Mr. Robin Guild
Page two

Thank you for your support of students and public education in Alberta.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Adriana LaGrange". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Adriana LaGrange
Minister

cc: Andre Tremblay
Deputy Minister

Ms. Nancy Spencer-Poitras
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Douglas Aird
Secretary Treasurer



Office of the Minister

AR116199

July 28, 2021

Mr. Robin Guild
Board Chair
Northland School Division
9809 - 77 Avenue
P.O. Bag 1400
Peace River AB T8S 1V2

Dear Mr. Guild:

I am aware of the financial burden of property insurance premium increases that your board has faced due to historical catastrophic losses. In 2020/21 Alberta Education provided a grant to offset some of these additional premium costs.

I am also aware that this hardship still exists for the 2021/22 school year and that premiums remain significantly higher than previous years.

As a result, I have approved a one-time grant for property insurance premiums up to \$456,673 for your school board for the 2021/22 year pending the finalization of the property insurance premiums as provided by the insurance broker.

Thank you for your support of students and public education in Alberta.

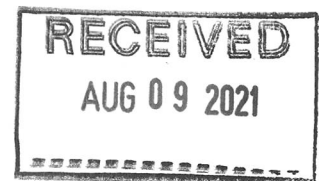
Sincerely,

Adriana LaGrange
Minister

cc: Andre Tremblay
Deputy Minister

Ms. Nancy Spencer-Poitras
Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Douglas Aird
Secretary Treasurer





Superintendent's Highlights

September 17, 2021

2021-2022 Welcome Message from the Superintendent

Tansi, Edlánat'e, Hello students, parents, guardians, staff, and community members.

Welcome back to another school year! I hope you had a safe and enjoyable summer. To our new families and staff, welcome to Northland School Division. As you know, we are still living through a challenging time due to COVID-19. With that in mind, I want to highlight some important health and safety strategies we have in place for students and staff.

Health and Safety Strategies

Some of the strategies exceed provincial requirements. These include:

- Mandatory use of masks for all staff and students in grades 4-12 and highly recommended for students K- grade 3.
- Mandatory use of masks for all students riding the school bus. All students must be registered to ride the school bus.
- Enhanced cleaning and hygiene protocols.
- Daily screening requirements before entering an NSD school or facility. This means all parents/guardians are required to screen their child using the Alberta Health Daily Checklist. Schools will be sending you a copy of the checklist. Staff are also required to complete the daily screening.
- Strict stay-at-home guidelines for individuals who feel unwell or have symptoms related to COVID-19.
- Cohort and physical distancing strategies. A cohort is defined as a group of students and staff who remain together. A cohort limits the mixing of students and staff throughout the day and reduces the number of people exposed if individual tests positive for COVID-19. This will be maintained as much as possible.
- Large assemblies will continue to be virtual rather than in-person. Same thing for performance activities such as singing, dancing, playing instruments, and theatre This will be re-evaluated on September 30th.
- Visitors are still not permitted in the school or workplace without an appointment. To make an appointment contact the school directly.
- Field trips and extracurricular sports can occur with health protocols in place.

The Board and Administration feel that maintaining many of the same health strategies from last year are necessary to reduce risk in the school communities we serve. The two changes we have made from last year to this year are with field trips and extracurricular sports. Allowing these activities to occur with health protocols in place is a small step in helping students experience some level of normalcy.

We understand how the past year and a half has impacted the mental health and wellbeing of all of us. If you need a helping hand, please visit our mental health webpage

<https://www.nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/covid-19-mental-health-resources>. We have compiled mental-health related information from several sources.

NSD Back to School Plan

Northland School Division (NSD) is pleased to provide its Back to School Plan for the 2021-2022 school year. On August 13, 2021, the Government of Alberta announced further details about returning to school this year and released its Guidance for Respiratory Illness Prevention and Management in Schools.

As you review this plan, some strategies will exceed provincial requirements. We feel that extra precautions are necessary to reduce risk in the school communities we serve.

Should the nature of the pandemic change, NSD will communicate changes in a timely manner to students, parents/guardians, staff and community members.

To view the NSD Back to School Plan Summary please refer to:

<https://www.nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/nsd-back-to-school-plan-summary>

Alberta Education 2021-2022 School Year Plan

Alberta Education has been working closely with Alberta Health over the summer to determine health practices and measures that may be needed to support the [2021-2022 School Year Plan](#).

As Alberta gets ready to lift all COVID-19 related restrictions this summer, students, parents and school staff can look forward to a normal school year in September 2021.

The plan was developed on the foundation of the following four principles that were established by government in collaboration with education partners:

- The safety of children, students and staff comes first.
- Children and student learning will continue.
- Provincial funding is still flowing to schools.
- School authorities have flexibility to do what is best for their community.

The plan for the upcoming school year is based on a return to normal. It also includes two contingency scenarios similar to those implemented in the current school year should the COVID-19 situation change. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 pandemic and the direction from the Chief Medical Officer of Health.

Principal Start Up Meetings

The principal start up meetings were on August 25 and 26, 2021. The two days were packed with information regarding the school start up, the district and school Assurance Process for planning and reporting.

In particular, the following topics were shared and discussed with the principals:

- The specifics of the school re-entry plan for 2021-22 school year (specifically how to ensure safe operation of school amid the ongoing pandemic).
- The attendance monitoring process and the importance of consistently using PowerSchool.

- The district and school Assurance Process for planning and reporting.
- Information related to Teaching Quality Standards and professional growth planning.
- Information about how corporate services can support principals in their work providing education in their facilities.

Choice of Learning

NSD will continue to offer families a choice between in-school learning and an online school. For families not yet ready to send their child for in-school learning, parents and guardians can register their students to attend Northland Online School. To learn more visit www.northlandonlineschool.ca. We believe the more flexibility and choice we can provide for NSD students, the better chance they'll achieve success and achieve their goals and dreams.

Literacy and Numeracy

I am excited to share information about an initiative some NSD schools are embarking on to improve student learning in math for grades Kindergarten to Grade 8. NSD staff have been taking courses through the University of Calgary (U of C) called Math Minds. Math Minds is the teaching practice combined with the program schools will be using, called Jump Math. The teaching practice and program have been researched and have proven to be successful with helping students improve their math skills. Five NSD schools are piloting the Jump Math pilot. Some of our other schools are using the Jump Math program but are not involved in the pilot.

Like Numeracy, Literacy is an important learning foundation for student learning. NSD is continuing to focus on the division-wide learning approach to support students with reading and writing. I will be providing more details throughout the school year.

New Community Engagement Tool

I am excited to announce that NSD recently purchased a community engagement platform called “Bang the Table”. Bang the Table is a web-based platform that is designed to support organizations with creating purposeful conversations.

The platform allows us to organize the following conversations:

- Open Environment: Share feedback on a forum, share a story, post feedback on a newsfeed.
- Mixed Environment: Fill out a survey, share feedback in a guestbook.
- Controlled Environment: Ideas circle, fill out a quick poll.

We will provide more information when we officially roll out Bang the Table. This platform is intended to support the ongoing engagement we have virtually or in-person with communities and school council members.

First Nations, Metis and Inuit Department

September Start Up

With a feeling of displacement, the 20 instructors took to heart the Superintendent's encouragement in the midst of yet another challenging Covid start up. She reassured them that a high-quality learning environment is about believing that every child can be the best they can be. In a culturally relevant and meaningful language program every child will love coming to school because they will become inspired, motivated and loved by a talented staff. The continuum for First Nations and Metis leadership in technology will include:

- online connections with principals, instructors and communities.
- supporting year planning to guide Culture, Language and Land Based Learning within schools.
- building interactive resources on local curriculum and projects underway for continued learning in syllabics and literacy.
- sharing PD promising practices on what to plan for in historical, seasonal themes and lesson activities from the program of studies, guides and what works best for respectful classroom engagement with Oral (screencastify video), TPR, TPRS, Communicative and Greymorning's picture method for accelerated second language acquisition.

Professional Learning Dates

Inspired by traditional values and cooperation, Supervisor/Assistant Supervisor will lead Instructors through planning of the four seasonal cycle.

- September 20 Professional Learning through Wicichtowin (Sharing) of *Strategies* section. Culturally responsive learning through safe social distancing could involve Elders/Knowledge keepers to collaboratively develop local teaching kits on harvesting language outdoors.

Classroom Champions

For the 2021-22 school year Northland School Division will continue to work with Classroom Champions. Classroom Champions is a nonprofit and charity. Classroom Champions connects volunteer Olympians, Paralympians, student Athletes, and professional Athletes to K-8 classrooms through a social and emotional based curriculum and mentorship experience. The goal is to improve engagement, decrease bullying, and boost student achievement.



This year we have extended the schools who are participating with Classroom Champions, for the 2021-2022 school year the following schools are taking part; St. Theresa, Anzac/ Bill Woodward, Elizabeth, Gift Lake, and Paddle Prairie. Classroom Champions has been a great supporter of Northland School Division. During the 2020-2021 school year Elizabeth School students in grades 5 and 6 represent Alberta on February 1st 2021 when former NHL player Willie O'Ree, announced Lessons from Willie. This program is designed to bring the story of Willie O'Ree to light, and his experience as the first black hockey player in the NHL. The program includes social justice and anti-racism resources that can be used in all classrooms.

Over the last two years, Classroom Champions has granted Northland with scholarships which has enabled our students to participate in this amazing opportunity, for the upcoming school year the scholarship is approximately \$25,000.

Northland is excited to see what opportunities this partnership will bring to our schools this year.

Alberta Education - Enhancing Parent Engagement in Education

Alberta's government is committed to ensuring parents have a voice in their child's education.

On August 19, 2021, Minister of Education LaGrange announced the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant, which will provide a total of more than \$1 million to school councils to support collaboration between parents and schools. Parents are partners in Education, and through this grant, Alberta's government is putting dollars into the hands of parents on local school councils.

The Alberta School Council Engagement grant will provide each school council with \$500 to improve communication and engagement with parents in their local communities. The funds will be used for engagement activities such as broadening the number of school events that include parents, diversifying communication tools used by councils and activities that seek out the advice of other parents. This grant allows the department to work directly with school councils and focus on education priorities while strengthening the capacity of schools to improve student learning and enhance students' experience at school.

NSD Collective Efficacy Slide Deck

Attached is a copy of the Northland Collective Efficacy slide deck which discusses 3 priorities:

- Priority 1 - Excellence in Learning
- Priority 2 - Excellence in Leadership
- Priority 3 - Excellence in Relationships

News Articles Featuring NSD

- The Fever Newspaper, September 9, 2021 Edition



THE NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

Collective Efficacy

Excellence in Learning

Education Plan: Priority 1

Priority	Outcomes (May 2021)
Students achieve or exceed the standards set by Alberta Education in literacy and numeracy.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Student success is supported by staff who ensure all students feel supported and have a sense of belonging within their schools.• The Division uses consistent literacy and numeracy practices to support the growth of educators and student achievement.

Key Messages

Priority 1 - Excellence in Learning

- **Every child** can be successful when they have access to the correct supports.
- **Literacy and numeracy** are the basis for all other learning.
- **Each staff member** has some responsibility for supporting each child to achieve at least a year's growth in literacy and numeracy each year.

Priority 2 - Excellence in Leadership

- Northland School Division is made up of **excellent staff members**.
- **Every staff member is a leader** responsible for the success of the students in their school.

Priority 3 - Excellence in Relationships

- **Schools know the communities** they serve.
- Schools are **best positioned** to build authentic relationships within their communities.
- **Schools have plans** (based on their understanding of known needs) to engage their communities.
 - There is no significant learning **without relationships**

Language of Collective Efficacy

This language DOES NOT reflect Collective Efficacy

- "Nothing we do will make any difference when it comes to student writing results anyway..."
- There's not a lot we can do to improve our kids' reading attitudes and skills when we can't control what happens outside the school!"
- "Our kids need to learn to read a timetable, get to class on time and come to school ready to learn! When they can follow instructions, then we can work on reading and writing!"

Language of Collective Efficacy

- "What's working and what could be better? How do we know? How can we find out?"
- "What is within our sphere of influence with it comes to teaching writing in our learning areas?"
- PLC Questions:
 - "what do we want students to learn?"
 - "how will we know if they have learned?"
 - What will we do if they don't learn it?"
 - What will we do if they already know?"

Collective Efficacy: Impact

Collective efficacy has a **1.57** effect size!!
(Which makes it the most impactful influence for student learning)

Leaders can build collective efficacy by communicating a strong belief in the capacity of staff to improve the quality of teaching and learning and attain appropriately challenging goals throughout goal setting process.

Acknowledge joint accomplishments, what small wins have resulted from team work?

Continuum of Strategies

Level 1 - Universal

Available to all children, youth and their families/caregivers.

Examples may include:

- Mental health literacy
- Mental health promotion activities
- Social/emotional skill building
- Stigma reduction

Level 2 - Targeted

Available to groups of students who have similar needs or interests

Examples include:

- Sharing circles
- GSA/Peer Support Networks
- Zone Regulation
- Mindfulness
- Learning assessments for targeted prevention and early intervention

Level 3 - Individualized

Available to specific students based on observed or diagnosed need

Examples include:

- Wellness rooms
- Counselling
- Group counselling
- Family wellness workers
- Restorative justice/mediation

Level 4 - Intensive

Available to specific students based on observed or diagnosed need and can be in collaboration with extended services where necessary and feasible

Examples include:

- School Re-entry after interventions
- Wellness rooms
- AHS counselling
- Family wellness workers
- Restorative justice/mediation

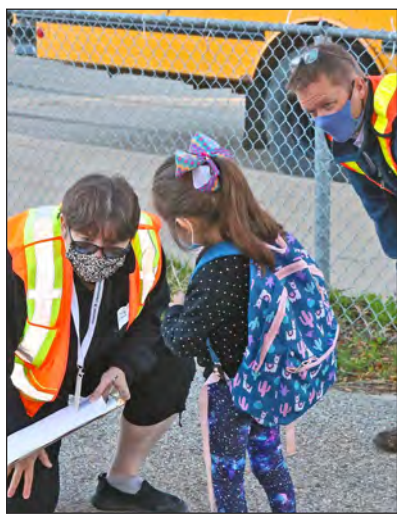


AS HOSPITALIZATIONS, INTENSIVE CARE, DEATHS RISE, ALBERTA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IN SERIOUS TROUBLE

Surgeries being postponed at hospitals around the province; AHS admits staff members are "tired" ... See Page 7

Alberta's intensive care units now at 87% capacity
 Previous healthy 20-to-30 year-olds are coming in very sick, and some are inside for weeks or months, says Edmonton ICU physician.

Back to St. Theresa School ...



Mask-wearing students were greeted by St. Theresa School principal Shelly Stevenson and vice principal Sheldon Boffert so they could be directed to various entrances due to Covid-19 measures. Some students used fingers to show their grade levels while some younger ones had tiny voices coming from behind masks that took time to decipher their words.

\$190 Northern Alberta News / Features / Commentary

The FEVER

Volume 22, Issue 35

Thursday, September 9, 2021



Having a friend with you on the first day is important to Eden Beaver.

Photos by Denis Carnochan



IT TAKES A MINUTE TO SAVE A LIFE



WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY 10 SEP

CALL US NOW!



Bigstone Community Wellness- 780-891-3777
 Emergency Services - 911
 Health Link - 811



Ken Beaudry (far right holding the oysters) held two successful fundraising Oyster Fests for the Wabasca-Desmarais food bank. More details on Fever Page 7. Photo by Denis Carnochan

In This Issue:

Alberta Covid-19 data and graphs on Page 2

Various Nomination Notices for October municipal elections

Plane crash in Marten Hills claims life of older pilot

First Nations need self-determination in place to make progress



HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT - SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

PRESENTED BY: Murray Marran, Associate Superintendent of Human Resources

Overview:

September has been a busy month for the Human Resources Department at Northland School Division. Currently we are seeking to fill 4 certificated teaching positions and several other support positions.

We have been fortunate to hire Ms. Carey Wolfe as our new HR administrator. Carey brings a wealth of experience and expertise to her new role as she has previously worked in Human Resources and IT. We look forward to Carey joining our team on a full time basis.

Further, Northland School Division is looking at securing medical services from Homewood Health when the Division feels it necessary to secure Independent Medical Examinations for employees who are requesting to take the 90 days leave entitlement due to illness.

The 2018-2020 Collective Agreement has gone through its final edits as per the recommendations of the Alberta Teachers' Association.

Review of Human Resources work processes has started. Careful attention has been given to workflow, replication of tasks, file storage and onboarding. Recommendations are being made to principals as to how to make the hiring process easier, etc.

Particular attention will be given to assisting Principals with Teacher Supervision and Evaluation. Principals will be going through the TQS and professional development will surround effective supervision of teachers and what is expected of teaching personnel throughout the division.

Currently, we are looking at improvements that can be made to our application process to Northland School Division. Our application email procedures and dissemination of information are all under review in order to create a more responsive system.

"Our students love to come to school in Northland"

Communications Department Report to the Board



NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION NO.61

**P.O. Bag 1400, 9809 77th Avenue
Peace River, AB T8S-1V2**

Phone: 780-624-2060 or 1-800-362-1360

Website: www.nsd61.ca



Table of Contents

Role of the Media Relations Manager	4
2021-2022 Strategic NSD Communications Plan Goals and Strategies	4
Social Media and Website Results	5
Joint Radio Campaigns	18

Role of the Media Relations Manager

Guided by Northland School Division's (NSD) commitment, vision, values, and beliefs, the Media Relations Manager assists the Superintendent in fulfilling the general and specific aspects of the role description for the Superintendent as defined in the Education Act, the Northland School Division Act and in the Policy Manual. The Media Relations Manager is directly responsible and accountable to the Superintendent. [Click here](#) to view the job description for the Media Relations Manager.

2021-2022 Strategic NSD Communications Plan Goals and Strategies

The goals and strategies are aligned with Northland School Division's priorities as outlined in the [2021-2024 Education Plan](#).

1. Excellence in Learning
2. Excellence in Leadership
3. Excellence in Relationships

Goal 1: Provide direct communication support to the Board of Trustees, central office and school staff

- Support the Board with developing and implementing advocacy strategies.
- Draft letters to help the Board communicate with local, provincial and federal politicians.
- Continue to produce the internal communication newsletter "The Communique". The internal publication is a central vehicle for communicating action items, opportunities, information, highlights of the week and tips of the week.
- Assist principals with school-based communication plans.
- Social media management (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn).
- Manage the Division's website www.nsd61.ca and assist schools with their websites.
- Develop key messages in collaboration with the Board of Trustees and Superintendent of Schools.
- Assist schools with School Messenger Communicate.
- Develop additional communication resources as required for COVID-19.

Goal 2: Maintain strong relationships with stakeholders

- Maintain relationships with stakeholders (parents/guardians, school councils, community members, First Nations, Métis Settlements, Municipalities, Métis Settlements General Council, Treaty 8 First Nation of Alberta, Alberta Education, media).

Goal 3: Organize and implement communication strategies to promote division priorities

- Implement strategies to:
 - Help NSD schools improve on specific Alberta Education Assurance Survey measures.
 - Enhance engagement with the communities. NSD will be launching a new community engagement tool called Bang the Table during the 2021-2022 school year.
 - Promote the importance of student attendance.

- Support Truth and Reconciliation in NSD communities.
- Improve NSD’s recruitment and retention strategy. The focus is to utilize student, staff and parent voices.
- Highlight how technology and new partnerships are helping to improve the student learning experience.
- Continue to update communities regarding health and safety measures for students, staff and communities during pandemic.

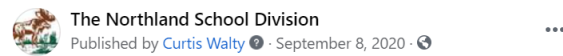
Social Media and Website Results

NSD Facebook (@TheNorthlandSchoolDivision)

Followers Annual Comparison:

- Followers as of September 2020: 1678
- Followers as of September 9, 2021: 1799

Post Highlights:



Welcome Message from Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nancy Spencer-Poitras

Tansi, Edlánat'e, Hello students, parents, guardians, staff and community members,... See More



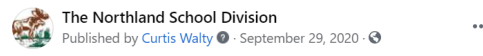
2,460 People Reached 252 Engagements

Boost Post

Post Topic: Superintendent's Welcome Video Message

Posted: September 8, 2020

Total Reach: 2460 people (organic)



Cenovus Energy celebrated as Friends of Education at the ASBA Fall Awards Ceremony

Northland School Division (NSD) celebrated the contributions of Cenovus Energy by presenting the organization with an Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone One Fri... See More



2,041 People Reached 156 Engagements – Distribution Score

Boost Post

Post Topic: Cenovus celebrated as Friends of Education

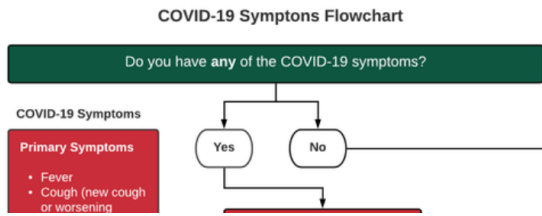
Posted: September 29, 2020

Total Reach: 2041 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by **Curtis Walty** · October 6, 2020 ·

If you are feeling unwell, please use this handy symptom flowchart to navigate whether you can go to school. This flowchart is useful for anyone entering a school - please stay home if you are feeling unwell and get tested for COVID-19.

Thank you for your ... [See More](#)

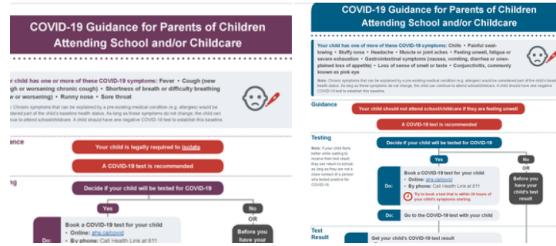


Post Topic: COVID-19 symptom flowchart
Posted: October 6, 2020
Total Reach: 1382 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by **Curtis Walty** · October 15, 2020 ·

Hello Parents and Guardians:

If you are unsure what to do when your child has symptoms or has been identified as a close contact of a positive case, follow these flowcharts from **Alberta Health Services**. They provide instructions on what to do to keep your c... [See More](#)



Post Topic: COVID-19 symptom flowchart update
Posted: October 15, 2020
Total Reach: 3739 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by **Curtis Walty** · November 23, 2020 ·

NSD announces new Ward 11 Trustee

Northland School Division is pleased to announce the official results of the Ward 11 By-election. Skye Durocher, a Fishing Lake Métis Settlement resident, has been declared the new trustee by acclamation. As Ward 11 Trust... [See More](#)



Post Topic: NSD announces new Trustee
Posted: November 23, 2020
Total Reach: 2332 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by **Curtis Walty** · November 25, 2020 ·

Letter to Parents from Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parents and Guardians: ... [See More](#)

Dear Families and Staff:

The health and safety of our staff, students and community is paramount. We know discussions regarding COVID-19 are difficult and support is available. We encourage you to visit the Northland School Division Mental Health Resource webpage <https://www.nsd61.ca/covid-19-resources> for your continued support. Be safe.


Learning for Grades 7 to 12

Senior high classes will be delivered online/at-home starting Monday, November 9th to Friday, January 3rd. There is No School during Christmas break (Saturday December 19 to Sunday January 3). Students will continue online/at-home learning from Monday, January 4th to Friday, January 8th.

Grade 6

Grade 6 students will continue in person classes at the school from now until Christmas (Saturday December 19 to Sunday January 3). These students will be provided online/at-home learning from Monday, January 4th to Friday, January 8th. Please contact your local school to confirm this break.

Post Topic: At-home learning for grade 7-12
Posted: November 25, 2020
Total Reach: 3702 people (organic)


 **The Northland School Division**
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · December 22, 2020 · 🌐

😊 NSD doing what they can to provide holiday cheer to staff who cannot go home

Usually, at this time, many of us would be finalizing travel arrangements to visit family and friends to celebrate Christmas and ring in the New Year. Unfortunately, a number of ... [See More](#)



Post Topic: NSD providing holiday cheer
Posted: December 22, 2020
Total Reach: 1472 people (organic)


 **The Northland School Division**
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · December 24, 2020 · 🌐

🙏 Thank you!!

During these challenging times, many examples of generosity from individuals and organizations have taken place. Recently, another organization has stepped up to support Northland School Division families!... [See More](#)




Post Topic: Thank you to Wood Buffalo Paving LTD
Posted: December 24, 2020
Total Reach: 1297 people (organic)

 **The Northland School Division**
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · January 26 · 🌐

📄 Media Release - New Home for Career Pathways School!
Career Pathways School (CPS) students have a new place to call home! The new facility for the outreach program in Wabasca-Desmarais is now located just east of St. Theresa School (2783 Neewatim Drive)... [See More](#)



Post Topic: New home for Career Pathways School
Posted: January 26, 2021
Total Reach: 1424 people (organic)

 **The Northland School Division**
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · February 4 · 🌐

🙏 Thank you "The Fever"

A special thank you to [Bruce Thomas](#) "The Fever" for highlighting the learning experience Northland students had with the [TELUS World of Science - Edmonton](#) 😊... [See More](#)



Post Topic: The Fever highlights Science Week
Posted: February 4, 2021
Total Reach: 1450 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · February 18 ·

Good News Story - Archery equipment purchased for Calling Lake School students

This is exciting! Students at [Calling Lake School](#) will have a chance to learn about archery!... [See More](#)



Post Topic: Archery equipment donation
 Posted: February 18, 2021
 Total Reach: 1434 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · March 31 ·

Media Release - NSD teacher recognized by the University of Victoria

An NSD teacher received special recognition from the [University of Victoria](#) (UVic) recently! The university selected Bill Woodward School Teacher Tessa Dagenais as a Co-op Student of the... [See More](#)



Post Topic: NSD teacher recognized by University of Victoria
 Posted: March 31, 2021
 Total Reach: 3770 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · February 19 ·

Important Notice for Parents and Guardians

February 19, 2021... [See More](#)



February 19, 2021

Dear Parents and Guardians:

I wanted to take a moment to remind everyone about the importance of being diligent to stop the spread of COVID-19.

Our re-entry plan <https://www.nsdl.ca/download/201921> highlights the processes and practices that we are taking to keep our school safe. We remind families and staff to monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 using the Alberta Health Daily Checklist <https://tinyurl.com/1a8r9ubg> (see attached paper copy). Students and staff must complete the checklist prior to attending school. In addition, please familiarize yourself with the targeted measures the province implemented <https://www.alberta.ca/enhanced-public-health-measures.aspx>.



Post Topic: Letter to Parents importance of being diligent to stop the spread of COVID-19

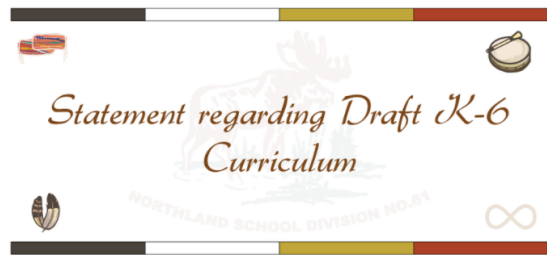
Posted: February 19, 2021

Total Reach: 2580 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
 Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · April 13 ·

Statement regarding Draft K-6 Curriculum

The Northland School Division (NSD) is focused on student and staff well-being during a time where continuity of learning and recovery from the pandemic is paramount. There is concern over learning loss and getting... [See More](#)



4,837 People Reached 456 Engagements ↑ +18.1x Higher Distribution Score [Boost Post](#)

Post Topic: NSD statement regarding draft K-6 curriculum

Posted: April 13, 2021

Total Reach: 4837 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · May 27 ·

Northland School Division supporting #IndigenousJerseyDay
On Friday, May 28th, Northland School Division students and staff will be supporting #IndigenousJerseyDay! ... [See More](#)



3,321 People Reached 195 Engagements ↑ +12.1x Higher Distribution Score [Boost Post](#)

Post Topic: NSD supporting Indigenous Jersey Day

Posted: May 27, 2021

Total Reach: 3321 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · June 1 at 3:20 PM ·

Media Release: Mark Burke appointed Principal for the new NSD online school

A familiar face will be involved in launching the new online school for Northland School Division. The division is pleased to announce that Mark Burke will serve as Principal for ... [See More](#)



Post Topic: Mark Burke appointed Northland Online School Principal

Posted: June 1, 2021

Total Reach: 1573 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · June 3 at 5:05 PM ·

NSD Trustee wins a PSBAA award
Northland School Division is celebrating a special achievement! Dr. Rubi Shirley, Ward 9 Trustee, won a [Public School Boards' Association of Alberta - PSBAA](#) award for promoting and advancing the Calls to Action of the Truth ... [See More](#)



Post Topic: NSD trustee wins PSBAA award

Posted: June 3, 2021, 2021

Total Reach: 3041 people (organic)

The Northland School Division
Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · June 16 at 4:11 PM ·

Media Release - Mark Owens appointed as Director of Student Engagement, Attendance and Completion

Northland School Division (NSD) is pleased to announce the appointment of Mark Owens as Director of Student Engagement, Attendance and Completion, effective ... [See More](#)



Post Topic: Mark Owens appointed Director of Student Engagement, Attendance and Completion

Posted: June 16, 2021, 2021

Total Reach: 4374 people (organic)



The Northland School Division

Published by [Curtis Walty](#) · June 24 at 8:42 AM ·



Cal Johnson appointed Associate Superintendent - Inclusive Learning Services

The Board of Trustees and the Superintendent of Northland School Division are pleased to announce the appointment of Cal Johnson as the new Associate Superintendent, Inclusive Le... [See More](#)



Post Topic: Cal Johnson appointed Associate Superintendent - Inclusive Learning Services

Posted: June 24, 2021, 2021

Total Reach: 2601 people (organic)

NSD Twitter (@northland61)

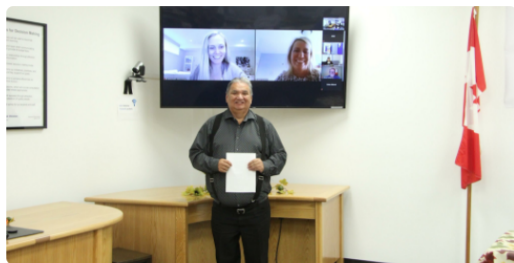
Number of Followers Annual Comparison

- Followers as of September 2020: 1092
- Followers as of September 9, 2021: 1125

Tweet Highlights:

Top media Tweet earned 492 impressions

NSD celebrated the contributions of [@cenovus](#) by presenting the organization with an [@ABSchoolBoards](#) Zone One Friends of Education Award ow.ly/4GjR50BEJJKG. [@RobinGuild2](#) [@PatRehnUCP](#) [@LailaGoodridge](#) [@TanyYao](#) [@MartinLongUCP](#) pic.twitter.com/zAYyuZs1Le



🔄 2 ❤️ 3

Post Topic: NSD recognized Cenovus as Friends of Education
Posted: October, 2020
Impressions: 1154 (organic)

Top Tweet earned 1,692 impressions

NSD is pleased to announce the official results of the Ward 11 By-election. Skye Durocher, a Fishing Lake Métis Settlement resident, has been declared the new trustee by acclamation ow.ly/mSbU50CsHbz. [#nsd61](#) [#abed](#) [#asba](#) [@RobinGuild2](#) [@MSGC_Alberta](#) pic.twitter.com/zSK6yeozLE

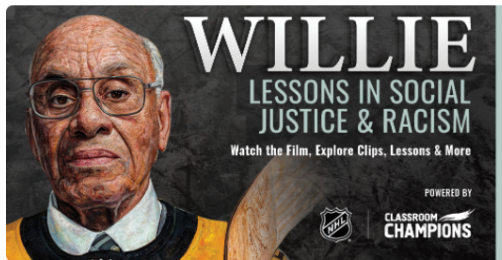


🔄 4 ❤️ 16

Post Topic: NSD announced new Trustee
Posted: November, 2020
Impressions: 2437 (organic)

Top media Tweet earned 602 impressions

Elizabeth School students in grades 5 and 6 are participating in an exciting event 2day! The school has been selected in @ClassroomChamps and the @NHL's announcement of Lessons from Willie [ow.ly/SCOR50Do3Wh](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SCOR50Do3Wh). #nsd61 #abed #asba @RobinGuild2 pic.twitter.com/hl8m1Ed9QV



↻ 2 ♥ 11

Post Topic: Lessons with Willie/Elizabeth School
 Posted: February, 2021
 Impressions: 1029 (organic)

Top Tweet earned 2,095 impressions

With support from @EverActiveAB, NSD received a donation of masks from @CTJumpstart. The donation of masks will support the protocols we have in place to protect all students and staff during this challenging time. Thank you Canadian Tire Jumpstart! #nsd61 #abed @RobinGuild2 pic.twitter.com/DyYmYmTqpN

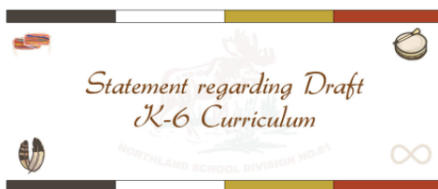


↻ 1 ↻ 2 ♥ 15

Post Topic: Donation of Masks
 Posted: February, 2021
 Impressions: 2637 (organic)

Top Tweet earned 1,247 impressions

NSD will not be piloting the draft K-6 curriculum for the 2021-2022 school year. Visit our website to view our statement [ow.ly/ZULG50EnSWA](https://www.ow.ly/ZULG50EnSWA). @RobinGuild2 @PatRehnUCP @LailaGoodridge @TanyYao @MartinLongUCP pic.twitter.com/MiMQtpu1eh



↻ 6 ♥ 7

Post Topic: Statement regarding draft K-6 curriculum
 Posted: April, 2021
 Impressions: 1436 (organic)

Top Tweet earned 2,262 impressions

On Friday May 28, NSD students & staff will be supporting #IndigenousJerseyDay! Thanks @NaimCardinal! #nsd61 #abed #asba @RobinGuild2 @PatRehnUCP @LailaGoodridge @TanyYao @MartinLongUCP pic.twitter.com/RboxE01IZz



↻ 10 ♥ 19

Post Topic: Indigenous Jersey Day
 Posted: May, 2021
 Impressions: 2485 (organic)

Top Tweet earned 857 impressions

News Release: Ward 9 Trustee Dr. Rubi Shirley received a [@PublicSchoolsAB](#) award for promoting & advancing the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada within Alberta ow.ly/NTVZ50F2zx9. Congratulations! [@RobinGuild2](#) [@TanyYao](#) [@LailaGoodridge](#) pic.twitter.com/qFtMayMBDZ



↻ 2 ♥ 6

Post Topic: NSD Trustees wins PSBAA Award
Posted: June, 2021
Impressions: 867 (organic)

Top mention earned 81 engagements



TRenyard

@TammyRenyard · Feb 7

A little bit of nature to balance a little bit 😞 of work... maybe not so balanced - but excited about the learning connections next week with two cohorts at VIU, a session with [@LeytonSchnell](#) - UBC, [@northland61](#) pro. d and our virtual learning rounds in SD61. pic.twitter.com/oSiv4hNHZ



↻ 2 ♥ 19

Mention: Greater Victoria School District
No.61
Posted: February, 2021



Ms. Morgan

@mshilmorgan · Mar 15

Mentors like @pennykittle have always reminded me that students need to write for real & authentic audiences. Today that came true when the book we made in Creative Writing came in. The kids were PUMPED to see their hard work showcased this way. I am so proud! @northland61 #abed pic.twitter.com/nZWMhJVZmz



↩ 1 ❤️ 13

Mention: Ms. Morgan, Anzac Teacher
Posted: March, 2021



Sam Mason

@MsMason11 · May 28

In January 2019 my class got paired with mountain biker @EvanwGuthrie for @ClassroomChamps , and he sent us his jersey! Thank you for being such a great role model! #IndigenousJerseyDay @northland61 pic.twitter.com/n0oZJK6GLT



↩ 2 🔄 2 ❤️ 12

Mention: Ms. Mason, Anzac Teacher
Posted: May, 2021

 **TELUS World of Science -
Edmonton**

@TWoSEdm · Jun 21

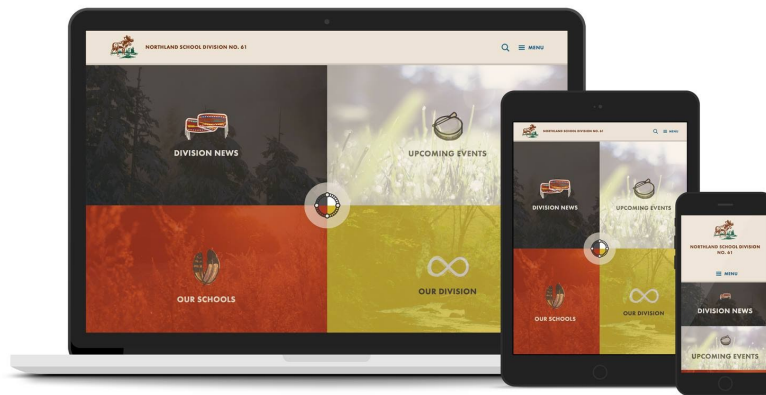
Today we signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Northland School Division. This MOU further establishes our relationship with [@northland61](#) and is a testament to the amazing work that has been undertaken during the past ten months. [#ABed](#) pic.twitter.com/lzDcPmvl2C



↩ 1 ↻ 3 ❤ 8

Mention: TELUS World of Science -
Edmonton
Posted: June, 2021

NSD Website Statistics (www.nsd61.ca)



Timeframe	Pageviews (Total number of pages viewed)	Sessions (a person's visit)	Session Duration (The length of time someone visits the website)
September 1, 2019 to September 1, 2020	113,601	45,752	2 minutes 19 seconds
September 1, 2020 to June 25, 2021	103,679	41,112	2 minutes 16 seconds

What device do users use to visit www.nsd61.ca?

Device	Device Usage Percentage
Desktop	64%
Mobile	34%
Tablet	2%

Where do users visit?

THE NORTHLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

4 BUSES CANCELLED SCHOOLS 🔍 ☰ MENU

Tansi, Edlánt'e, Hello Educator!

VIEW ALL CAREERS

Our Division

- Your Worktime
- Your Offtime
- What We Offer
- Testimonials
- Your Future

Join Our Team

Thanks for stopping by to learn more about The Northland School Division family. If you're looking for an adventurous career in education, you've come to the right school division! Come, let us show you around one of Alberta's most stunning landscapes—replete with freshwater trophy fishing lakes, Canada's most unique wildlife and Northern Lights on display!

WHAT IT'S LIKE ▾

From September 1, 2020 to June 25, 2021	
Page	Pageviews
www.nsd61.ca	24,613 (23.74%)
www.nsd61.ca/careers/career-opportunities	8,346 (8.05%)
www.nsd61.ca/careers	6,201(5.98%)
https://www.nsd61.ca/departments/transportation/bus-status	5,324 (5.14%)
https://www.nsd61.ca/about-us/staff-directory	4,950 (4.77%)
https://www.nsd61.ca/schools	2,394 (2.31%)
https://www.nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news	2,328 (2.25%)
www.nsd61.ca/about-us	1,748 (1.69%)
www.nsd61.ca/about-us/calendar	1,515 (1.46%)
www.nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes	1,464 (1.41%)

Joint Radio Campaigns



During the 2020-2021 school year, NSD partnered with High Prairie School Division, Peace River School Division, Holy Family Catholic Regional Division and The Conseil Scholaire Du Nord-ouest on a series of radio advertisements. The following advertisements included:

- Back to School
- Orange Shirt Day
- Alberta Education Assurance Survey
- Education Week and Mental Health Week
- National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Year-end Message

The advertisements aired on River Country/KIX FM (Peace River Broadcasting) and CFWE Radio. NSD also partnered on joint Stingray radio advertisements with High Prairie School Division. Stingray owns radio stations in High Prairie, Slave/Wabasca. The radio campaigns were the same as the above-mentioned. NSD is continuing this partnership in 2021-2022.



ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT - SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Tim Stensland, Deputy Superintendent

New Teacher Orientation

The new teacher orientation (virtual) occurred on August 25th and 26th. Twenty four teachers were invited and 21 teachers attended. Teachers included those who were new to Northland School Division (NSD) this year and teachers who joined NSD during the past year.

The orientation was designed to assist teachers:

- to give teachers a warm welcome to NSD.
- to gain a better understanding of Northland School Division and teaching in an Indigenous community.
- understand the importance of providing Indigenous connections, supporting cultural connections, and Language and Land Based Learning within teaching plans.
- understand the importance of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action to *integrate Indigenous knowledge and teaching methods into classrooms (62) and build student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy and mutual respect (63).*
- understanding the many services provided to teachers which include student services, payroll, benefits, and housing.
- making connections with other new teachers and planning Pedagogical Supervisors.



New Teachers participating in a learning session.



ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT REPORT - SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

PRESENTED BY: Dr. Tim Stensland, Deputy Superintendent

New Funding to Address COVID-19 Learning Disruptions

New funding is available for school authorities to jump-start targeted programming to support students in Grades 1 to 3 who are experiencing difficulties as a result of COVID-19-related learning disruptions.

Eligibility is determined through an application process that identifies the number of eligible students. The funding is allocated on a per student basis.

Funding will be available to offer small group intensive literacy and numeracy interventions for up to 16 weeks for Grade 1 to 3 students who are assessed as needing additional help.

We look forward to sharing additional information and updates as this process is further understood.