



## Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights Corporate Board Meeting – June 22, 2017

### Dr. Mary Jackson School Band perform at Board Meeting



What a way to begin a board meeting! The Dr. Mary Jackson School Band performed in front of parents, family, community members, central office and viewers who watched our live broadcast on YouTube! Students played song such as “I Walk the Line” by Johnny Cash and “Sweet Home Alabama” by Lynyrd Skynyrd. They also performed their own spin on Dolly Parton’s “Jolene, Jolene, Jolene, Jolene”. Instead of singing the lyric I’m begging you please don’t take my man they sang I’m begging you please don’t

take my hot dog. Following the concert, Official Trustee Lois Byers and Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson presented gifts to the students.



### Superintendent discusses community based education in Education Quarterly Report

Northland School Division (NSD) is looking to strengthen support for staff and community members who wish to pursue continuing education. While highlighting information within the Education Quarterly Report, Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson says “We are in several and ongoing conversations with post-secondary institutions to see what we can do to strengthen opportunity for staff to work on earning education degrees and such.” The vision is to have programs up and running for staff to work on professional designations within their own communities. For example, Atkinson mentioned a program in Fort Chipewyan where staff and community members can earn a Bachelor of Education through a partnership between Keyano College and University of Alberta.

Atkinson provided an update regarding student attendance. He says newly hired area associate superintendents will provide support to schools and school councils with attendance efforts. There was also a discussion about land-based learning camps offered by NSD and Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council.

Atkinson says they have received requests from other school divisions about participating in future camps. Click on the website link to view the entire Education Quarterly Report <http://nsd61.ca/download/105743> (Start on page 18).

### **Third Quarter Finance Report presented**

Assistance Secretary Treasurer Roxane Guindon presented the Third Quarter Finance Report. The report includes financial statements for the period of September 1, 2016 to May 31, 2017. Click on the website link to view the entire report <http://nsd61.ca/download/105743> (Start on page 41).

### **Official Trustee approves 2017-2018 budget**

The Official Trustee approved the 2017-2018 budget. The division's total budget is \$69,892,924. The budget includes a \$6.7 million increase to instructional support. The increase is comprised of a \$5.4 million conditional grant from the province. The investment will support NSD school communities with First Nations, Métis curriculum, language and culture and land-based learning, literacy, student attendance, wellness, professional learning opportunities for staff and community members and school councils. With respect to attendance, the conditional grant from the province would support the hiring of a District Attendance Lead. Click on the website link to view the entire budget <http://nsd61.ca/download/105743>.

### **2017-2018 Board Meeting dates approved**

The following Board Meeting dates have been approved for the 2017-2018 school year:

- September 21, 2017
- October 26, 2017
- November 30, 2017
- January 25, 2018
- February 22, 2018
- March 22, 2018
- April 19, 2018
- May 24, 2018
- June 21, 2018
- August 30, 2018

### **Eight students awarded Northland scholarships**

The Official Trustee approved and awarded eight Northland students who are entering post-secondary education with division scholarships. The following students will receive \$800 towards entering a university or college/technical institute:

- Karla Lamouche, Gift Lake
- Sara Voyaguer, Fort Chipewyan
- Hayley Quintal, Conklin
- Brianna Anderson, Gift Lake
- Kenedi Pratt, Anzac

- Yvette Gilvie Sequin, Anzac
- Jesse Alook, Wabasca
- Destiny Chalifoux

## **New Administrative Procedures Handbook**

Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson presented the new administrative procedures handbook to the Official Trustee. Northland Executive Staff, the Official Trustee and Terry Gunderson, Education Consultant with Alberta School Boards Association performed an extensive review of all administrative procedures based on the Governing Through Engagement and Collaboration (GTEC) Policy Model. The purpose of this review was to ensure revisions made to the administrative procedures and policies reflect the collective will of the Board and are carried out within the parameters set in provincial legislation.

The administrative procedures were emailed, mailed and posted on our website in February to give stakeholders an opportunity to provide feedback. Atkinson thanked stakeholders for the feedback which helped to form the changes that were made. The new administrative procedures will be in effect for the 2017-2018 school year.

## **Good news stories headline Superintendent's Report**

A lot of good news stories in this edition of the Superintendent's Report. Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson announced continued funding for NSD schools involved with APPLE Schools. This school-focused health promotion initiative helps to transform school communities through an approach called Comprehensive School Health (CSH). Each APPLE School is provided a School Health Facilitator (SHF) trained in healthy eating, physical activity, and community development. Six NSD schools are involved in the program <http://www.appleschools.ca/schools>. Atkinson confirmed NSD is receiving \$30,000 from the Alberta Health School Community Wellness Fund to support student and staff wellness division-wide.

This month, Indigenous language instructors from Northland School Division (NSD) and Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council (KTC) are going to summer school thanks to an Alberta Education bursary! Seven NSD and four KTC Indigenous language instructors will be attending the 18th annual Summer School of the Canadian Indigenous Languages and Literacy Development Institute (CILLDI) through the University of Alberta <http://nsd61.ca/students-parents/student-bursaries-and-scholarships>. From July 24-28, Wabasca-Desmarais students, staff and community members will be attending the World Indigenous Peoples Conference in Toronto. The delegation will be presenting a book that captures stories from elders about residential schools. From July 31-August 3, six NSD staff members will be attending Summer School on Leadership Excellence 2017 at the University of Alberta.

Atkinson also discussed literacy benchmark results for each school. The results show the percentage of student reading at grade level. From October 2016 – June 2017, 75% of our schools are showing improvement with students reading at grade level. Click on the website link to view the entire Superintendent's Report <http://nsd61.ca/download/105743>.

## **Thank you to Local School Board Committee Members**

Before the Board Meeting came to a close, Official Trustee Lois Byers extended a thank you on behalf of Northland School Division to each of the Local School Board Committee (LSBC) members for their hard work, dedication and commitment to support students. Byers says she hopes to see LSBC members involved in the new governance structure which was proclaimed in the new Northland School Division Act on May 4<sup>th</sup>. Some key points of the new act are:

- A ward structure for election of trustee of 7-11 wards, and
- LSBC will be replaced with school councils subject to the Alberta School Council Regulation.

All LSBC members received a thank letter from the Minister of Education, the Official Trustee and a thank you gift from Northland School Division.

## **Summary of approved Board motions**

The Official Trustee approved:

- First, Second and Third Reading for By-Law 136 – Form of Nominations. As per Section 28(2) of the Local Elections Act, for NSD to receive nominations for election purposes at an office other than the local jurisdiction office, the elected authority must pass a by-law before June 30<sup>th</sup>. This allows NSD to receive nominations in school communities, not just at central office.
- First, Second and Third Reading for By-Law 137 – Modified Voting Procedure. This by-law will allow NSD to establish more than one voting location for each ward.
- Rescinding Supervisor Designation previously adopted at the May 25, 2017 Board Meeting. Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Wes Oginski says it is in contradiction of the Alberta Labor Relations Code for staff already under the existing designations and therefore the motion needs to be rescinded.
- The Borrowing Resolution if required, in the amount of \$3,000,000 to meet the current operating expenditures for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Third and Final Reading for Policy 11 – Board and Delegation of Authority.
- Third and Final Reading for Policy 17 – Student Transportation Services.
- Third and Final Reading for Policy 20 – Teacher Housing, as amended, with the following addition: 4) possibly entering into partnerships to have local entities to look after housing.
- Second and Third Reading for Policy 2 – Role of the Board.
- Second and Third Reading for Policy 3 – Role of a Trustee.
- Second and Third Reading of Policy 4 – Trustee Code of Conduct.
- Second and Third Reading for Policy 5 – Role of the Board Chair.
- Second and Third Reading for Policy 6 – Role of the Vice Chair.
- Second Reading for Policy 7 – Board Governance and Operations.

**View Board Schedule, Agendas, Minutes, Highlights and Attachments on our website at: <http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes>**

**Next Corporate Board Meeting is September 21, 2017**

**Not able to attend Northland School Division's Corporate Board Meetings in person? Not to worry! You can now watch a live broadcast or a recorded version. [Click here](#) to access the livestream or watch previous Corporate Board Meetings!**

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