



# Northland School Division No.61 (NSD)

## Board Highlights Regular Board Meeting – March 22, 2018

### Calling Lake students perform cultural reflection



Before agenda items were reviewed at the Regular Board Meeting, Calling Lake School students performed a cultural reflection in Cree. Board Chair Maddy Daniels says, “On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I would like to thank the students for opening the Board Meeting in a way that showcases Indigenous language and culture. It was a beautiful way to begin the day.”

### Ward 8 Trustee presented New Board of Trustee Ceremony gifts

During the Regular Board Meeting, Board Chair Maddy Daniels and Vice-Chair Randy Anderson presented Ward 8 Trustee (Calling Lake) Loretta Gladue with gifts the Board received during the New Board of Trustees Ceremony October 26, 2017 <https://goo.gl/n83CEb>. Gladue was unable to attend the October ceremony due to illness. Gladue was presented the following gifts:

- a glass apple and a letter from Minister of Education David Eggen,
- an eagle feather from Elder Albert Yellowknee, and
- a Métis Sash from the Métis Settlements General Council.



*Loretta Gladue presented gifts by Vice Chair Randy Anderson*

## **Board of Trustees respond to Proposed Draft Standards for Education Services Agreement**

Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson presented the Board of Trustees feedback to Alberta Education's "Proposed Draft Standards for Education Services Agreements". At NSD, we have Education Services Agreements (ESA) with First Nations to support student success. The intent of the standards is to require certain areas to be addressed with ESA's while ensuring there is flexibility to meet the local needs of provincial school authorities and First Nations.

As stated in a letter to Dr. Curtis Clarke, Deputy Minister of Education, NSD believes the agreement needs to have a reciprocal arrangement. A reciprocal arrangement ensures equal tuition payments are being made for provincial and First Nation students. Click on the website link to view the letter <https://nsd61.ca/download/127469> (Start on page 2).

### **Policy updates**

The Board of Trustees approved:

- 2nd reading of **Policy 1 – Foundational Statements**: The policy includes a new commitment statement, the vision statement "Our students love to come to school in Northland" and Values – Seven Sacred Teachings. 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of **Policy 3 – Role of Trustee, Policy 3 – Appendix A Services, Materials and Equipment Provided to Trustees** and **Policy 3 – Appendix B – Trustee Working Relationships Guidelines**.
- 2nd reading of **Policy 21 – Community Voice and Community Engagement** and **Policy 21 – Appendix A School Council Conflict Resolution**.
- The housekeeping change to **Policy 7 – Appendix A Schedule of Rates**.

Click on website to view the policies <https://nsd61.ca/download/127469> (Page 19-45). Feedback to the above mentioned policies can be submitted to [melanie.mantai@nsd61.ca](mailto:melanie.mantai@nsd61.ca).

### **Board of Trustees approved 2018-2019 Calendar**

The Board of Trustees approved the 2018-2019 Calendar. The calendar is geared towards accommodating families and creating time to host professional development for all staff. The 2nd annual Northland Day is scheduled for Wednesday, August 29, 2018. Northland Day is a division-wide event designed to increase engagement between our schools and the community. First day of school for students is Tuesday, September 4, 2018 and the last day is Thursday, June 27, 2019.

A winter break is scheduled February 11-15, 2019; the same week as Northeast Teachers' Convention. To accommodate families who have children participating in Alberta Native Hockey Provincials, spring break is slated for April 1-5, 2019. To honour Métis Proclamation Day (November 1), November 1, 2018 is marked as a holiday and Friday, November 2, 2018 is Northland Family Day (holiday). With Remembrance Day (November 11, 2018) falling on a Sunday, schools will receive a day in lieu (Monday, November 12, 2018). And on October 5, 2018 and March 15, 2019, all staff will participate in professional development. Click on the website link to view the calendar <https://nsd61.ca/download/127975>.

### **Board of Trustee support partnership request from the Urban Rez Cultural Society**

The Board of Trustees received a partnership request letter from the Urban Rez Cultural Society. In the letter, the society asked if NSD would support the upcoming Renewing the Spirit Conference August 15-18 in Wabasca-Desmarais. The conference features workshops about culture, language, violence, addictions and residential schools. After receiving as information, the Board of Trustees support the partnership request from the Urban Rez Cultural Society by in-kind donations with administration to implement.

### **Two NSD employees to receive Esquao Awards**

NSD will be well represented at the Esquao Awards this year. Career Pathways School Principal Angela James and Elizabeth School Teacher Laurie Collins will be receiving awards on April 27, 2018 at the River Cree Resort in Enoch, Alberta. The awards, which recognize the achievements of Indigenous women in Canada, are unique because when a community nominates a person and provides three letters of support, they will be honoured. After receiving as information, the Board of Trustees will be sending representatives to attend the Esquao Awards.

### **Secretary Treasurer presented Second Quarter Finance Report**

Secretary Treasurer Trudy Rasmuson presented the Second Quarter Report to the Board of Trustees as information. The report includes financial statements for the period of September 1, 2017 to February 28, 2018. Click on the website link to view the report <https://nsd61.ca/download/127469> (Start on page 7).

### **Secretary Treasurer presented Energy Retrofit Project**

The Board of Trustees reviewed NSD's plan to ensure schools are more energy efficient. Over the past 18 months, the Maintenance Department has been working on an Energy Retrofit Project (ERP). ERP includes pilot projects at Athabasca Delta Community School (Fort Chipewyan) and Anzac Community School. Both projects are supported by Alberta Government grants. With support from Rede Energy Solutions Inc., NSD developed a framework for future energy management work. The framework includes guiding principles and energy management strategies. The division has earmarked \$1.2 million to complete to support the Energy Retrofit Project. Click on the website link to learn more about the Energy Retrofit Project <https://nsd61.ca/download/127332> (Start on page 45).

### **Board of Trustees approve Capital Plan**

The Board of Trustees approved the 2019-2020 Capital Plan. The plan lists the proposed projects for NSD along with detailed information on each project. The Capital Plan includes: 1) Elizabeth School gym addition, 2) Career and Technology Space at Paddle Prairie School, 3) Athabasca Delta Community School modernization and 4) Calling Lake School modernization and Career and Technology Studies space. Click on the website link to view the Capital Plan <https://nsd61.ca/download/127469> (Start on page 16).

### **Board of Trustees appoint Elders/Community Members to sit as Ward Council representatives**

The Board of Trustees approved the following Elders/Community Members to sit as Ward Council representatives at the Ward Council Meeting in Edmonton April 20, 2018:

- Ward 1 – Les Nooskey, Elder, Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement
- Ward 2 – Wayne Gienger, Elder
- Ward 3 – Archie Cunningham, Elder
- Ward 5 – Joe Okemow, Elder
- Ward 8 – Loreda Cardinal, Elder
- Ward 11 - Archie Collins, Elder, Elizabeth Métis Settlement

As mentioned in the *Northland School Division Act* <https://goo.gl/iYfxe2>, each ward shall have a ward council that consists of the trustee from the ward, a member of each school council in the ward and other persons that may become members as provided for in the policy referred to in subsection (2).

### **Board of Trustees appoint TEBA representative**

During the Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees appointed Ward 11 Trustee Karen Telford as the new Teachers' Employer Bargaining (TEBA) representative, effective immediately. Ward 9 Trustee Jules Nokohoo stepped down as the TEBA representative.

### **Loss of NSD staff member discussed in Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson discussed a tragic week for NSD. On March 21, 2018, NSD confirmed the loss of Mistassiniy School Teacher Lee Haroldson. He was chaperoning students to the Inspire Empowerment Gathering in Winnipeg and passed away of natural causes in Edmonton. Mr. Haroldson, who had been with NSD for eight years, was a dedicated educator who cared deeply about the success and well-being of each student. Atkinson said the initial response by everyone involved in dealing with the tragedy was stellar. He also thank Inspire organizers for taking care of Mistassiniy School students who attended the gathering and to everyone who reached out to send condolences.

Click on the website link to view the entire report that includes meetings/events Mr. Atkinson attended, division-wide student attendance, WE Schools Mid-Year Report, NSD students attending Edmonton Oilers game and National Film Board (NFB) Education Teacher Engagement Pilot <https://nsd61.ca/download/127469> (See Page 66). Three NSD Teachers (Melanie Lapp, Paddle Prairie School, Barbara Stewart, Mistassiniy School and Ben Martin, ADCS) are participating in the NFB pilot project; which begins with a focus group session in Ottawa. These teachers will be testing out and providing feedback on educational resources that incorporate Indigenous voices and cutting edge technology.

### **Loss of NSD staff member discussed in Board Chair Report**

Board Chair Maddy Daniels commended Superintendent of School Gord Atkinson and his staff on how they handled the communication and support for students, staff and families during a tragic situation for NSD. The Board of Trustees are sending flowers and a card to Lee's family and a letter to Inspire for the support they showed to Mistassiniy School students.

Daniels also congratulated the NSD teachers selected to participate in the NFB Pilot Project. Click on the website link to view the entire report that includes meetings attended, a media interview with the Athabasca Advocate and upcoming dates scheduled <https://nsd61.ca/download/127332> (See Page 48).

### **Locally developed course approved**

The Board of Trustees approved Fire Department Course 25.3; a locally developed course from Buffalo Trails Public Schools. As per Administrative Procedure 219 – Locally Developed Courses, clause 7; all locally developed courses must be approved by the Board prior to implementation. Click on the website link for more information <https://nsd61.ca/download/127332> (Start on page 23).

### **Associate Superintendent Nancy Spencer-Poitras presents Area 2 Report**

Associate Superintendent Nancy Spencer-Poitras shared priority initiatives for Area 2 schools (**St. Theresa School (Wabasca-Desmarais), Mistassiniy School (Wabasca-Desmarais), Career Pathways School (Wabasca-Desmarais), Chipewyan Lake School, Pelican Mountain School (Sandy Lake), Calling Lake School**). Spencer-Poitras updated the Board on progress made to implement a common elementary report card for NSD. The new report card is being piloted with elementary students at St. Theresa School (Wabasca-Desmarais), Pelican Mountain School (Sandy Lake) and J.F. Dion School (Fishing Lake Métis Settlement). There has been positive feedback from staff and parents about the report and mentioned NSD is looking to fully implement the report card division-wide in 2018-2019.

A dual credit program is in the works for high school students at NSD. Spencer-Poitras said a proposal has been written to launch a health-care aide program in partnership with Northern Lakes College. Dual credit programming provides students the opportunity to earn high credits and credits that count toward post-secondary education.

Some schools within Area 2 are part of the Moving Forward with High School Redesign cohort. On April 10-11, 2018, a group of students, staff and community members will be visiting Ermineskin Junior Senior High School and a school in Edmonton to explore different programming opportunities. Spencer-Poitras also discussed Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) and Career and Technology Studies (CTS). In Calling Lake, students are working with dye sublimation.

For example, students learn to design a logo on computer, use a dye-sublimation printer to transfer the design onto a t-shirt, coffee mug, etc. Spencer-Poitras showcased a couple of t-shirts students are making for an Edmonton Boxing Association event. She also mentioned students are running a business using the skills to make t-shirts, mugs, etc. for parents and community members to purchase. The funds go towards supporting school programming. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://nsd61.ca/download/127332> (Start on page 92).

**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 April 20, 2018 at Radisson Hotel (Edmonton South)**

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.