



# Northland School Division No.61 (NSD)

## Board Highlights Regular Board Meeting – April 20, 2018

### Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee approved by Board of Trustees



The 2018 Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee for NSD is an educator from St. Theresa School! The Board of Trustees approved the nomination submitted for Hannah Wiltzen. The Edwin Parr Teacher Award recognizes first-year teachers that demonstrate exemplary dedication and commitment in the field of education. Hannah, who obtained a Bachelor of Education Degree as an Elementary Generalist from the University of Alberta (U of A), is currently teaching grade 3 at St. Theresa School in Wabasca-Desmarais.

“On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we congratulate Hannah as the 2018 Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee for NSD,” said Maddy Daniels, Board Chair. “Hannah’s dedication to the profession as a first-year teacher is evident. We appreciate the effort she puts in to ensure students love to come to school and are successful.” Click on the website link to view the media release <https://nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/st-theresa-school-teacher-educator-nominated-for-edwin-parr-teacher-award>.

### Policy updates

The Board of Trustee approved the third and final readings for:

- Policy 1 – Foundational Statements: The policy includes a new commitment statement, the vision statement “Our students love to come to school in Northland”, values (Seven Sacred Teachings), beliefs and mandate.
- 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.
- Policy 21 – Community Voice and Community Engagement and Policy 21 – Appendix A School Council Conflict Resolution.

The Board approved 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> reading of Policy 19 – Appendix B Sexual and Gender Identity and first reading of Policy 21, Appendix B Elder Guidelines. Click on the website link to view the above mention policies <https://nsd61.ca/download/130320> (Page 2-35).

### Visit with Edmonton Public Schools highlighted in the Board Chair Report

A visit with Edmonton Public Schools (EPSB) is highlighted the Board Chair Report. The NSD Board of Trustees met with the EPSB Board for the first time on Thursday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. The meeting ignited conversations about student transition between the school divisions, student achievement and staff support. Following the meeting, NSD and EPSD committed to working on strategic plans to support the topics discussed.

Board Chair Maddy Daniels, Ward 8 Trustee Loretta Gladue and Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson attended the National School Boards Association Conference April 7-9, 2018 in San Antonio, Texas.

Daniels specifically talked about a session where schools have transitioned to an 11-month calendar. She said schools made the change to minimize learning loss students experience during summer break. The presentation mentioned schools on the 11-month calendar had an easier time identifying learners who need extra help and saw an increase in graduation rates. Click on the website link to view the Board Chair Report <https://nsd61.ca/download/130320> (Start on page 36).

### **A special night for students at an Edmonton Oilers game featured in Superintendent's Report**



Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson started out by sharing his experience at the National School Boards Association Conference in San Antonio. Atkinson said he attended a relevant session about classroom design. NSD has set aside dollars to help schools create activity affirmative and culturally responsive classrooms.

Atkinson and Board Chair Daniels participated in a Superintendent Compensation Survey with Alberta Education. They provided information about NSD they haven't before and highlighted unique needs and challenges.

Atkinson noted a special evening for few NSD schools. Students from Conklin, Chipewyan Lake and Pelican Mountain Schools attended an Edmonton Oilers game on March 24<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Canadian Tire Jumpstart and the Oilers, the students watched from the comfort of Connor's Corner; a six seat theatre box behind the Oilers net.

In addition to providing student attendance information, Atkinson said he will be involved in interviewing candidates for the Director of Student Engagement, Attendance and Completion position. Click on the website link to the Superintendent's Report <https://nsd61.ca/download/130320> (Start on page 41).

**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 May 24, 2018 at St. Theresa School, Wabasca-Desmarais**

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.