



# Northland School Division No.61 (NSD)

Board Highlights Regular Board Meeting – March 22, 2019



**Board of Trustees left to right: Back Row – Silas Yellowknee (Ward 6), Randy Anderson (Ward 3), Robin Guild (Ward 7), Maddy Daniels (Board Chair, Ward 1), Jules Nokohoo (Vice-Chair, Ward 10), Louis Cardinal (Ward 5), Jesse Lamouche (Ward 4).**

**Front Row - Rubi Shirley (Ward 9), Loretta Gladue (Ward 8), Karen Telford (Ward 11), Cathy Wanyandie (Ward 2).**

## Mistassiniy School Modernization Update

NSD is pleased to update the Wabasca-Desmarais community regarding the Mistassiniy School Modernization. On March 6, 2019, NSD met with Alberta Infrastructure to finalize meeting locations moving forward and discussed when a Request for Proposals (RFP) for contractors will take place. Because a provincial election was called Tuesday March 19, 2019, the release of the RFP and signing of the contract will likely take place after the April 16, 2019 election.

NSD is in the process of forming a design committee. The committee would include NSD senior administration members, facilities staff, principal and teacher(s). Work on the Mistassiniy School Modernization design is scheduled to start in July 2019 and construction is slated to start in January-March 2021.

Click on the website link to view the Mistassiniy School Modernization DRAFT Schedule <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (Page 17).

## 2019-2020 Northland School Division calendar approved

The approved 2019-2020 NSD Calendar is geared towards accommodating families. The first day of school for students is September 3, 2019 and the last day is June 25, 2020. A winter break is scheduled in February and Spring Break is aligned with Native Provincials in April 2020. According to Section 56 of the *School Act*, the school boards are responsible approving division calendars. Click on the website link to view the calendar <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (page 37).

## April 26, 2019 Regular Board Meeting location change

The Regular Board Meeting on April 26, 2019 will take place at the Sawridge Inn, Edmonton South from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. The location change is going to accommodate for a couple of upcoming events. The Alberta School Councils Association Conference (ASCA) is taking place at the Delta Hotel, which is located in south Edmonton, from April 26-28, 2019, and NSD is hosting an engagement meeting with trustee appointed Elders, school council chairs, members of the Métis Settlement General Council and the Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta at the Sawridge Inn before the Regular Board Meeting.

## **NSD hosting engagement meeting with Trustee appointed Elders, School Council Chairs, MSGC & Treaty 8**



development in NSD schools.

The upcoming engagement meeting with the above mentioned stakeholders will focus on land-based learning, Indigenous language development and a concept to support student success. The trustees, with support from the First Nations, Métis and Inuit team, will begin the meeting introducing and facilitating conversation about an *Every Season Learning Calendar* concept. The second part of the meeting will focus on sharing and discussing land-based learning and language

### **2019-2020 Capital Plan approved**

The Board of Trustees approved the 2019-2020 Capital Plan. The trustees strongly support all projects as number one and will advocate to have government fund all projects immediately as one school. Click on the website link to view the 2019-2020 Capital Plan <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (pages 34-35).

### **Board approves honoraria increase due to tax changes**

The Board of Trustees approved an increase to Board honoraria to compensate for the removal of the tax exemption. The Board Chair honorarium will increase from \$250 to \$275 per day, and the trustee honorarium from \$200 to \$225 per day, effective January 1, 2019.

### **Secretary-Treasurer presents Second Quarter Financial Statement**

Secretary-Treasurer Trudy Rasmuson presented the Second Quarter Financial Statement for 2018-2019. Click on the website link to view the statement <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (pages 25-32).

### **Policy Update**

The Board of Trustees approved the first and second reading of Policy 7 Appendix C – Trustee Expense and Corporate Card Guidelines. Click on the website link to view the policy <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (pages 39-45).

### **Board Chair Highlights – Update on Board Tours**



The latest edition of Board Chair Highlights includes a recommendation regarding Board Tours. In consultation with the Superintendent and Board Advisor, Board Tours will be put on hold until at least January 2021. The trustees feel engaging with the school communities about the *Every Season Learning Calendar* concept is priority. The community engagement sessions regarding the concept are to occur between May 1, 2019 and November 30, 2019. Click on the website link to view the Board Chair Highlights <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (page 50).

## Superintendent's Highlights – Student Information System Change



In the latest edition, Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson told the trustees that NSD is transitioning to a new student information system. NSD will be switching from Maplewood to PowerSchool. Training for staff who use the system regularly will begin in April.

Atkinson said NSD had a positive meeting with Mikisew Cree First Nation on March 12, 2019. NSD and Mikisew discussed education services agreements, the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation land claim, language and culture, land-based learning and Athabasca Delta Community School.

On March 18, 2019, he met with Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council Education Authority (KTCEA) to draft an education services agreement. On March 19 and 20, 2019, NSD hosted public meetings at Calling Lake Outreach School and Pelican Mountain School. Atkinson said both meetings went well and were positive.

## Area 3 Associate Superintendent's Report highlights land-based learning in schools



This report showcases what's happening in Area 3 schools (**Athabasca Delta Community School, Anzac Community School, Bill Woodward School, Fort McKay School, Father R. Perin School, Conklin Community School, Elizabeth School and J.F. Dion School**). On March 15, 2019, all NSD schools participated in division-wide professional development (PD) <https://goo.gl/5Ukaoo>. During the PD, staff reflected on what they learned while listening to Dr. Ruby Payne present on a *Framework for Understanding Poverty* on February 13, 2019 <https://goo.gl/ScG8db>. At Father R. Perin School, staff reflected on the correlation between literacy and understanding poverty. They are focusing on what they are doing to support the personal resources students draw on to create success in learning.

Area 3 is working with the Student Services Department to initiate a pilot for threat risk assessment. The threat risk assessment focuses on establishing a prevention and intervention protocol to respond to situations in which students may be posing a threat to themselves or others. Bill Woodward School (Anzac), Father R. Perin School and Conklin Community School are participating in the pilot.

All schools are working towards enhancing their land-based learning. In February for example, Anzac students learned how to saw, make a snare and build a fire at Engstrom Lake Scout Camp <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (page 65). The report notes junior and senior high school students in Area 3 are using myBlueprint to develop a high school completion plan. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (pages 62-66).

## Trustee Reports from Ward 3 and Ward 11



Ward 3 Trustee Randy Anderson announced in his report that Thomas Wall is the new Acting Principal at Gift Lake School. On March 13, 2019, Anderson helped to welcome Honourable Danielle Larivee to the Gift Lake Community Learning Centre <https://goo.gl/GDjF7M>. On March 21, 2019, he and Ward 11 Trustee Karen Telford met with the Métis Settlements General Council to provide an update. Click on the website link to view Ward 3 Trustee Report <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (page 20).



It was a busy February and March for Ward 11 Trustee Karen Telford. In February, Telford attended Elizabeth School's Cree Café and the Healthy Active School Symposium <https://goo.gl/uBv6hs>. Karen, who is member of the Board Advocacy Committee, participated in an in person meeting on March 8, 2019. Click on the website link to view Ward 11 Trustee Report <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/162936> (page 21).

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

**Next Corporate Board Meeting is Friday, April 26, 2019 at the Sawridge Inn, 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.