



Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights

Corporate Board Meeting – October 2-3, 2015

“Every student is a lifelong learner and successful
in life”



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Regional/Virtual High School Feasibility Study



KTC – NSD REGIONAL / VIRTUAL HIGH SCHOOL

&

TRAINING CENTRE

(CAREER CENTRE)

Northland School Division (NSD) is looking to revolutionize high school delivery in partnership with Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council (KTC). Margot Simonot, Father R. Perin School Teacher, presented a feasibility study that looks at the possibility of creating a regional/virtual high school and training centre for students within the [KTC-NSD Partnership Agreement](#) and possibly to other communities. The idea, which has been discussed for a number of years by both organizations, is listed as a recommendation in the [Northland Inquiry Team Report](#) and is endorsed in

the [Northland Community Engagement Team Report](#).

Simonot told the Northland Board that they collected information about student demographics, programming options, type of housing needed for students and staff, impact on existing schools, regional/virtual high school cost and location options for the facility. The study included research of pertinent literature on Aboriginal schools and a review of survey and verbatim responses by students, parents, educators and elders. This partnership will continue to investigate a regional/virtual high school as a way to support students.

Student Mental Health Committee

Northland School Division (NSD) is taking an important step to address student mental health. The jurisdiction is in the process of forming a Student Mental Health Committee. At the August 29, 2015 Board Meeting, the Northland Board recommended NSD administration form a committee to address child and adolescent mental health concerns. The proposed terms of reference include identifying culturally responsive approaches to support schools in working with their communities to promote positive mental health, develop awareness of the important role educators and communities can play in the promotion of positive mental health and identify current school/community practices. The



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proposed membership would include NSD admin, elders, Advisory Committee members, educators, students and parents. The first meeting is scheduled for November.

Superintendent's Report



Donna Barrett, Superintendent of Schools presented the *Superintendent's Report*. The report highlighted the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 1 Fall Awards. During the event, NSD presented [Sustainable Communities Initiative with a Friends of Education Award](#). ASBA also recognized Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominees which included [Gift Lake School Teacher Erica Cunningham](#). Barrett's report includes student attendance results for the 2014-2015

school year. [Click here](#) to view the Superintendent's Report (**page 54**).

Summer Reading Program



The Northland Board received an update about the division-wide Summer Reading Program. The program received support from Cenovus Energy and served 19 communities within NSD and KTC. During the summer months, books were made available in schools, health centres and youth facilities. In the power point presentation, a youth centre operator witnessed many students reading and mentioned a student read four chapter books over the summer. Organizers of the Summer Reading Program will analyze what made some programs more successful than others and share that with all communities.



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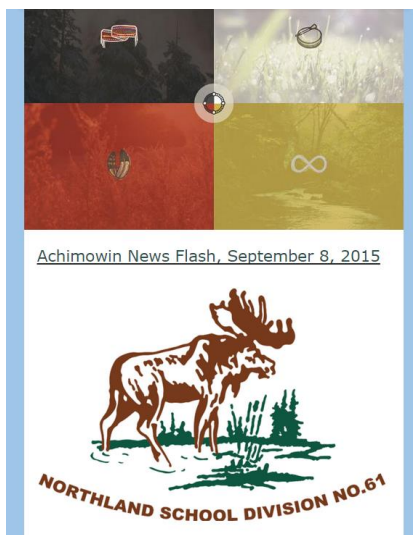
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Division Newsletter Update



NSD is pleased to introduce a new communication tool, the ***Achimowin News Flash***! The ***Achimowin News Flash*** is an email newsletter system that highlights division news and school news on a weekly basis. The newsletter is emailed to staff, school division partners and subscribers at the beginning of each school week. Students, parents and community members are able to subscribe **NOW** on the Northland School Division website <http://nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news>.

Approval Summary

- Northland Board approved the created job description for the position of Construction Project Forman.
- Northland Board approved changes to job description for the position of Executive Secretary for Finance.
- The newly created job description for the position of Student Data and Education Technology Coach passed 2nd Reading.
- The newly created job description for the position of Housing Coordinator passed 1st Reading.
- The revised job description for the position of School Custodian passed 1st Reading.
- Northland Board approved hiring two part time teachers to provide itinerant coverage for remote schools.
- Changes to Procedure 516 – Disposal of Divisional Property, passed 2nd Reading.
- Changes to Procedure 500 – Budget, passed 2nd Reading.
- Changes to Procedure 504 – Uncollectable Accounts, passed 1st Reading.



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- Northland Board approved By-election date November 4, 2015 for the following communities: Chipewyan Lake, Conklin, Gift Lake and Grouard.
- Northland Board approved the hiring of a part-time Junior Accounts Payable Clerk within existing budget.

View Board Agenda Packages on our website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/board-agendas>

View Board Minutes on our website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/minutes>

View Board Meeting Attachments on website at:

<http://nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes/board-attachments>

Important Dates to Remember

November 20-21, 2015	Board Meeting, Peace River, Alberta
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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.