



The Northland School Division (NSD)

Board Highlights Regular Board Meeting – June 17, 2022

Awards and Celebrations - NSD staff member presented with Long Service Award and recognized for organizing the Mother’s Day Dinner and Diamond Fundraiser



Leanne Bunning, Bill Woodward’s School Secretary, was recognized for organizing the school’s annual Mother’s Day Dinner and Diamonds fundraiser. The event raised \$53,000 this year; over \$400,000 over 10 years! The proceeds go towards supporting Bill Woodward School.

Awards and Celebrations - NSD student celebrated for Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Award



The Board and Administration celebrated Elizabeth School’s Jonathan McDonald. Jonathan was nominated for the Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards. The awards recognize students who model strength and commitment in the pursuit of their personal education path and embrace their own gifts, strengths and potential while celebrating the ways of their people.

The selection committee had the difficult task of selecting only 12 recipients from across the province. Although Jonathan was not one of the 12, he was recognized by the province as an honourable mention. Students recognized for an honourable mention received a certificate signed by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) president and an Indigenous Advisory Council member. In addition, they also received a letter of congratulations from the ASBA.

Six students to receive NSD bursaries

The Scholarship and Bursary Committee announced the recipients of the bursaries and scholarships provided by NSD. Congratulations to the following students:

Recipient	School	Registered Program	Bursary/Scholarship
Briklyn Pratt	Bill Woodward School	Mount Royal University, Bachelor of Art Sociology Program	NSD Adele Grace Carifelle Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000.00) for students pursuing studies in Early Childhood Education, Computer Related Studies or Social Work.

Brooklyn Landis	Bill Woodward School	Mount Royal University, Bachelor of Arts Sociology Program	NSD Adele Grace Carifelle Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000.00) for students pursuing studies in Early Childhood Education, Computer Related Studies or Social Work.
Xyrel Diwa	Mistassiniy School	MacEwan University	NSD Scholarship of \$800 for students entering a University program other than Education Faculty.
Zetta Anderson	Gift Lake School	University of Alberta, Faculty of Education, BA Nat St/BEEd	NSD Bursary (\$20,000 paid over a period of 2 years in four installments) for students entering university in the Faculty of Education.
Hunter Pratt	Bill Woodward School	Mount Royal University, Bachelor of Communications/Broadcast Media Studies	NSD Scholarship of \$800 for students entering a University program other than Education Faculty.
Ma Feliza Roberto	Mistassiniy School	MacEwan University, Bachelor of Arts	NSD Scholarship of \$800 for students entering a University program other than Education Faculty.

2022-2023 Regular Board Meeting dates approved

The Board approved the Regular Board Meeting Dates for the 2022-2023 school year. Click on the website link to view Board Meeting dates <https://www.nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes>.

Superintendent's Highlights - Common high school timetable launching this fall



The Superintendent's Highlights summarizes a number of exciting projects and recent events. First, Dr. Spencer-Poitras announced NSD will be implementing a new high school timetable starting next year (2022-2023). A common timetable was created for NSD high school students, meaning students can digitally access more classes than they otherwise would be able to. The students can virtually attend classes in other schools because of the class times lining up. This should increase student options and high school completion.

Dr. Spencer-Poitras visited Fort McKay, Bill Woodward and Anzac Community Schools. Students were excited to show her their work during the visit. As you can see in the photo, some students played basketball with Spencer-Poitras. In late June, Calling Lake School received a \$25,000 donation from Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries. This donation will go towards constructing an outdoor classroom for land-based learning activities that are tied to the curriculum.

The Traditional Celebration of Achievement took place in Fort McMurray to celebrate outstanding 2022 graduates from the Wood Buffalo Region. Dr. Spencer-Poitras attended, and spoke to the graduates, recognizing them for their hard work and achievements.

She also highlighted the Wabasca Fever article showcasing the Mistassiniy School graduates. Click on the website link to view the entire Superintendent's Highlights <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/393392> (page 77).

Associate Superintendent Report - Robotics Program Update

Northland students will continue to delve into robotics next year. To achieve this, Associate Superintendent Cal Johnson explained that new grade 7-9 teachers will be teaching coding, while working together to create lesson plans and activities that tie into the curriculum. This STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) based program, sponsored by the MindFuel Foundation, was enjoyed this year by teachers and students alike. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/393392> (page 90).

First Nations, Métis and Inuit Report - Language, Culture and Land Based Learning Camp helping to strengthen student learning

Director of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Debbie Mineault discussed a language, culture and land-based learning camp NSD hosted on June 10, 2022 at the Kapaskwanahk Education Centre near Wabasca-Desmarais. The camp saw NSD staff, Elders and community members come together to strengthen how Northland students:

- Learn conversational Cree or Dene language.
- Learn about their local culture.
- Learn on the land and how it connects to the curriculum.

Debbie also provided an update about the two CNC machines purchased with support from the Innovation in First Nations Education Grant Program. The machines were installed at Conklin Community School and Mistassiniy School.

Mineault said the hardware for creating the Cree and Dene syllabics with the CNC machine have arrived. In August, students and staff will be involved in creating sets of syllabics for NSD schools! Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/393392> (page 96).

Next Regular Board Meeting is Friday, September 23, 2022

Note: These writings do not constitute the official record of the Northland School Division. 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.