



# Board Meeting Highlights

## June 23, 2023

Four students awarded NSD bursary or scholarship

### Bursaries and Scholarships



**Deadline is June 1st**

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

Recipient	Home School	Registered Program	Bursary/Scholarship
Briklyn Pratt	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.  NSD scholarship of \$800 for students entering a university program other than an education faculty.
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 the Education Faculty.
Destiny Chalifoux	J.F. Dion School	University of Alberta Faculty of Education	\$20,000 bursary for students entering a university program for an education degree.

Wilmas (Tina) Cardinal	Elizabeth School	University of Blue Quills Diploma of Social Work	NSD Adele Grace Carifelle Memorial Scholarship (\$1,000.00) for students pursuing studies in Early Childhood Education, Computer Related Studies or Social Work.  NSD Scholarship of \$800 for students entering a University program other than the Education Faculty.
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**Awards and Celebrations - Paddle Prairie School students discuss experience at Generate/Navigate 2023: Youth Energy, Climate and Water Summit**



Students and staff from Paddle Prairie School described an exciting learning opportunity they experienced earlier this year. In March, the students and staff attended Inside Education’s Generate/Navigate 2023: Youth Energy, Climate and Water Leadership Summit in Canmore!

The summit brought together teams of six students and two teachers representing 20 high schools from across Alberta and Northeast British Columbia to learn about key energy, climate and water topics, discuss emerging issues and innovations, and explore their role as environmental leaders.

Throughout the summit, the students and teachers met with experts who shared diverse perspectives. The high level of engagement demonstrated that youth are ready to address environmental issues, investigate new technologies and understand the role they have in ensuring an equitable and sustainable energy and water future.

After developing new knowledge and skills, each team was challenged to return to their communities with a plan aimed at sharing their learning with the broader community through a project.

The project Paddle Prairie School students came up with involves sustainable ways to grow food and traditional medicine in Paddle Prairie Métis Settlement.

**Acting Superintendent's Highlights - NSD graduation celebrations and exciting learning opportunities for high school students**



**Class of 2023 at Paddle Prairie School!**

The latest edition of the Acting Superintendent's Highlights features NSD graduates, learning options for high school students, new housing units for teachers, special messages from fire crews protecting the community of Chipewyan Lake and National Indigenous Peoples Day events.

Earlier this month, NSD celebrated graduates from Bill Woodward School (Anzac) and Paddle Prairie School. Before the end of June, NSD students from Career Pathways School and Mistassiniy School will celebrate the big milestone. Congratulations to all NSD graduates!

High school students will have many learning opportunities available next year! A common calendar arrangement will once again be in place among the NSD high schools. The calendar encourages more collaboration between schools and enhances the learning offerings for students. Not only will students be able to take dual credit courses through partnerships NSD has with MacEwan University, they will be able to take courses available at other Northland schools. This year, a Northland Online School teacher taught Career and Life Management to students in Calling Lake and Paddle Prairie.

Earlier this year, NSD purchased a new duplex housing unit for teachers in Wabasca-Desmarais! The new housing unit has arrived, and maintenance staff are working on setting it up for teachers to use in the near future. NSD also ordered a new triplex home for teachers in Calling Lake! The new unit is scheduled to arrive in mid-September.





Since early May, a number of NSD schools have been impacted by wildfires. For nearly a month, a mandatory evacuation order was in place for Chipewyan Lake residents due to a wildfire. In order to keep the community safe, crews from Wabasca-Desmarais, Bigstone Cree Nation, Australia, Tasmania, Idaho, California, Colorado, and Nevada worked together to tackle the large wildfire. While protecting the community, NSD opened Chipewyan Lake School so fire crews could rest in the gymnasium. As you can see in the photo, the fire crews expressed their appreciation to NSD and Chipewyan Lake School students and staff :)

Acting Superintendent of Schools/CEO Cal Johnson also highlighted National Indigenous Peoples Day events. Central office staff participated in a sharing circle with Elder Dave Maltipi. They learned about the importance of understanding the legacy of residential schools and the role they play in supporting the education actions listed in the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action.

At the school level for example, Paddle Prairie School students and staff wore ribbon shirts and skirts, Calling Lake School organized land-based learning activities and traditional games and Northland Online School students and staff participated in a scavenger hunt show and tell.

**First Nations, Métis and Inuit Report - NSD focused on weaving local First Nations and Métis knowledge into the learning experiences with support from communities**



NSD continues to focus on weaving local First Nations and Métis knowledge into the learning experiences. This deliberate programming enables students to see themselves in the curriculum and feel more connected to their identity. The following actions support this important work, which aligns with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action.

- MacEwan University, in partnership with Northland, have embarked on a research project. The project explores how family and community member engagement in education may contribute to improving student achievement and outcomes related to literacy, numeracy and First Nations, Métis language and culture. To capture perspectives from families, Elders and community members, voluntary interviews and community engagement events were organized. On June 10th and 11, a community cultural gathering took place at St. Theresa School in Wabasca-Desmarais. During the gathering, Elders and community members sat together in a

circle to share their perspectives on how Northland can best incorporate traditional language and community expertise in the everyday programming at the school.

- Throughout the school year, Elders, Knowledge Keepers and community members support Northland with promoting the growth and development of local language and land-based learning opportunities.
- Director of First Nations and Métis and Inuit Education Debbie Mineault hosts cultural awareness training with schools. The goal is to work with language instructors and education assistants to align appropriate subject areas with the purchased literature resources in culture and languages, identity and wellbeing, residential school experiences, treaties and land-based learning.
- Before the end of June, language instructors and their Elders located Métis settlements will be travelling to Métis Crossing Ventures by Smokey Lake to experience a historical and cultural connection for student learning opportunities. The full-day agenda includes speakers who will share their Michif language and the history of settlements' way of life.
- Northland hosting a summer camp in July for young parents/guardians. Elders, language instructors and community members will provide guidance through values, daily routines, traditional child rearing, and beginner's Cree for the home vocabulary and phrases,

### **Associate Superintendent's Report - New curriculum incoming for specific courses next year**

Starting next year, NSD students will learn from new curriculum in the following areas:

- Kindergarten to grade 3
- Grades 4-6 Math
- Grades 4-6 English Language Arts

As part of NSD's continuing strategy to support teachers implementing new curriculum, Pedagogical Supervisors will lead sessions on the weekend of August 19-20, 2023. These optional sessions will offer a guided deep-dive into curriculum development for each of these programs of study.

### **Board approved revised Capital Budget amount for summer-related projects**

The Board approved a revised Capital Budget amount for summer-related projects. The total cost for school-based projects is approximately \$2.8 million (\$ 2,838,260) and housing is \$628,215.

<b>School</b>	<b>Project</b>
Bill Woodward School	Replace stucco, replace boiler and re-balance air system
Calling Lake School	Change room upgrade and provide gender neutral washrooms
Elizabeth School	Re-roof gym, structural review and repairs to support beams
Gift Lake School	Mechanical modifications
Grouard Northland School	Repair brick as required, repair/replace roof, mansard, soffits, downpipes.
Susa Creek School	Provide a windbreak and access to the furnace on the gym roof.

Housing	Provide new furnaces to 33 units, repair or provide driveways and landscaping at 28 units and replace shingles at 12 units
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Visit <https://www.nsd61.ca/governance/board-meetings> to view upcoming Regular Board Meeting dates and Board-related documents.

Note: These writings do not constitute the official record of the Northland School Division. They are however, provided as general information relating to the action taken at board meetings. For further information, please call 780-624-2060 or 1-800-362-1360.