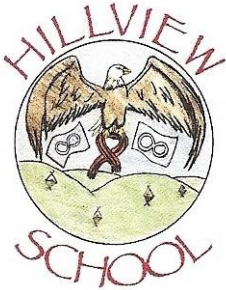




Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights Corporate Board Meeting – November 24, 2016

Study to be conducted at Hillview School



Northland School Division is going to be conducting a feasibility study at Hillview School. The study, which was announced during the Corporate Board Meeting, is going to involve conversations with parents, East Prairie Métis Settlement community members, Local School Board Committee and Hillview School staff to pin point the reasons why student enrolment is down. The study is in accordance with Section 58 of the *School Act*, Closure of Schools Alberta Regulation 238/97 of the *School Act* and Policy 16 – School Closure.

Official Trustee approves the Combined 2015-2016 Annual Education Results Report and Three-Year Education Plan 2016-2019

The Official Trustee approved the Combined 2015-2016 Annual Education Results Report and the 2016-2019 Education Plan (AERR/3YEP). The AERR/3YEP is a reflection of growth across the jurisdiction and what Northland School Division is doing to achieve Goal 2 of the Ministry of Education Business Plan: “The achievement gap between First Nations, Métis students and all other student is eliminated.” Priorities for “Eliminating the Gap” include focusing on student attendance, literacy and numeracy rates, health and wellness for students and staff and continued development of authentic learning opportunities that reflect community values, language, culture and knowledge.

The report highlights positive results from last year’s Accountability Pillar Survey. Students, parents and teachers indicated a rating of “improved significantly” or “improved Safe and Caring, Work Preparation, Citizenship, Parental Involvement and School Improvement. It also showcases major accomplishments around literacy, First Nations, Metis Education, land-based learning, Career and Technology Studies, attendance and high school success.

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Following the presentation, Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson said administration will review the combined AERR/3YEP format which may result in separating the two documents. Atkinson explained the 3YEP should be showcased on its own and the AERR should show the progress with what's mentioned in the 3YEP.

Combined 2015-2016 Annual Education Results Report and the 2016-2019 Education Plan:

<http://nsd61.ca/download/88403>

2016-2017 AERR Summary: <http://nsd61.ca/download/88294>

Secretary Treasurer discusses restructuring for housing department

Secretary Treasurer Trudy Rasmuson discussed a plan to further separate the housing department from the instructional work of Northland School Division. The plan recommends keeping the department as currently structured, with some internal changes that include hiring contractors who only deal with housing; allowing division facilities staff to focus on schools and creating a separate account for housing; allowing it to operate at arm's length.

Official Trustee approved Policy 11 – Role of the Superintendent



Gord Atkinson, Superintendent of Schools for Northland School Division No.61

The Official Trustee approved the third and final reading for Policy 11 – Role of the Superintendent. The Policy outlines specific areas of responsibility for Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson. Areas of responsibility include: Student Learning, Student Wellness, Fiscal Responsibility, Personnel Management, Board Relations, Strategic Planning and Reporting, Organizational Management, Communications and Community Relations and Leadership Practices. One of Atkinson's primary objectives for Student Learning is aligning division resources and building

organizational capacity to support First Nations, Métis student achievement. Under Student Wellness, the policy also talks about developing pathways beyond the residential school legacy and ensuring a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging. The policy was reviewed and amended in consultation with Terry Gunderson, Alberta School Boards Association Education Consultant.

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Supervisor of Student Services presents Procedure 333 – Children/Students in need of intervention

Supervisor of Student Services Stephanie Sutherland presented Procedure 333 – Children/Student in need of intervention. This procedure speaks to the division's responsibility to safeguard children from abuse and neglect. According to the *Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act*, anyone who has a reason to believe that a child has been, or there is substantial risk, that s/he will be abused or neglected by an adult, has the legal duty to promptly report the matter to the local Child and Family Services Authority. This procedure is linked to Policy 19, Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, Safe and Healthy Learning and Working Environments.

Superintendent of Schools presents proposed changes to Organizational Chart

Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson presented a draft concept for the division's Organizational Chart. Atkinson is proposing a three service area format for a division geographic area covering the northern half of Alberta. Each area would have an Associate Superintendent responsible for supervising the schools and principals and maintaining positive relationships with Local School Board Committees, other relevant community stakeholders and government agencies. In addition, the proposal includes second tier supports for each division area. The Organizational Chart will be completed in April or May, 2017.

Superintendent presents monthly report and announces upcoming meeting for school administrators' and Local School Board Committee Chairs

It was a busy month for Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson. While presenting the Superintendent's Report, Atkinson highlighted two events he attended last month. On October 24th, he attended the Cenovus donation announcement to Northland at Father R. Perin School. Cenovus donated \$250,000 over two years to support literacy, Career and Technology Studies Programs and student attendance. Atkinson spoke about the enjoyment of interacting with students, parents and community members and being able to experience the Dené culture. He attended the Vulnerable Readers Conference in Calgary with many Northland educators October 27th. The conference focuses on practical classroom strategies for literacy.

Atkinson also announced a workshop is being scheduled for school administrators' and Local School Board Committee Chairs in January, 2017. It will focus on how principals and Local School Board Committees can work together to eliminate the achievement gap. The workshop includes a review of Policy 2 – Role of the Board and Policy 7 – Local School Board Committees.

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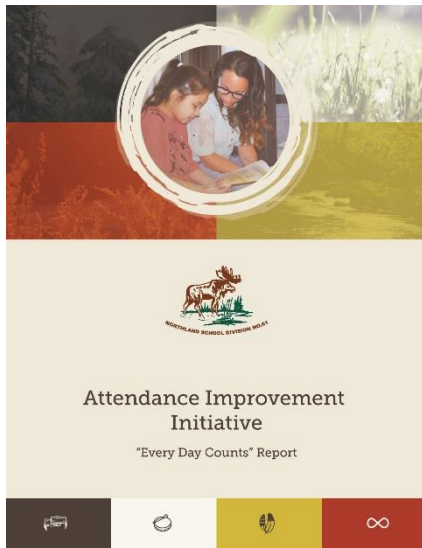
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Wabasca Modernization Update

Secretary Treasurer Trudy Rasmuson presented the latest information regarding the Wabasca School Modernization. Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure is currently drafting a report on what has happened to date and the criteria for school modernization project. Once Northland has reviewed the report, government will meet with the division to finalize the scope of work and budget. Once the budget is approved, Northland in partnership with government, will hire an architect and maintain involvement in the design process. The project is expected to take 18 months once it begins.

Attendance Improvement Initiative “Every Day Counts” Resource for Parents/Guardians and Community Stakeholders



Associate Superintendent Don Tessier presented a resource to help educate parents/guardians and community stakeholders about the importance of student attendance and how they can help. The resource is available on the Northland School Division website <http://nsd61.ca/download/88645>. Paper copies will be distributed to school communities in early 2017. Tessier also announced positive trends with overall student attendance so far in 2016-2017. In October, six percent more students achieved 90% or better in comparison to October 2015.

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Summary of approved Board motions

The Official Trustee approved:

- The tender for Edmonton Motors for a cargo van in the amount of \$34,345.50, be accepted.
- Northland School Division to purchase three Chevrolet Traverses from Edmonton Motors in the amount of \$41,193 (includes GST) each.
- Policy 13 – Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters passed 2nd Reading.
- Policy 19 – Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, Safe and Healthy Learning and Working Environments passed 2nd Reading.

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>

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

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