



Northland School Division No.61 (NSD)

Board Highlights Regular Board Meeting – June 21, 2018

Board of Trustees treated to a special performance by J.F. Dion School Métis Dancers

J.F. Dion School Métis Dancers treated the Board of Trustees to a special performance prior to the Organizational Meeting on Friday, June 22, 2018. The students showcased a variety of dances including Métis jigging.



Board holds 2018-2019 Organizational Meeting – Daniels returns as Board Chair & Nokohoo elected as Vice-Chair



Following the performance, the Board held its Organizational Meeting. The morning began with the Board Chair/Vice-Chair election. Maddy Daniels will continue her role as Board Chair.

"I want to thank the trustees for entrusting me into a new year of leadership," said Daniels. "As Board Chair, I will continue to demonstrate my passion and commitment to ensure NSD students are strong in identity, healthy and successful. This past year, the Board developed a new foundational policy, a policy for how we engage with school communities and key partners and started working on priorities for a Board Advocacy Plan. All of these pieces will help us strengthen relationships and better serve students and staff at NSD. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we look forward to building deeper relationships with parents, community members, and partners to ensure students love to come to school in Northland and are positioned to have success in the future."



Jules Nokohoo was elected Vice-Chair. Following the Board Chair/Vice-Chair election, the Board discussed the Regular Board Meeting schedule, reviewed Policy 8 – Board Committee Schedule and the 2018-2018 Board Representatives. Click on the website link to view Policy 8 – Board Committee Schedule <https://nsd61.ca/download/133926>.

Click on the website link to view 2018-2019 Board Representatives <https://nsd61.ca/download/133927>.

NSD nominate Ever Active Schools for Friends of Education Award



NSD nominated Ever Active Schools (EAS) for an Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) award. The Board approved the nomination of EAS for the Zone One Friends of Education Award. The award recognizes organizations in the community who have made a special contribution to education.

"I am honoured to receive this award on behalf of the team at Ever Active Schools," said Brian Torrance, Director, Ever Active Schools. "It's an honour to work alongside NSD and communities within the district with creating sustainable healthy school communities that enable optimal health and learning. We look forward to partnering with NSD for many years to come with professional learning for staff, outdoor classroom designs, land based learning and all following a comprehensive school health approach"

Ever Active Schools is a provincial initiative designed to assist school communities in addressing and creating healthy school communities. EAS will be recognized at the ASBA Zone One Fall Awards Ceremony in September.

Seven students to receive NSD bursaries and scholarships

Ward 2 Trustee/Scholarship and Bursary Committee member Cathy Wanyandie announced the recipients of the bursaries and scholarships provided by NSD. Congratulations to the following students!

- Renee Christenson (J.F. Dion School) – \$20, 000 bursary for entering university in the faculty of education,
- Jessica Ironeagle (J.F. Dion School) – 2\$20, 000 bursary for entering university in the faculty of education,
- Bailey Nydokus (Elizabeth School) - \$800.00 scholarship for entering university other than education,
- Kierra Gauchier (Bishop Routhier School) - \$800.00 scholarship for entering university other than education,
- Nadia Moallem (Mistassiniy School) - \$800.00 scholarship for entering university other than education,
- Sara Voyageur (Athabasca Delta Community School) - \$800.00 scholarship for entering university other than education, and
- Kierra Gauchier (Bishop Routhier School) – 1000.00 in memory of Adele Grace Carifelle for students pursuing studies in the area of early childhood education, computer related studies or social work.

Policies approved by the Board

The Board of Trustees approved:

- Policy 8 – Board Committees.
- Policy 9 – Board Representatives.

- Removed 2018-2019 Board Representatives as a Policy 9 appendix. Removing the document from policy allows for changes required to happen as needed. The document is available on our website as information <https://nsd61.ca/download/133927>.
- Policy 21 Appendix B Elder Guidelines.
- Policy Appendix B Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity.

Board approves Third Quarter Financial Statement and Borrowing Resolution



The Board of Trustees approved the Third Quarter Financial Statement. The statement is for the period of September 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018. They also approved the Borrowing Resolution, if required, in the amount of 3,000,000 to meet the current operating expenditures for 2018-2019 school year. After presenting the reports, Secretary Treasurer Trudy Rasmuson showcased the welcome gift staff who stay in division housing will receive. Click on the website link to view both reports

<https://nsd61.ca/download/133946> (Start on Page 20).

Area 3 Report highlights education agreement, school review, learning and technology software

Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson presented the Area 3 Report to the Board of Trustees in place of Area 3 Associate Superintendent Tim Stensland. Area 3 includes Athabasca Delta Community School (Fort Chipewyan), Anzac and Bill Woodward Schools (Anzac), Fort McKay School, Father R. Perin School (Janvier), Conklin Community School, J.F. Dion School (Fishing Lake Métis Settlement) and Elizabeth School (Elizabeth Métis Settlement).

Atkinson highlighted the Co-Management Education Agreement between NSD and Fort McKay First Nation (FMFN). The agreement, which was signed in May, 2017, is designed to enhance the learning environment for Fort McKay students. Meetings between NSD and FMFN have been taking place between September, 2017 and May, 2018 to determine priorities for the working group.

Many comments were made about positive improvements during the Athabasca Delta Community School (ADCS) review. The information from students, staff, parents, community members, Mikisew Cree First Nation, Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Métis Local #125 and Nunee Health will help form the three year education plan for ADCS.

Atkinson concluded the report discussing examples of how technology is supporting education in NSD. Students and staff are using Google Apps for Education (GAPE) to personalize learning and enhance the way information is shared. GAPE is a cloud-based platform allowing teachers and students to create documents online, work on the same documents and projects simultaneously, video conference with experts, access and share information within and beyond the classroom and school, send and receive instant feedback and engage with the curriculum and learning on a high level.

GoGuardian is a tool teachers are using to support lesson planning. They are able to manage access to websites so students are focused on the task at hand. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://nsd61.ca/download/133946> (Start on Page 2).

Lorraine Cardinal-Roy share what NSD is doing to be a leader for Indigenous education excellence



Director of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Learner Success Lorraine Cardinal-Roy highlighted what NSD is doing to be a leader for Indigenous education excellence. In 2017-2018, Lorraine, the First Nations, Métis and Inuit team in partnership with Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council Education Authority (KTCEA), hosted four workshops for NSD and KTCEA Indigenous Language Instructors. Cardinal-Roy said the instructors are very knowledgeable in their language and culture, but the majority have not received specific training in planning for instruction, assessment and classroom

management. This year, the instructors learned how to develop long range plans, unit plans and lesson plans.

When developing the plans, the instructors learned to create the documents using Google Apps for Education. This is awesome because the tools help the instructors edit documents, share and collaborate easier. Cardinal-Roy said it was great to see trustees and guests from Calgary Board of Education, Alberta Education, University of Alberta and a Canadian Indigenous Language and Literacy Development Institute (CILLDI) advisor attend the workshops; adding it's another way for us showcase the good things happening at NSD. Next year, the workshops will be focused on student assessment and classroom management.

Lorraine announced three NSD instructors and one from KTCEA received bursaries to attend CILLDI this summer. The program provides instructors an opportunity to earn university credit while learning about Indigenous language and culture.

The First Nations, Métis and Inuit team partnered with KTCEA to host five land-based learning camps at Marten Lakes Wilderness Camp – Northern Lakes College Campus. The camps are designed to expose students to land-based learning (trapping, dog sledding, skinning, rattle making, setting a net, storytelling) with a focus on leadership, language and culture. Lorraine said educators are noticing improvements with respect to student engagement and students retaining information learned at the camps.

Cardinal-Roy and her team contributed to an Innovations in First Nations Grant with Athabasca Tribal Council and Kapawe'no First Nation. The grant will support literacy development for pre-kindergarten children and junior/senior high students. To highlight how NSD is a leader for Indigenous education excellence, Lorraine participated in three presentations in 2017-2018. She presented at the Canadian Association of Communicators in Education (CACE) Conference, the Public School Boards Association of Alberta (PSBAA) Spring General Meeting, the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Spring General Meeting and at Kings University. Click on the website link to view the entire report

<https://nsd61.ca/download/133946> (Start on Page 7).

Emily Hunt presented the School Food Services Report



Operations Manager Emily Hunt provided information to the Board about School Food Services (SFS). SFS began operation in October of 1973 to improve the nutritional, general health and educational potential of Indigenous students and provide employment and training to local residents. SFS, approaching its 45th Anniversary in October, is the only fully-funded lunch program in the province.

While presenting the report, Emily discussed a survey they conducted with students. The students were asked to provide feedback on foods provided during nutrition break and lunch. The menu for nutrition break and lunch is based on Canada's Food Guide

and the Alberta Healthy Nutrition Guidelines for Children and Youth. Emily said students suggested they would like to have smoothies more often and more substance in soups. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://nsd61.ca/download/133946> (Start on Page 14).

Wes Oginski presented the Human Resources Report



Associate Superintendent of Human Resources Wes Oginski highlighted the new professional quality standards coming into play September 1, 2019 and shared exciting news to support staff with post-secondary education and leadership. Oginski informed the Board of Trustees about changes to the Teaching Quality Standard, which hasn't been updated since 1997. The new standard requires staff to apply foundational knowledge about First Nations, Métis and Inuit. In addition, a quality standard has been developed for

leaders (principals, vice-principal and central office staff other than the superintendent) and superintendents. Both standards require supporting the application of foundational knowledge about First Nations, Métis and Inuit.

Oginski announced five staff members will begin their journey towards a Bachelor of Education from the University of Calgary's Werklund School of Education. Congratulations to the following NSD staff:

- Val Lagimodiere (Elizabeth School)
- Kate McEvoy (St. Theresa School)
- Pamela Tremblay (Conklin Community School)
- Cherys Wells (Elizabeth School)
- Gerald Young (St. Theresa School)

As they pursue a Bachelor of Education, NSD will release the staff for a half day each week, pay tuition and course fees as well as support their summer course costs. The Werklund School of Education is an online evening program geared for people living and working in rural and remote locations. With respect to leadership, NSD launched the Aspiring Leaders Program on February 14, 2018 <https://goo.gl/E2M733>. 17 NSD staff are participating in the program. This August, Rick Horon will be taking on the role of Principal Mentor to assist with leadership growth at NSD. Rick's primary role is to work as a mentor with new principals, assist principals as needed and lead the Aspiring Leaders Program and a soon to launch Leadership Growth Community Practice for those in current leadership roles. Oginski also updated the

Board about the recruitment of staff and projected staffing numbers for 2018-2019 school year. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://nsd61.ca/download/133946> (Start on Page 17).

PSBAA & ASBA presentations highlighted in the Board Chair Report



Board Chair Maddy Daniels shared her experience of presenting “How NSD is overcoming barriers to be a leader for Indigenous education excellence” at the PSBAA and ASBA Spring General Meetings in Red Deer. Daniels and the trustees discussed what went well and what improvements could be made for future presentations. Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson said trustees from other school divisions complimented the presentation saying they learned a lot and understand what is important to NSD.

Daniels talked about participating in a panel discussion with Minister of Education David Eggen. During the panel discussion Daniels said, “If I had a magic wand I would make sure every student loves to come to school in Northland”. After Daniels made the statement, Minister Eggen later replied, “If I had a magic wand I would make more people like Maddy Daniels.”

The report includes an invitation letter from the Fort McMurray Public School District (FMPSD). The invitation is for a future meeting to discuss areas of common interest with the Mayor and Council of Wood Buffalo and neighboring school divisions. Daniels also sent congratulatory letters to the new ASBA President Lorrie Jess and Vice-President Trina Boymook. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://nsd61.ca/download/133946> (Start on Page 52).

Meeting with the Office of the Auditor General highlighted in the Superintendent’s Report



Superintendent of Schools Gord Atkinson updated the Board about a June 18, 2018 meeting with the Office of the Auditor General. The purpose of the meeting was to review NSD’s ‘Every Day Counts’ Attendance Improvement Operational Plan. The Office of the Auditor General staff told Atkinson the improvement by NSD is “leaps and bounds from where they were”. ‘Every Day Counts’ Attendance Improvement Operational Plan was approved by the Board at the February 23, 2018 Regular Board Meeting.

Atkinson also met with Classroom Champions (CC) on June 20, 2018. They launched a program called Classroom Champions Circle. The program connects students with Indigenous Olympic athletes. CC will be introduced at the Principal’s Meeting in August. Click on the website link to view the entire report <https://nsd61.ca/download/133946> (Start on Page 62).

View Board Schedule, Agendas, Minutes, Highlights and Attachments on our website at:

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

Next Corporate Board Meeting is August 23, 2018 in Edmonton

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.