



Northland School Division No.61 (NSD)

Board Highlights Regular Board Meeting – April 26, 2019



Board of Trustees left to right: Back Row – Silas Yellowknee (Ward 6), Randy Anderson (Ward 3), Robin Guild (Ward 7), Maddy Daniels (Board Chair, Ward 1), Jules Nokohoo (Vice-Chair, Ward 10), Louis Cardinal (Ward 5), Jesse Lamouche (Ward 4).

Front Row - Rubi Shirley (Ward 9), Loretta Gladue (Ward 8), Karen Telford (Ward 11), Cathy Wanyandie (Ward 2).

Acting Superintendent appointed by the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees passed a motion on April 27, 2019, to appoint an acting superintendent of schools, effective immediately. The acting superintendent of schools will be announced once ministerial approval has been received. The Board of Trustees with support from the acting superintendent will continue to focus on ensuring students graduate and are successful in life. The acting superintendent of schools will work with the Board to determine the next steps towards hiring a new superintendent.

Process for Superintendent Reviews approved by the Board of Trustees

A recommendation to adjust the process for superintendent evaluations has been approved by the Board of Trustees. The evaluation is designed to provide more insight to the Board with respect to the performance of the superintendent, while also allowing the superintendent to more closely highlight the accomplishments relative to Policy 12 Appendix B – Superintendent Performance Assessment Guide. Key points for performance reviews include:

- A standing committee is set up to complete performance reviews.
- Following the annual evaluation, there will be three performance reviews over the school year, the last of which is to be completed in August, prior to the next annual evaluation.
- An external consultant to be hired to facilitate the performance reviews.
- Members of the Superintendent Performance Review Committee to be appointed annually at either the organizational meeting or after each annual evaluation.
- A performance review is based on growth areas as identified at the annual evaluation which is completed by the entire Board and Superintendent,

The recommended changes were developed by the adhoc committee consisting of Ward 2 Trustee Cathy Wanyandie, Ward 7 Trustee Robin Guild and Ward 8 Trustee Loretta Gladue. The three trustees have also been appointed to Superintendent Performance Review Committee <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 19).

Policies approved by the Board

The Board of Trustees approved:

- First reading of Policy 8 – Board Committees. The Standing Committees section now includes the Superintendent Performance Review Committee. Click on the website link to view all of the changes to the policy <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 39).
- Third reading of Policy 7 Appendix C – Trustee Expense and Corporate Card Guidelines <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 50).
- First, second and third reading of Policy 7 Appendix D – Rules of Order <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 59).
- Housekeeping changes to Policy 7 Board Governance and Operations and Policy 7 Appendix A – Schedules of Rates. The list of what trustees receive honorariums for has been removed from Policy 7 Appendix A – Schedules of Rates and is now listed on Policy 7 Board Governance and Operations. The policies also align with Policy 7 Appendix C – Trustee Expense and Corporate Card Guidelines <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 65).
- First, second and third reading of Policy 2 Appendix D – Board and Superintendent Communication Guidelines <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 82).
- Housekeeping Changes to Policy 2 – Role of Board, Policy 3 – Role of the Trustee, Policy 3 Appendix B – Trustee Working Relationships Guidelines, Policy 5 – Role of the Board Chair, Policy 12 – Role of the Superintendent. The changes ensure the policies align with Policy 2 Appendix D – Board and Superintendent Communication Guidelines.
- Housekeeping changes to Policy 9 – Board Representatives. The policy now states a list of organizations the Board meets with shall be posted on the NSD website under Governance <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 108).
- Housekeeping changes to Policy 21 – Community Voice and Community Engagement <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 112).

Treaty 6 and NSBA conference featured in the Board Chair Highlights



Board Chair Maddy Daniels started out by discussing the Think Indigenous International Education Conference March 20-22, 2019 in Enoch Cree Nation <http://www.thinkindigenous.ca/>. While attending the conference, Daniels talked about a powerful film she watched called Pow Wow at Duck Lake https://www.nfb.ca/film/powwow_at_duck_lake/.

Board Chair Daniels attended the National School Boards Association Conference from March 30 – April 1, 2019. She shared resources touching on subjects such as teachers guide to trauma, leadership, finding your passion and high poverty schools versus high-performance schools. She also attended sessions about literacy and initiative overload for teachers. The literacy session talked about ensuring all students are reading at grade level by grade 3. With respect to initiatives, Daniels said the session explained school boards should have all programs channeled into a maximum of three initiatives.

Education Service Agreements and Viability Study Updates featured in Superintendent Highlights

In the latest edition of the Superintendent Highlights, NSD continues to work with Kee Tas Kee Now Tribal Council, Mikisew Cree Nation and Bigstone Cree Nation on developing education service agreements.

On April 15, 2019, the division met with the casework manager for Bigstone Child and Family Services regarding the attendance of children in care and kinship care at school. The meeting was productive and further conversations will be taking place between NSD and Bigstone.

The Board was informed about updates to the viability studies for Pelican Mountain School and Calling Lake Outreach School. For Pelican, the community population is 156 (35 school age students) instead of 68 and the school bus riding time to another school is 2.2 hours instead of 1.2. At Calling Lake Outreach School, the number of students have been changed from one to three.

On April 8, 2019, NSD met with the Urban Rez Society to discuss a student symposium in the fall of 2019. Both have discussed the idea of co-hosting a Healthy Active School Symposium; similar to what NSD hosted in 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 <https://www.nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/healthy-active-school-symposium-2019-winter-wonderland2>.

Land-based Learning, Numeracy and CTF/S Pilot Program highlighted in Area 1 Associate Superintendent's Report



Associate Superintendent Shelley Willier shared information about land-based learning, numeracy and the Career and Technology Foundations and Study Pilot Program in her latest report to the Board. In February and March, NSD hosted engagement dinners in Area 1 schools (**Bishop Routhier School, Gift Lake School, Grouard Northland School, Hillview School, Paddle Prairie School, Susa Creek School**) to discuss land-based learning. Each school received a grant to enhance land-based learning and NSD wanted input from parents and community members.

Since the month of March, Math/Numeracy Nights have been taking place in Area 1 schools. The purpose of the events is to share NSD's math and numeracy initiative with parents and families and enjoy hands-on math activities. One game students and parents played was called the race to a loonie <http://mathmotivator.com/money-race-games/>.

Willier also highlighted the Career and Technology Foundations and Study Pilot Program <https://www.nsd61.ca/about-us/division-news/post/nsd-career-and-technology-foundations-and-study-pilot-program>. To view the entire report, click on the website link <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 125).

Transportation Report

Transportation Manager Susanne Jones provided an overview of transportation in NSD. The department manages 53 school buses that service 30 divisional bus routes. They also oversee 42 fleet vehicles used by division staff. To enhance the safety of NSD student and staff using fleet vehicles, NSD is piloting ten GPS systems equipped with work alone satellite communication.

The department implemented a new route system called Transfinder. With access to the student information system, the department is able to map the students at their home and ensure all NSD students have access to transportation. To help aid with route designs, NSD is going to be educating families about pre-registering for the bus.

Jones then informed the Board of changes impacting school bus drivers. Effective March 1, 2019, standardized entry-level training is mandatory for all new Class 1 and 2 commercial drivers, along with the S Endorsement (School Bus Driver Improvement Program) for all school bus drivers. Jones said the department was successful in getting all the regular school bus drivers, contract bus drivers and some spare drivers caught up with their S Endorsement training prior to the deadline. To view the entire report click on the website link <https://www.nsd61.ca/download/171189> (starting on page 132).

Trustee Reports from Wards 3, 10 and 11



Ward 3 Trustee Randy Anderson attended a human resources workshop on March 23, 2019. Anderson said he learned about the role of trustees with respect to school staff. He attended the College of Alberta Superintendents (CASS) First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education Gathering April 10-12, 2019. At the gathering, Anderson was able to view Métis education resources developed by the Rupertsland Institute. He said Rupertsland, who is currently developing curriculum on the history of the Métis, would be interested in working with NSD schools.



Ward 10 Trustee Jules Nokohoo attended the Athabasca Tribal Council Land-based Learning and Language Conference in Fort McMurray March 26-28, 2019. On April 15, 2019, Nokohoo introduced the Red Cross to Father R. Perin School Principal Bernard Woodfine to discuss student participation in Janvier's Missing Maps project. Students in grades 7, 8 and 9 have expressed interest and will begin working on the project in May.



It was a busy March and April for Ward 11 Trustee Karen Telford. A few dates of note include:

- On March 12, 2019, met with the Métis Settlements General Council Executive.
- On March 19, 2019, attended a professional learning session on Métis education programming.
- On March 26, April 11 and 15, 2019, participated in Board Advocacy Committee meetings.
- April 9, 2019, attended the all candidates forum in St. Paul. This was prior to the

April 16, 2019 Provincial Election.

Upcoming, Telford will be visiting J.F. Dion School to help with land-based learning teaching.

View Board Schedule, Agendas, Minutes, Highlights and Attachments on our website at
<https://www.nsd61.ca/governance/board-meeting-agenda-minutes>

Next Corporate Board Meeting is Friday, May 24, 2019 at the Star of the North Retreat Centre in St. Albert

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.