



## Northland School Division No.61 Board Highlights Corporate Board Meeting – June 24-25, 2016

### Northland schools showing reading level improvement



Almost 80% of our schools are showing improvement with students reading at grade level! This improvement is a result of our focus to improve student literacy. Results show an 8% increase in the number of students reading a grade level. June results are not available for Anzac Community School, Bill Woodward School, Fort McKay School and Father R. Perin School due to temporary closures related to wildfires. This progress report was presented by Janette Cavanaugh, Division Principal Literacy and Maureen Chernipeski, Pedagogical Supervisor. See Board Attachments for more information <http://nsd61.ca/download/80383> (page 1).

*Student and parent participate in Super Family Literacy Night at St. Theresa School in Wabasca-Desmarais!*

### 2016-2017 Budget continues support for literacy and land-based learning

The Official Trustee for Northland School Division No.61 (NSD) approved the 2016-2017 budget at the Corporate Board Meeting held on June 24-25, 2016. The division's total operating budget is \$65,909,404 and reflects NSD's efforts to implement recommendations in the Northland Inquiry Team Report.

"The budget maintains school staffing and helps educators strengthen First Nations, Métis language development with students," said Donna Barrett, Superintendent of Schools. "Resources have been allocated for land-based learning experiences and to support schools with weaving First Nations, Metis traditions into the curriculum."

This budget includes professional development to support schools with the division-wide Literacy Initiative and a commitment to implement actions outlined in the Attendance Improvement Initiative "Every Day Counts" Report.

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The division will be running at \$65,000 deficit and Barrett notes this budget does not include additional supports schools need such as learning coaches, mentorship programs and support for technology. Student enrolment for the 2016-2017 school year is projected to increase by 5%. See Board Attachments for more information <http://nsd61.ca/download/80383> (page 26).

## **The power of Facebook headlines Communications Report**

Facebook is a powerful communications vehicle for Northland School Division. Proof of this was part of the Communications Report presented by Communications Coordinator Curtis Walty. Walty highlighted specific posts to show the Official Trustee the level of engagement by school division stakeholders such as students, parents, staff, community members and education partners. For example, a recent Facebook post about Northland bursaries and scholarships was viewed by nearly 10,000 people! This resulted in us receiving more than double the amount of applications compared to the previous school year. See Board Attachments for more information <http://nsd61.ca/download/80383> (page 21).

## **Repairs to Northland schools affected by wildfires near completion**

David Cox, Division Facility Manager, updated the Official Trustee about Northland schools and teacher housing impacted by the Fort McMurray and area wildfires. On May 28<sup>th</sup>, the Official Trustee approved recommendations to close Anzac Community School, Bill Woodward School (Anzac), Father R. Perin School (Janvier) and Fort McKay School for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year. In addition to school closures, our insurance adjustors recommended smoke damage repairs to 20 teacherages located in Anzac and Janvier. The required remediation's to schools are approximately 75% done, and will be completed with the next few weeks. Teacher housing has all been cleaned and the smoke sealing has been done. See Board Attachments for more information <http://nsd61.ca/download/80383> (page 43).

## **Summary of approved Board motions**

The Official Trustee approved:

- Northland Bursary applications from Melanie Lapp, Paddle Prairie and Victoria Marten, Fort Chipewyan.
- The seven applications received for Northland scholarships.
- The purchase of the Canadian Achievement Test (CAT 4).
- Mistassiniy Outreach be officially named Career Pathways School effective immediately.
- The following Board Meeting dates for the 2016-2017 school year (October 21-22, 2016, November 25-26, 2016, January 27-28, 2017, February 24-25, 2017, April 21-22, 2016, May 26, 27, 2017, June 23-24, 2017, August 25-26, 2017).
- The job description for the Director of First Nation, Métis and Inuit Learner Success.
- Changes to Procedure 404 – Recruitment and Re-assignment of Certificated Staff (**passed second reading**).

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- Changes to Procedure 431 – Employee Benefits (**passed second reading**).
- Changing the Support Staff Retirement Plan (RRSP) from a mandatory contribution to a program of choice for employees who do not qualify to contribute to the Local Authorities Pension Plan.
- Changes to Procedure 526 – Fraud.
- Changes to Procedure 505 - Donations.
- Ratifying the administrative action to accept the following bid for Unit 626.
- The Ricoh Aficio MP 9000 and the Toshiba E-Studio 520 used copiers be sold by auction.
- Forgiving rent payments for teacher living in the Janvier and Anzac teacherages for the months of May, June and July, 2016 due to the wildfires in these communities.

**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>

**Important Dates to Remember**

<b>August 26-27, 2016</b>	<b>Board Meeting, Peace River, Alberta</b>
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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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