

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Regular Meeting

January 16, 2024

For Immediate Release

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## ***NGPS Mission Statement***

Northern Gateway Public Schools provides a dynamic and safe learning environment that promotes connection and the authentic application of learning.

## ***Board Advocacy Action Plan***

The Board Advocacy Committee presented a new Advocacy Plan for the Board focusing on the following priorities:

- Equitable funding for rural education;
- transportation funding for driver wages;
- capital funding model based on regular, sustainable funding for school divisions;
- support for contracted positions that support kids in NGPS schools, i.e. occupational therapist, psychological services.

Motion to approve the Board Advocacy Plan 2024 as presented. Motion approved.

## ***Locally Developed Courses***

Dance 15, 25 and 35, courses developed by Edmonton Public Schools, were approved for use within the division.

Developed by other school divisions, and utilized at zero cost by other schools and school divisions, these courses provide additional learning opportunities for NGPS students.

## ***Critical Incident Response***

The Division uses Hour Zero, a comprehensive safety and critical response resource, to guide critical incident responses as needed.

Learn more [NGPS Parent and Student Safety Information](#).

Threat, grief and loss response is managed through the Centre for Trauma Informed Practice, or CTIP. Division staff and administration receive comprehensive training through CTIP.

Threat making behavior results in a Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA). A VTRA process involves local agencies and a set series of steps that are followed for every incident. [Learn more about VTRA.](#)

### ***Board School Tours***

Trustees will begin their annual tour of division schools this February. The visits give trustees, students and staff the opportunity to connect and engage within their school communities.

### ***Alberta Rural Education Symposium***

This year's Symposium will be held from March 3-5 in Edmonton. The theme is, 'Cultivating Relationships, Nurturing Connections, Harvesting Success'. The symposium aims to explore the critical facets of governance and leadership within the context of rural education.

### ***Next Meeting***

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for [February 13, 2024, at the Division Office in Whitecourt](#), commencing at [10:00 a.m.](#) Members of the public are invited to attend or watch the Meeting live on our YouTube channel, [NGTV](#).