

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Regular Meeting

November 26, 2024

For Immediate Release

Reconciliation Statement

NGPS recognizes the historical significance and contributions of Indigenous Peoples and their cultures and understands the important role that the Indigenous community plays today and in the future. Acting on a recommendation from the Community Engagement Committee, the Board has begun sharing a Reconciliation Statement at the beginning of meetings that describes specific actions taken by the Division in response to the Education Calls to Action articulated by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

D-Day 80: Juno and the Road to Liberation

Several Hilltop Jr/Sr High School students had the opportunity to join lead teacher Pam Mehl for an incredible learning experience overseas this past November as part of the educational D-Day 80: Juno and the Road to Liberation tour.

Mikayla and Abigail, two of the students on the trip, shared their unique experiences with the Board, from visiting Anne Franks's house in Amsterdam and imagining what a day in her confined life would be like, to walking through reconstructions of battle trenches in Vimy.

Students were extremely moved by the experience and eager to share their learning which also took them through Amsterdam's famous canals, to the Louvre for art and history, to Versailles where the Treaty of Versailles was signed, and on a Seine River cruise.

Presentation: Draft Administrative Procedure (AP) 652, Responsible Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to Support Instruction

Katrina Zack, teacher at Hilltop Jr/Sr High School and President of the local ATA, and NGPS Superintendent Kevin Bird, introduced DRAFT Administrative Procedure 652 for the Board's reference. Zack, Bird, and Zack's provincial ATA contact drafted the AP after determining that there currently exists no Administrative Procedure in Alberta school divisions that guides educators on the use of AI to support instruction.

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Zack explained how AI needs to be viewed as an entity – one that is constantly growing and changing. The Draft AP provides direction for teachers as to how AI can be incorporated into teaching, learning and preparation, and how it cannot replace teacher involvement in student learning.

Draft 2023-24 Annual Education Results Report (AERR)

NGPS Director of Learning Tammy Davis presented the Division's draft 2023-24 Annual Education Results Report highlighting student enrollment numbers, and Alberta survey results in the areas of student growth and achievement, teaching and leading, learning supports, and governance.

Davis reviewed high school completion rates, Grade 6 and 9 PAT results, Diploma Exam results, and Professional Development efforts. The Report can be viewed online at ngps.ca as of Friday, November 29, 2024.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee presented the findings of the Auditor, reporting that the Division is in good financial standing. The Board accepted the Audited Financial Statement as presented.

Review of Board Bylaws

The Board reviewed the following Board Bylaws:

- Bylaw No. 1-24 – Arrangement of Electoral Wards and Trustees received Second Reading. View the [Bylaw and proposed geographic changes](#) for wards on ngps.ca.
- Bylaw No. 2-24 – Receipt of Nominations Papers received Second Reading.
- Bylaw No. 3-24 – Deposit for Nominations received Second Reading.
- Bylaw No. 4-24 – Criminal Record Checks received First Reading. This Bylaw requires anyone running for the office of school board trustee to submit a Criminal Record Check to the Board.
- Bylaw No 5-24 – Borrowing Bylaw received First Reading by the Board.

Bylaws will be presented at the next meeting of the Board for Second and Third and Final Readings.



Board Meeting Livestream Pilot Project

Following a livestreaming trial and discussion around costs and use of the livestream, the Board motioned to discontinue livestreaming of board meetings. Board meetings will no longer be livestreamed, but will continue to be recorded. Meeting recordings will be available for three months following the meeting on ngps.ca. Board Meetings are public meetings and community members are also welcome to attend meetings at the Division Office in Whitecourt.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **December 17, 2024, at the Division Office in Whitecourt**, commencing at **10:00 a.m.** Members of the public are invited to attend.

