

Meeting Date: January 15, 2026

Delegation – Facilities Supervisor, Bobby Tough

Facilities Supervisor Bobby Tough shared an overview of the Facilities and Maintenance portfolio, outlining the scope of work and the pressures facing the department. The presentation walked trustees through key areas including maintenance operations, the facilities organizational structure, accessibility, caretaking, occupational health and safety, capital planning, Facility Condition Index (FCI) ratings, and Preventative Maintenance & Renewal (PMR) funding and projects. Bobby highlighted that the Facilities team responds to requests for service from schools on a needs-based approach, with student and staff safety always the top priority when developing and adjusting work plans.

Capital Planning and Major Renovation Submissions

The Board of Education received an update on capital planning and major renovation priorities from Facilities Supervisor Bobby Tough. The Facilities Department develops capital project recommendations using the Ministry of Education's rubric for assessing community need, considering the age and condition of facilities, outstanding maintenance and renewal work and associated repair costs, facility usage rates, and the potential for external partnerships to support new builds.

Based on this analysis, the Board voted to submit its top three capital priorities to the Ministry of Education:

- Maidstone – consolidating the elementary and high school into a new PreK–Grade 12 school
- Pierceland – a new school
- Meadow Lake – a new PreK–Grade 8 school to replace Jubilee Elementary, Lakeview Elementary and Gateway Middle School

In addition to replacement schools, the Ministry also allows school divisions to submit major renovation projects for funding where a new school is not feasible. These projects address significant facility needs and range from \$1–\$10 million. The Board is permitted to submit two major renovation projects each year, and voted to put forward Lashburn High School and Hillmond Central School for consideration.

While the Board has submitted these priorities, the Ministry of Education will evaluate all submissions from school divisions across the province, and there is no guarantee that Northwest School Division will receive approval or funding.

2026-2027 Academic Calendar

The Board of Education received an update on the development of the 2026–2027 Academic Calendar. School division administration worked collaboratively with

representatives from the North West Teachers' Association to create two calendar options that meet all Ministry of Education requirements.

The Board has tentatively approved both options, allowing them to be shared with staff for input. All staff will have the opportunity to vote on the preferred calendar, and the final 2026–2027 Academic Calendar will be brought forward for approval at the February Board meeting.

Board Communication Plan

The Board of Education reviewed a new Board Communication Plan to support trustees in building strong, positive relationships with communities across Northwest School Division. The plan is designed to help the Board more intentionally champion the work happening in schools, strengthen advocacy efforts, and coordinate how the Board and administration engage with municipal, provincial, and federal partners.

The communication plan provides clear goals and practical actions for trustees, focusing on community connection, shared messaging, and effective advocacy. By aligning communication efforts with the school division's strategic priorities, the plan supports trustees in telling the Northwest School Division story, listening to community voices, and working together to advocate for the resources and supports students and staff need to be successful.

Celebrations

Each month, trustees and school division administration take time to celebrate the incredible work happening across Northwest School Division. From student achievements and staff recognition to community partnerships and school events, this section highlights the moments that reflect the dedication, creativity, and care that make our schools such special places to learn and work.

Turtleford School – No One Eats Alone Potluck

Turtleford School is inviting families to come together for a “No One Eats Alone” community potluck, an upcoming event focused on connection, belonging, and building community. Families are encouraged to bring a dish to share and enjoy a meal together at the school, creating space for conversation, relationships, and a strong sense of welcome. The event celebrates the idea that school is more than a building – it's a community, and there is always a place for everyone at the table.

Maidstone High School – Kelly McIntyre featured in article about Trades Education

Maidstone High School teacher Kelly McIntyre was recently featured in the Winter edition of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation Bulletin for her leadership as President of the Saskatchewan Teachers of Applied Technology. Kelly and her colleagues were highlighted for their work promoting Practical and Applied Arts and Trades Education across the province, advocating for high-quality learning experiences that connect students with real-world skills, career pathways, and future opportunities.

[Creating a Spark: Trades Education is Unique Learning for Teachers, Students - Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation](#)

Maidstone High School – New Gym Floor

The school community at Maidstone High School is enjoying the newly completed gym floor and shared their appreciation for the work being completed in a timely manner.

Celebrating Student Art Across Northwest School Division

Our schools are filled with incredible student artwork that showcases creativity, skill, and imagination. As trustees begin school tours, they will have the opportunity to see these vibrant displays firsthand — from murals and mixed media projects to photography, and digital art. The art on our walls reflects not only the talent of our students, but also the inspiring, innovative projects created by teachers who bring learning to life through the arts.

Senior Administration Visibility in Schools

Staff across Northwest School Division have shared their appreciation for the increased visibility of senior administration in schools. The ongoing effort to be present, visit classrooms, and connect regularly with staff and students has been noticed and valued. These visits strengthen relationships, support collaboration, and reinforce a shared commitment to students, making a meaningful difference in how supported school communities feel.

Tuition Agreement with Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation

Northwest School Division recently signed a tuition agreement with Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation, strengthening the partnership between the school division and the community. Trustees and school division administration shared their appreciation for the collaborative work that led to this agreement and look forward to continuing to work together with the Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation team to support student success and build strong, respectful relationships.

St. Walburg School – Christmas Lunch

St. Walburg School hosted a festive Christmas Lunch that brought students, staff, and community together. The event was made possible by the many volunteers and parents who helped prepare and serve the meal, including a group of dads from Cenovus Cares. It was especially meaningful to see volunteers spending time with students, sharing conversation and smiles, and helping create a warm, welcoming celebration for everyone.

Report Card Preparation

NWSD administration acknowledged the work that goes into supporting teachers during report card preparation. Appreciation was shared for the guidance and professional learning provided to teachers throughout this process, including the ongoing support offered by Matthew Grupp, Learning and Assessment Coordinator.

Carpenter High School – Christmas Lunch

Carpenter High School celebrated a successful Christmas lunch made possible by the hard work of students, who took the lead in preparing the meal. Students peeled nearly one

hundred pounds of potatoes and helped bring the lunch together, creating an experience that was enjoyed by both staff and students.

Turtleford School – Specialized Support Classroom

School division administration shared positive feedback on the specialized support classroom, noting the highly collaborative process that has gone into getting the program up and running. School staff and school division support staff have worked closely together to identify and implement supports that help students regulate and succeed. The team shared that they feel welcomed and included by the school staff, and that this strong collaboration has had a positive impact on the overall school culture.

Paradise Hill School – Elementary Christmas Concert

Paradise Hill School's elementary Christmas concert was a wonderful celebration of music and community. The production included support from a high school student who worked alongside the younger students, serving as a positive role model and helping them feel confident as they prepared for the performance. Students had a great experience collaborating together, and the result was an engaging, memorable concert that was enjoyed by the entire audience.

Congratulations to Lisa Henry – Female Coach of the Year

Congratulations to Lisa Henry, Principal of Marshall School, on being named the Female Coach of the Year by the North West High School Athletics Association (NWHSA) for the 2024–2025 school year. Lisa can be found on the sidelines at nearly every sport or activity the school offers, consistently giving her time and energy to support students. Her dedication helps ensure students have meaningful opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities, and this recognition reflects the positive impact she continues to have on the school community.

Next meeting: February 12, 2026