

Meeting Date: April 14, 2026

Delegation – Learning & Assessment Team – Melissa Gabrielli and Michael Lee, Learning Coaches

NWSD's Learning Coach team provides in-school support to teachers across the division, with a focus on mentorship, professional learning, and collaboration. The team includes 3.5 learning coaches working directly with staff in schools.

This year, learning coaches are supporting 38 first- and second-year teachers through individualized mentorship and coaching as they transition into their roles.

They also provide job-embedded professional development in areas such as literacy, assessment, inclusion, and responsive instruction, aligned with school and division priorities.

Through this work, the Learning Coach team supports consistent instructional practices and contributes to student learning across NWSD.

Board Advances Communication and Advocacy Planning

The Board of Education is continuing its work to strengthen communication and advocacy through the development of a coordinated Board Communication and Advocacy Plan. The plan outlines how Trustees will engage with school communities, staff, and government partners in a clear and consistent way.

A key component of this work includes strengthening relationships with municipal leaders and MLAs to ensure that the needs of Northwest School Division students, staff, and communities are well understood. The plan also supports Trustees in sharing consistent messaging and highlighting local priorities, including rural education funding, student programming, mental health supports, and facility needs.

This work reflects the Board's commitment to transparency, meaningful engagement, and advocating for strong public education across Northwest Saskatchewan.

Budget Planning for 2026–27

The Division is entering the 2026–27 budget cycle within a context of fiscal constraint and ongoing pressures that are common across rural school divisions. The Board has identified key priorities to guide budget development, including achieving a balanced budget, prioritizing classroom learning environments, aligning staffing with enrolment, and reviewing expenditures across all departments.

These priorities will be considered alongside rising costs and system factors that are largely beyond the Division's control. As planning continues, the Division remains focused on making thoughtful, responsible decisions that support student learning while maintaining long-term financial sustainability. A draft budget will be presented at the May board meeting.

Celebrations – A round up of celebrations from the past month across the school division

CHS Girls' Silver at Hoopla

Congratulations to the Carpenter High School girls' basketball team on earning silver at HOOPLA.

The team demonstrated strong teamwork and commitment throughout the provincial championship, representing their school and community with pride.

High School Seniors celebrated at All-Star Game

Three NWSD student-athletes have been selected to compete in the Basketball Saskatchewan Grade 12 All-Star Games for 1–3A girls and boys basketball.

Congratulations to Noah Foster (Maidstone), Arwyn MacEwen (Lashburn), and Liam Pero (Lashburn), who were chosen from more than 400 nominees across the province.

H. Hardcastle Hosts Drama Festival

H. Hardcastle School recently hosted the Region 8 Drama Festival, welcoming more than 160 students from six different communities.

The event showcased student talent, creativity, and collaboration, while providing a valuable opportunity for schools to come together through the arts.

A special thank you to the community of Edam, whose support and involvement helped make the festival a success.

Gateway Students Featured in LiveARTS broadcast

Gateway School has been selected to participate in a LiveARTS broadcast and program, bringing a unique learning experience to students and classrooms across NWSD.

An artist will be working with students at Gateway School through a visual art workshop focused on Tipi teachings. The workshop will also be broadcast to other schools in the division, allowing more students to take part in this meaningful cultural learning experience.

Lakeview Michif program represented on the provincial stage

Sabrina Macnab and Jacinta Laliberte of Lakeview Elementary recently presented at the Métis Nation Early Learning Conference, sharing their work with educators from across the province.

Their leadership and commitment to early learning and cultural education continue to make a positive impact both within NWSD and beyond. We are incredibly proud of their contributions.

Hands-on Agricultural Learning at Marshall

Marshall School students recently had the opportunity to take part in engaging, hands-on learning experiences. Dr. Holtby, a local veterinarian, visited the school to support learning with real-world connections, including exploring cow organs.

Early elementary students experienced the excitement of hatching chicks, while other students extended their learning through a cow eye dissection.

These experiences brought learning to life and gave students meaningful opportunities to explore science in a hands-on way.

Hillmond Celebrations

Hillmond Central School continues to create meaningful opportunities for students to engage, connect, and showcase their talents.

The school recently hosted a drama production, highlighting the creativity and hard work of students in a small school setting. They also brought some fun competition into the school with a “March Madness” paper airplane contest, where students and staff went head-to-head.

MHCB Successes

Recent data from the Mental Health Capacity Building (MHCB) program is showing positive results at Carpenter High School. The school is experiencing fewer behavioural concerns and is increasingly able to respond proactively to student needs.

MHCB is a partnership between the Ministry of Health and the school division, focused on promoting mental health and well-being in schools. These results reflect the impact of proactive supports and the ongoing commitment to creating a positive and supportive learning environment for students.

New Media Screen for Gateway School

Gateway School has raised \$20,000 to support the purchase of a new media screen for the school.

This achievement reflects the strong support of the school community and will enhance opportunities for student learning, presentations, and school events.

MHS Students at Skills Canada

Maidstone High School students recently participated in the Skills Canada Provincial Competition, competing in Carpentry, Hairstyling, and Welding.

Three students represented the school, taking on challenging projects and earning two bronze medals.

This accomplishment reflects their skill, preparation, and commitment, and highlights the strong opportunities for hands-on learning in skilled trades.

Transition School Experiences

The Board of Education recently toured the Transition schools in Turtleford and Meadow Lake, where they heard directly from students and staff about the impact of these programs.

Students shared how the unique, flexible learning environments support their success in ways that differ from traditional school settings, while staff highlighted the importance of meeting learners where they are at.

The visit reinforced the value of these programs in supporting student engagement, growth, and achievement.

Next meeting date: May 14, 2026.