

October 2026

# Board Highlights



Here's a look at the key discussions, decisions and celebrations from the Northwest School Division Board of Education's October meeting.

## **Delegation – NWTA – Alan Robins & Leighton Chiverton**

Trustees welcomed Alan Robins, President of the North West Teachers' Association, and Leighton Chiverton, Vice President, who provided an update on feedback from NWTA members regarding the school division's Strategic Plan and shared insights into how the school year is progressing in schools across the division. During the discussion, trustees and NWTA representatives recognized many of the same challenges facing schools and classrooms and reaffirmed their commitment to working together on solutions that support teachers, students, and school communities. The Board values the ongoing partnership with the NWTA and looks forward to continued collaboration throughout the school year.

## **Delegation – SSBA – Ronna Pethick and Jill Welke**

The Board welcomed Ronna Pethick, Central Constituency Representative and Jill Welke, Director of Communications and Strategic Services from the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA). Ronna Pethick shared updates on SSBA initiatives, including consultations on modernizing The Education Act, AI position papers, SaskDLC, and provincial collective bargaining. She also noted that Saskatchewan will host the Canadian School Boards Association conference in 2027.

Jill Welke presented on strategic communications and advocacy planning, and will be providing feedback on the Board's communications and advocacy plan.

## Provincial Education Plan Progress Report

Trustees received an update on Northwest School Division's progress toward the goals outlined in the Provincial Education Plan (PEP). The report, prepared by Superintendents of Learning Cheryl Treptow and Dawn Paylor, along with Superintendent of Student Services Jennifer Dorval, highlighted ongoing efforts to improve student outcomes in key priority areas including attendance, graduation rates, readiness to learn, student safety and belonging, and literacy and numeracy achievement.

A significant change this year is the Ministry of Education's requirement for school divisions to establish one-, three-, and five-year targets for each education goal. While divisions have previously reported annual targets, Northwest School Division has now established longer-term targets to support continued improvement and accountability. These targets will be reviewed regularly and refined through future strategic planning processes as the division continues to monitor progress and respond to emerging needs.

## By-Election Called for Meadow Lake Trustee Vacancy

The Board of Education has approved a by-election to fill a vacant trustee position in Subdivision 9/10 (City of Meadow Lake). Nominations will be accepted from October 20 to November 4, 2026. If more than one nomination is received, a by-election will be held on December 9, 2026.

Information on eligibility, nomination requirements, and key dates will be available on the Northwest School Division elections webpage at [NWSD Elections](#). Specific information related to the Subdivision 9/10 by-election will be posted when nominations open.



## SCC Engagement Evening

The Board is looking forward to welcoming School Community Council members to an SCC Engagement Evening on November 26 at the Paradise Hill Community Centre. The event will include a presentation from Dr. Ted Amendt, Interim Executive Director of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, along with opportunities for SCC members to share ideas, highlight successes, connect their work to Strategic Plan priorities, and collaborate on plans for their schools.

The evening is intended to strengthen partnerships and support the important role SCCs play in school communities.

## October Director's Report

Director of Education Jennifer Williamson highlighted a busy start to the school year, with a strong focus on visiting schools, connecting with communities, and strengthening partnerships with Indigenous organizations. The report also outlined priority work supporting student attendance, literacy, transitions, mental health and well-being, along with ongoing efforts to strengthen recruitment, reporting, financial stewardship, technology governance, and accountability across the division.

You can read more about Jennifer's activities through Director's Blog - [\*Around the Division.\*](#)

## Celebrations

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

### Truth & Reconciliation

Schools across the division marked the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation and Orange Shirt Day through community walks, presentations from Elders and Survivors, and classroom learning activities. Highlights included the Meadow Lake community reconciliation event and a joint reconciliation walk between Ernie Studer School and Makwa Sahgaiehcan First Nation School, reflecting the strong relationships being built between school communities.



### CHS Boys' Volleyball

Trustees also celebrated the strong start to the season for the Carpenter High School boys' volleyball team as they prepare to host the 4A Boys Provincial Championships in November.



## TPEC Receives Grant from Innovation Credit Union

At TPEC, community support is helping bring a new outdoor basketball court to life. A \$10,000 grant from Innovation Credit Union, donated basketball nets from Aden Wilson, and donated concrete work from Chris Mazuren will help make the project possible. Students will also be involved in the construction, creating valuable hands-on learning opportunities.

## Hillmond Outdoor Learning Space

At Hillmond Central School, students are enjoying a new outdoor learning space made possible entirely through the generosity of community donors. The space is providing new opportunities for hands-on learning and outdoor education while demonstrating the strong community support that exists for local schools.

## Marshall School Updates

Marshall School also recognized the impact of community partnerships and grant funding. Recent donations and grants have helped the school's breakfast program continue to grow and support student well-being. The school is also pursuing funding opportunities for a future outdoor classroom project that will enhance learning opportunities for students.

## NWSD Golfers Earn Bronze

Two NWSD student-athletes, Parker Laliberte of Carpenter High School and Tori Taves of Turtleford School, helped the Northwest High Schools Athletic Association (NWHSA) golf team earn a bronze medal at the Provincial Golf Championships. Their success reflects the dedication and talent of student-athletes throughout the division.

