

Meeting Date: September 11, 2025

SSBA Delegation – Shawn Davidson, Ronna Pethick, Lori Kidney, Darren McKee, Kimberly Greeyes

The Board welcomed members of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) Executive Committee, who attended both in person and online. Discussion focused on the wide range of services provided by SSBA, including legal and human resource consultation, as well as professional development opportunities on topics impacting school divisions. Conversations also touched on shared challenges and priorities such as teacher recruitment and retention, funding for preventative maintenance and capital projects, and the importance of both online and experiential learning opportunities for students.

Technology Presentation – Todd Forbes, Technology Supervisor

Technology Supervisor Todd Forbes presented an overview of NWSD's IT achievements and priorities. Highlights from the past year included the replacement and upgrade of all firewalls, including the main data center, and the solidification of telephone system backups with cloud calling across all sites. The department partnered with the Curriculum team to host an IT Symposium for staff, completed system audits, and reintroduced a help desk to better manage the record-setting 7,000+ service requests in 2024-25, closing 6,384 tickets.

For the current year, a two-week fixed support plan has been introduced, with technicians visiting 12 sites in week one and 15 sites in week two, giving schools a clear schedule to prepare for on-site support. Cybersecurity remains a strong focus, with NWSD maintaining its position as one of the only insurable school divisions in the province due to robust risk management practices. Staff continue to receive cyber training through Arctic Wolf, which also monitors security incidents.

The Technology Department also works closely with curriculum on the Software and Digital Repository Advisory Team to align software subscriptions with division priorities, standardize tools, and ensure vetted, privacy-compliant options are available. Looking ahead to 2025-26, priorities include a review of the emergency response plan, consideration of the WebEx Cloud plan expiring in July, and upgrades to security cameras, switches, and access points across the division.

Athletics Presentation – Brad Lejeune, President, North West High School Athletics Association (NWHSA)

The Board received an update on the Northwest High School Athletic Association (NWHSA), the largest geographical association in the province, which includes 42 active schools from five school divisions and many Nation schools. The size of the association presents unique challenges, including the upcoming transition of many retiring athletic directors.

Recruitment of officials remains a priority, with the Green Whistle Program supporting new and youth officials by signaling to spectators and teams that these individuals are learning. Several officials' clinics are planned for the fall, both locally and virtually through SHSAA.

The Aboriginal Coach Module, which SHSAA has resolved all coaches must complete by 2027, is also being advanced locally. Danene Kopperud is now certified to provide this training, with two sessions planned for this fall and more to follow.

The NWHSAA website continues to serve as a key resource for information on upcoming championship host sites and dates. [Championships](#)

Meeting Date Changes

The October board meeting date has been moved to Thursday, October 16.

The November meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, November 25.

Enrollments

A report on September enrollment numbers will be finalized September 30.

Celebrations

Celebrating a New CUPE Agreement

Northwest School Division is pleased to share that a new CUPE agreement for support staff has been signed. The agreement, which covers the period from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2027, reflects our continued commitment to collaboration and support for the vital work our support staff do each day in serving students and schools.

Back to School Barbecue at Marshall School

Marshall School kicked off the year with a back to school barbecue hosted by the School Community Council (SCC). The event brought together students, families, and staff, with over 100 people attending to celebrate the start of a new school year.

Hillmond Happenings

Hillmond Central School recently hosted an information night for high school students and parents. Guest presenter Mike Lee, NWSD Learning Coach, shared valuable information about opportunities for students to earn dual credits, explore apprenticeship programs, and better understand graduation requirements.

Hillmond is also excited to be fielding their first senior boys' volleyball team in five years.

Hillmond staff and students are gearing up for their annual Terry Fox Walk/Run, and this year have challenged themselves to complete as many steps as Terry Fox did on his journey. A measurement tracker has been posted in the gym to keep everyone focused on their goal,

September Board Highlights



and if you pop by the school you might see folks madly getting in steps around the building whenever they have a free moment.

Next meeting: October 16, 2025