

Meeting Date: January 12, 2023

Highlight 1: NWSD Graduation Rates Continue to Trend Upward

Key Messages:

The 2021-22 graduation rate for the NWSD was 84%, above the provincial average of 76%. This number is the same as last year but is higher than the division average prior to 2019-20. NWSD graduation rates for all three categories are above the provincial averages. The increase in graduation rates from pre-pandemic levels overall is attributed to the improved FNMI (First Nations, Métis & Inuit) graduation rate. The FNMI graduation rate was close to 70% in 2021-22 which is markedly higher than it was in 2011-12 when it was 47%. There is still a significant gap between non-FNMI and FNMI graduation rates, however, the gap is closing at a consistent rate. NWSD policies regarding instruction and supports have been instrumental in moving this number upward.

Highlight 2: Severe Weather Procedure Amended for Transportation

Key Messages:

The NWSD has changed the practice for inclement weather days. Effective **Monday, January 16, 2023** if a rural bus route is cancelled for inclement weather, it will no longer be a full day cancellation. If a bus is cancelled in the morning, it is expected that it will operate in the afternoon to bring any students home that may have gone to school that day. Buses will run after school unless temperatures remain below the threshold of -40 or -45 with the windchill or existing hazardous road conditions persist.

This change is being made to help support students and families.

Highlight 3: NWSD Celebrations

Ribbon Skirt & Shirt Day

The first National Ribbon Skirt Day was January 4, 2023, and NWSD schools marked the day on Friday, January 6. Several schools hosted Ribbon Skirt/Shirt making workshops, with the support of local Elders and Knowledge Keepers. Many students and staff were dressed in beautiful Ribbon Skirts and Shirts to celebrate the day, and staff shared lessons with students about the cultural significance and importance of Ribbon Skirts and Shirts. Thank you to the many staff and volunteers who put on workshops and shared teachings with our students.

St. Walburg School Refresh

Over the holiday break, St. Walburg School gymnasium got a fresh new look. The facility was repainted from top to bottom and has really brightened the school space.

CHS Alumni Women's Basketball Game

The CHS girls' basketball team hosted a showdown with a team of alumni on December 27, 2022. The game was a fundraiser, part of the team's Pink campaign, with funds going to the Meadow Lake Oncology Unit and the Meadow Lake Hospital. More than 30 alumni played in front of a packed gym. It was a great evening of entertainment, and the players kept things interesting, with the alumni team taking the win by just 3 points.

January Kick-Start to Fitness

The NWSD Live Well team, which focuses on supporting staff wellness, launched the Kick-Start to Fitness campaign on January 9. The two-week challenge encourages staff to log their fitness activities in an online form, with prizes for both individuals and schools/office teams. NWSD staff are ATTACKING this challenge! With 3 days left of the challenge, more than 1200 acts of fitness have been recorded!

Feel Good Friday

Celebrations are an important part of building a strong staff team, and all year long staff have been nominating their peers to celebrate them for everyone to see. So far this year we have had more than 270 staff celebrations and shout outs. Each Friday we share them on NWSD social media, so the whole school community can see and add to the celebration. Thank you to everyone who has submitted a shout out!