

Good News Items

- Board Chair Arlene Hrynyk complimented École Plamondon School on an engaging academic and sports banquet. The evening started with a community barbecue, and featured the principal dressed as Ellen as well as a dance number from the staff.
- Trustees congratulated the division's 2018 high school graduates and highlighted several of the recent graduation celebrations held in our communities.
- Trustee Karen Packard commended Cold Lake Elementary School on its year-end slideshow which featured pictures from throughout the school year. The event also honoured all of the teaching and support staff at the school.
- Associate Superintendent Bill Driedger thanked Duclos School for inviting him to participate in its Father's Day breakfast. The Kindergarten students had the opportunity to share some of what they were learning with participants along with a pancake breakfast.

Buffalo Lake Nomination

Northern Lights will be nominating Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement and its partnership with EcoPlan for an Alberta Historical Resources Award. Part of the project they have been working on has been identifying culturally significant sites. Crossroads Outreach students have been involved with interviewing and recording knowledge keepers and elders about the sites. Those stories are now part of a geocaching trail and each site has a QR code that is linked to the stories the students helped develop.

Honouring Spirit Award

The Board congratulated Shawna Bilodeau from Bonnyville Centralized High School on receiving an honourable mention for this year's Alberta School Boards' Association's Honouring Spirit Award.

Shawna is involved with the school's Street Team and HOPE group, the school's annual play, school and community bands, as well as tutoring other students in science and math. She plans to attend University of British Columbia to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree followed by medical school.

Small School Solutions

Ardmore School Principal Ken Pshyk asked the Board to consider options which could help increase enrollment at Ardmore School. This included the possibility of having a bus transport students from Bonnyville to Ardmore, or possibly subsidizing preschool or out of school care fees for families.

Currently, families in Ardmore and Fort Kent have the option to send their children to either Ardmore School or Bonnyville and there is no charge to parents to transport students to Bonnyville.

The Board will discuss the options at a future Board meeting. Board Chair Arlene Hrynyk also indicated that the Board will continue to advocate for equal and equitable education opportunities for all students in Alberta when meeting with Alberta Education officials.

Facilities Update

The Northern Lights facilities team will be busy this summer with many projects and upgrades being done in the division's schools. This includes upgrades to security systems, lighting, fire alarm systems, plumbing, roofing, parking lots, and boilers. Some work has already been completed and other projects were scheduled to begin once students were no longer in schools.

Next Board Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, August 28 at the Bonnyville Division Office.

For more information on Northern Lights
and our schools, please go to:

www.nlsd.ab.ca