

## Good News Items

- Board Chair Arlene Hrynyk commended Dual Credit Coordinator Mark Centazzo and all of the staff involved in organizing the FNMI Trades Carnival held at the Trades Exposure Centre. The event gave students an opportunity to learn about trades and trades training and take part in interactive activities such as scaffolding, welding, and using power tongs. Hrynyk noted she heard nothing but positive comments from the industry and post-secondary partners who were involved and the students and staff who attended.
- Trustee Debra Lozinski congratulated J.A. Williams High School on another successful Songwriters' Café. The event featured over 20 different acts, many of whom performed original compositions.
- Trustee Lozinski also highlighted the recent Lac La Biche Regional Outreach grad. This year's grad celebrated 18 students, 10 of whom attended Crossroads Outreach at Buffalo Lake Métis Settlement. She commended the Buffalo Lake council for their support of educational opportunities for students.

## JAWS Trip to Thailand

J.A. Williams High School student Danika Wotherpoon and teacher Trish Boon-Anderson provided the Board with an overview of a recent trip students took to Thailand. The trip included a volunteer experience arranged through Volunteers Without Borders.

Wotherspoon explained that the students worked with Grade 6 students at a school, teaching them to grow food that would supplement their lunch program and help them make money to buy school supplies. They taught them how to grow mushrooms in a dark house, how to set up a greenhouse to grow vegetables and how to raise bees. The experience also provided the students from Thailand with knowledge and skills they could apply at home to operate a greenhouse.

## Dual Credit Report

Bill Driedger, Associate Superintendent - System Improvement, provided the Board with an overview of the division's many dual credit opportunities available to students and related initiatives.

Northern Lights currently has partnerships with four post-secondary institutions that allows students to take college or university courses while still in high school and receive high school credits as well. In addition, the division offers students the opportunity to participate in the Registered Apprenticeship Program and work experience, and has mapped 478 Career and Technology Studies (CTS) modules to dual credit programming.

Approximately 240 students had the opportunity to learn welding at the division's Mobile Trades Lab this year as it spent time at Ardmore School, Iron River School, Glendon School and Art Smith Aviation Academy. Next year the lab will be in Lac La Biche.

The division has also invested in offering its CTS teachers strong professional development opportunities. This has allowed CTS teachers to enhance their skills in many areas and given them the ability to offer modules to students that otherwise would not be available.

The number of students participating in service rig training at the Trades Exposure Centre has doubled and continues to grow. Industry interest in the facility and its programming is also growing and the division is hoping to expand opportunities offered to students in the future.

## Track and Field Equipment

The Board agreed to provide the Lakeland Yellowjackets with \$10,000 for track and field equipment for Walsh Field subject to a formal user agreement with the Bonnyville Football Association.

The Yellowjackets have secured a grant and requested funding from other local school jurisdictions as well as the Town and MD of Bonnyville. The equipment will be stored at the field and used for track and field events.

## Lac La Biche Task Force

Board Chair Arlene Hrynyk reported on the division's partnership with Lac La Biche County to develop sports fields. The project is still in the planning stages, with community consultations slated to start once drawings are completed.

## Next Board Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting will take place on Wednesday, June 27 at the Bonnyville Office.

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

[www.nlsd.ab.ca](http://www.nlsd.ab.ca)