

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From April 5, 2016 Meeting

For Immediate Release

MLAs meet with the Board

The Minister of Agriculture and Forestry, Deputy Government House Leader and MLA for Whitecourt-Ste. Anne, The Honorable Oneil Carlier and MLA Todd Loewen for the Grande Prairie-Smokey area met with the Board and Superintendent to talk about transportation, capital planning, Budget 2016 and other priorities and challenges for Northern Gateway Public Schools.

Enrolment

Student Enrolment numbers for the 2015-2016 school year have remained stable.

Alberta Health School Community Wellness Fund

The Wellness Fund enables school communities to infuse wellness into the culture of their schools by focusing on the provincial priority areas of healthy eating, active living, and positive social environments which includes healthy relationships.

Northern Gateway Public Schools is embarking on a wellness journey with all of our school communities to be imaginative and innovative in meeting their unique health and wellness needs.

Northern Gateway is also looking to establish "The Gateway To Wellness District Committee" with representatives to sit on the committee from the following areas: Alberta Health Services, Northern Gateway Trustees, Learning Services Coordinators, Teachers, Support Staff, Parents, County Recreation Coordinators and Administrators.

Dual Credit Update

In the 2015-2016 school year, 71 of the 1360 high school students in Northern Gateway Public Schools participated in a Dual Credit endeavor. At 5.2% of the high school population, it would demonstrate the commitment of Northern Gateway Public Schools to its Learner Pathways model as participation is considered to other jurisdictions, such as the 0.48% involvement of high school students with the Calgary Board of Education.

Students in NGPS have participated in a variety of experiences facilitated through cross-jurisdictional agreements, community partnerships and post-secondary programs. Full program certifications as well as individual transfer courses have been pursued. Distance learning modules, videoconferencing, online environments and on-site theoretical and practical experiences, have afforded NGPS students to study in the areas of Health Care Aide, Administrative Professional, Power Engineering, Welding, Harley Davidson Technician, Psychology, Educational Assistant, Vet Terminology, Child Development Assistant and Driver's Education.

As NGPS continues to investigate further opportunities to support Learner Pathways for students, the approval of the Career and Technology Foundations Program of Study by Alberta Education offers much excitement. As students in grades 5-9 explore areas of study beyond the core curriculum and are encouraged to make connections between these areas of interest and skill development to various occupational areas, the foundation will be set as students make informed decisions about their futures.

Next Meeting

The next regular Board meeting will take place **Tuesday April 19th, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.** at the Division Office in Whitecourt. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 780-778-2800 or 1-800-262-8674.