

# Northern Gateway Public Schools

*opening the gateway to a lifetime of learning*

## Board Highlights

From August 27 meeting

For Immediate Release

### Onoway High School Field Trip

· The Board approved in full the Onoway Jr/Sr High School Girls Volleyball Team and Spanish 10 student's international field trip to Mazatlan, Mexico scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup> to October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

### Meeting with Council of Alberta Beach

· Local School Board trustees will meet with the Council of Alberta Beach on Monday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at their request. The meeting is scheduled for 3:00 p.m. in the Alberta Beach Council Chambers.

### New Teacher Orientation

· Teachers new to teaching, new to the province, and teachers who were hired after the orientation last year were invited to attend the New Teacher Orientation workshop on Tuesday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2013. The workshop was held at Hilltop High School.

### Annual Appreciation Evening

· The Annual Appreciation Evening will take place at the Westward Community Centre on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 with cocktails at 6:00 p.m.

The theme is *Some Enchanted Evening*.

## TRY School Initiative

### *Transformational Relationships to Reclaim Youth Back Into Middle School*

· The TRY School Initiative is partnering with school divisions across the Province of Alberta to reclaim and reengage junior and senior high school youth with confirmed or suspected Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) back into their school communities. Through a grant from Alberta Education as part of the FASD 10 year plan, the TRY School Initiative is working collaboratively with school divisions to employ Success Coaches to develop a sustainable model of practice in serving youth, families and school staff. Outcomes and results of this Initiative will be shared with Alberta Education in August 2014. The current time frame for the Initiative is August 28, 2013 – June 27, 2014.

Alberta Education and Northern Gateway Regional Division No. 10 are discussing the possibility of supporting 1 FTE FASD position and Inclusive Learning Outreach delivers the program through the coach.

#### Outcomes of the Initiative:

- enhancing social, emotional and physical well-being, maximizing school engagement, and increasing learning success for youth affected by FASD who are currently disengaged from school and who participate in the Initiative by transitioning them back into their school communities
- increasing school capacity to work effectively with youth affected by FASD
- ensuring government and community supports are integrated into a collaborative team approach to provide individualized supports to youth affected by FASD.

## Ministerial Orders on Provincial Framework Agreement and Student Learning

· These come into effect and have significant implications for school year calendar, the school day, teacher assignments, working conditions and more.

At the same time, the Ministerial Order on Student Learning comes into effect – and this says, in part,

“...education in Alberta will be shaped by a great emphasis on education than on the school; on the learner than on the system; on competencies than on content; on inquiry, discovery and the application of knowledge than on the dissemination of information; and on technology to support the creation and sharing of knowledge than on technology to support teaching.”

This will be a key year in moving forward on “Inspiring Education” in each of Northern Gateway’s schools and we will focus our individual and collective energy in doing so.

The next regular Board meeting will take place Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 10:00 p.m. at the Division Office in Whitecourt. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, please call (780) 778-2800 or toll free at 1-800-262-8674.

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