

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

February 11, 2020

For Immediate Release

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### ***Hilltop High School prepares for international field trip, 'Behind the Iron Curtain'***

Thirty Hilltop students in Grades 10, 11 and 12 will journey to Europe this Spring for what promises to be an unforgettable, experiential learning excursion. Students will explore the culture, history and landscapes of Germany, Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary on a 10-day, Education First Tours excursion. A motion was made for final approval. Motion carried.

### ***Hillside Jr/Sr High School excited for international service learning tour***

Hillside students are gearing up for an 11-day service learning trip to Ecuador entitled 'Expedition and Service from the Galapagos to the Andes'. The excursion is designed to provide students with a meaningful learning experience during which they will experience the local culture and indigenous customs of Andean communities and work side-by-side with the WE Charity to implement sustainable solutions to challenges locals face, including poverty, access to education and gender inequality. A motion was made for final approval. Motion carried.

### ***Budget 2020***

The Alberta budget will be tabled on February 27, 2020.

### ***Alberta School Boards Insurance Exchange (ASBIE) Meeting***

Astronomical insurance hikes have resulted in 35 Alberta School Boards giving notice of leave to their current provider, the Alberta School Boards Insurance Exchange (ASBIE). Northern Gateway Public Schools is one of the 35 school divisions that have given ASBIE notice of withdrawal. NGPS administration is exploring other insurance options.

### ***Graduation 2020 Schedule***

The 2020 Graduation Schedule is as follows:

Hilltop Jr/Sr High School	June 26 at 2:00 pm
Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School	June 26 at 2:00 pm
Oneway Jr/Sr High School	June 26 at 2:30 pm
Hillside Jr/Sr High School	June 27 at 1:00 pm
Fox Creek School	June 27 at 3:00 pm



***Absenteeism on Bus Cancellation Days is high***

Administration shared absenteeism rates occurring in all NGPS schools on Bus Cancellation days for the week of January 13-16. Discussion ensued regarding the high levels of absenteeism, possible factors that contribute to the high rates, and programming that continues for students who attend school on these days.

***Next Meeting***

The next Board meeting will take place on [March 10, 2020](#) commencing at [1:00 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 1-800-262-8674.

