

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Organizational and Regular Meeting

September 16, 2025

For Immediate Release

IT for Dominica

NGPS Director of Learning, Tammy Davis, joined the Board to share her experiences over the summer with IT for Dominica, a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing education and educational technology on the tiny Caribbean island of Dominica.

In 2017, Hurricane Maria engulfed and nearly destroyed the island. IT for Dominica stepped in to help restore internet/infrastructure and has been returning each year since with educators to teach technologies, and help build skills and capacity. Davis shared highlights from her time on the island, both as teacher and as learner, working with educators on digital citizenship, professional development, planning and leadership while learning about the culture, education, language and challenges of Dominicans.

Career Exposure Summer Camps

NGPS Director of Learning, Beth Jager, presented to the Board, sharing successes from the Division's Career Exposure Summer Camps. Over 300 students in Grades 9 through 12, from Onoway to Valleyview, signed up for the popular camps, earning high school credits this summer, for free, while exploring career paths and interests. Jager shared that the experience goes beyond credits, offering students a valuable opportunity to gain hands-on experience, to see if career paths are right for them, to get a head start on their careers, to build skills and resumes, and to generate motivation and excitement in learning.

Career Exposure Summer Camps are made possible by the efforts and investment of local and provincial partners, instructors, and educators who are passionate about supporting learners in our communities. Special thanks to RBC Future Launch, Pembina Pipeline, Town of Whitecourt, Brogan Safety Supplies, Schaffer's Custom Welding, Woodlands County, and Careers: Next Generation.

16 classes were offered this summer including new classes in Forestry, Creative Writing, Dance, and Wildlife studies, joining many returning favourites such as

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Welding, Forensic Science, Mechanics, Photography. Early Childhood Care and Aesthetics and Hairstyling.

Valleyview New School

The official Valleyview K-12 replacement school sign has arrived at the NGPS Division Office and will be installed on the new school build site this week. Community members can follow our new school journey online via our [Construction Diary](#).

Teacher/Labour Update

The Provincial Government and the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) have been in negotiations for several months. Last week, the ATA provided formal notice to begin labour action on Monday, October 6, 2025, if a settlement is not reached before that date. The notice given by the ATA is a general strike impacting all Alberta school divisions.

Job action may take different forms, including a full strike. If a full strike does occur:

- Students do not attend school and buses do not run
- Childcare programs in schools can continue to operate
- Junior Kindergarten programs continue to operate
- Joint use (school user groups such as a club that uses a school gym) continues to operate

NGPS remains hopeful that the Provincial Government and the ATA can reach a negotiated settlement soon. We are committed to keeping families and staff informed and will share updates through our website and social media as more information becomes available.

Questions? Email learn@ngps.ca or call the Division Office at 780-778-2800.

Administrative Procedures

The following Administrative Procedures have been added/updated in accordance with provincial mandate:

- [Administrative Procedure 262](#), Extracurricular Athletics
- [Administrative Procedure 262 Form 262A](#), Eligibility Confirmation
- [Administrative Procedure 295](#), School Library Materials, Selection, Access, and Review



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Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for **October 7, 2025, at the Division Office in Whitecourt**, commencing at **1:00 p.m.** Members of the public are invited to attend.

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