

Good News Items

- Board Chair Arlene Hrynyk and Associate Superintendent Terry Moghrabi attended APPLE Schools's 10th anniversary celebration. In keeping with the organization's mandate, participants were encouraged to be active and learn about wellness during the event. Congratulations APPLE Schools and thank you for all the work you do in our schools!
- Board Chair Hrynyk also attended a dinner hosted by APEGA with other local stakeholders. Participants received an update on work APEGA has been doing in the province and the local area.
- Trustee Debra Lozinski commended J.A. Williams High School on its recent Songwriters' Café which featured students from its songwriting class performing cover songs as well as original compositions.
- Trustee Lozinski also complimented Vera M. Welsh Elementary School on its recent Books for Families celebration. Several families were presented with 100 books thanks to a partnership with the Lac La Biche Rotary Club.

JAWS Hockey Academy

Conal Donovan, Principal of J.A. Williams High School, teacher William Cox and students Jade Thom and Xander Ray presented the Board with an overview of the JAWS Hockey Canada Skills Academy.

As part of the school's focus on increasing student engagement and student achievement, JAWS introduced the hockey academy this year to provide students with a way to develop their hockey skills, earn credits, and encourage them to focus on attendance and achievement in their other classes.

The academy focuses on individual skill development and therefore is open to all students, even those who have never been on skates before, but would like to try the sport. This year's classes have had a mix of students with no previous hockey experience, some experience, and advanced

hockey players. Almost 60 students took part in the program this year, including seven who had not played hockey before.

In addition to on-ice skills and conditioning, students also take classes in sports performance and nutrition and participate in off-ice training like spin classes, yoga, and dance. There is also a volunteer component that sees students contributing positively to their school and community.

Policy Updates

The Board's policy committee presented revisions to Policy 24 - The Lord's Prayer and Policy 25 - Religious Instruction for the Board to review. Both policies were approved in principle and will be sent out to stakeholders for feedback before coming back to the Board for final approval or further revision.

Recognition Committee

The Board's Recognition Committee presented a proposal for changes to the recognition activities it does on an annual basis throughout the school year. The changes would be implemented during the 2018-2019 school year and include a Welcome Back celebration at the start of the school year, and changes to the annual Staff Recognition event.

Next Board Meeting

The next Board Meeting of the Northern Lights Board of Trustees will take place on Wednesday, February 28 at the NLPS Division Office in Bonnyville. The public portion of the meeting will start at 3:30 p.m.

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