

## Good News Items

- Board Chair Arlene Hrynyk thanked the Board's Recognition Committee for a well organized Staff Recognition Event. The event had record attendance and the Board received complimentary feedback from staff who attended.
- Board Chair Hrynyk also commended the organizers of the division's Student Voice - Your Voice Matters event held in Lac La Biche. The event brought together students in grades 5 to 12 from schools throughout the division to learn and share how they can use their voice to advocate for themselves, their schools and communities. The students in attendance have already started acting on what they learned at the event, using their voices to affect change in their schools.
- Trustee Maurice Richard congratulated Andrew Przybyski from J.A. Williams High School on receiving the Most Sportsmanlike Coach Award from the Alberta Schools Athletic Association.
- The Board also congratulated Dianne Ludwig from Aurora Middle School on receiving an Esquao Award from the Institute for Advancement of Aboriginal Women for her contributions to education.

## Mental Health Capacity Building

The Board acknowledged Alberta Health's recent commitment to expand the Mental Health Capacity Building (MHCB) in Schools Initiative. Northern Lights has been operating a MHCB program for several years that has been beneficial for NLPS students. The Board is hopeful that it will be able to access some of the additional funds that have been announced to expand its program.

## Classroom Improvement Fund

The Board discussed the recent announcement by Alberta Education that the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF) would be continued for a second year. Funding from the CIF was distributed to school divisions last year as part of the agreement between the government and Alberta Teachers' Association.

Northern Lights will receive \$736,000 through the CIF for the 2018-2019 school year. The funding can be used to hire teachers and support staff. Staffing for positions related to mental health, speech language pathologists, occupational therapists and related occupations was specifically mentioned in this year's criteria. NLPS administration is currently developing a plan for the funding that it will submit to Alberta Education for approval.

## Policies

The Board approved amendments to Policy 8 - Committees of the Board. The Board also gave approval in principle to Policy 27 - Recognition of Staff. That policy will now be sent out for feedback to relevant stakeholders.

## Beaver Lake Partnership

The Board supported an opportunity to partner with Beaver Lake Cree Nation in hosting a traditional powwow at the end of September. Students from the Lac La Biche Region will be invited to participate.

## Next Board Meeting

The next Regular Board Meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 30 in Bonnyville.

For more information on Northern Lights  
and our schools, please go to:

[www.nlsd.ab.ca](http://www.nlsd.ab.ca)

