

North East School Division – Board Celebrations

Sharing celebrations during school board meetings is a multifaceted approach that reinforces the NESD's values, vision, mission, and strategic imperatives. It nurtures a positive, inclusive, and engaged school community that values growth, achievement, and wellbeing.



Celebrations across the North East School Division



March 2024

Celebrating Inclusion

Melfort & Unit Comprehensive Collegiate has been nominated for a 2024 Inclusive Education Award! These awards celebrate Saskatchewan educators, schools, and supports who work to further inclusive education for students with intellectual disabilities.



February 14, 2024

Mr. Painchaud
Melfort and Unit Comprehensive Collegiate
801 Assiniboia Street
Melfort, SK S0E 1A0
mucc@nesd.ca

Dear Mr. Painchaud,

It gives us great pleasure to let you know that Melfort and Unit Comprehensive Collegiate has been nominated for the School of the Year Award, as a part of Inclusion Saskatchewan's 2024 Inclusive Education Awards. This annual award is presented in partnership with Inclusive Education Canada and recognizes the outstanding contributions of a Saskatchewan school that supports students with intellectual disabilities through their own application of the core values of inclusive education by demonstrating innovation and student-centered approaches while supporting the inclusion of all students within their classroom. On behalf of Inclusion Saskatchewan, we thank you for your team's contributions and commitment to inclusive education in the province.

In the coming weeks, members of our team will be in touch with you to arrange for an interview and gather more information about how your staff and students support inclusive education throughout your school. Our Inclusive Education Committee will be reviewing all nominations and selecting a recipient to be awarded at our annual banquet on June 1st in Saskatoon. Regardless of the results of this selection process, we congratulate you on your school's nomination and hope that you will share this with your community to celebrate with you. Your team's hard work and dedication to inclusion has not gone unnoticed!

Sincerely,

Bluesette Campbell
President, Inclusion Saskatchewan

Kim Hague
Executive Director, Inclusion Saskatchewan

Connections

Carrot River Fundraising Committee has focused on raising significant funds for the new Carrot River Valley School playground. To date, they have raised over 500 000.00 and finished the purchase of a play structure. Please see the images of the initial installation of equipment with site work pending.



Celebrations across the North East School Division



April 2024

Celebrating Connections

We are pleased to share that the Melfort HUB has resumed its operations and is now fully active. This initiative had been suspended since COVID. The North East School Division (NESD) continues to play a pivotal role in both the Nipawin and Melfort HUBs at both organizational and operational levels.

The HUB represents a proactive and person-centered approach aimed at supporting students and families within our communities. Since its inception in 2011, HUB tables across Saskatchewan have convened on a regular schedule, to address the needs of citizens. These tables consist of professionals from various community agencies, police services, and government ministries who collaborate to discuss specific situations where elevated risk is identified.

Each meeting at the HUB table involves representatives bringing forward information about an "at-risk" individual or family through an extensive information sharing filtering process. Subsequently, the team collaboratively establishes a plan to intervene promptly and connect the individual or family to the necessary services. It is essential to understand that no single agency or service provider possesses all the requisite information, resources, or expertise to effectively address the complex social issues confronting many individuals and families. This collaborative approach exemplifies the critical role that HUB tables play in bridging these gaps.

We anticipate that the reactivation of the Melfort HUB will further enhance our interagency collaboration and enable us to continue supporting students and families in a meaningful and positive manner. We remain committed to fostering this collaborative spirit and look forward to the continued success of the HUB in serving our community.

Trevor Norum, Coordinator of Integrated School Services

Celebrating Innovation

Tisdale Family Resource Center Progress – NESD Accountable Partner Leadership

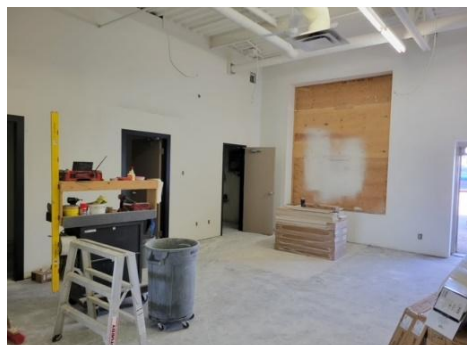
The Tisdale and Area Early Years Family Resource Centre (TAEYFRC) will be opening their newly renovated building at 903-100th Ave in Tisdale by the beginning of June. Programming has already begun in the basement of the United Church as the TAEYFRC has partnered with the Laugh and Learning Through Play CIF grant initiated by the Tisdale Early Years Partnership Committee.

The NESD has hired a half-time FRC Program Designer at the beginning of February and a full time FRC Coordinator who started at the end of February. The NESD is currently hiring a full time FRC Facilitator to assist the coordinator with programming. The Program Designer position is working closely with the Reanne Usselman, Coordinator of Learning, with strategic planning, data collection and analysis, and establishing networks and partnerships to enhance the programming at the centre.

Programming is aligned with the four pillars of the Saskatchewan EYFRCs: 1) Early Learning; 2) Family Wellness and Support; 3) Parent Education; 4) Information and Referrals. Some of our programs have included Babies & Me, Little Chefs, sensory play, literacy, and musical events. Plus, there have been professional presentations on topics such as baby dental health, co-regulation, and parenting children with big emotions. The staff is currently working with other agencies to provide families with child development and family wellness supports and information. The goal is to have some of these partners provide services within the centre.

The TAEYFRC Management Committee along with the NESD have been meeting regularly to ensure planning and implementation is aligning to the Ministry EYFRC expectations.

*Follow the Tisdale and Area Early Years Family Resource Centre on Facebook, Instagram and TikTok for upcoming events and information.



Celebrating Empowerment

Ministry of Education Teacher Innovation and Support Fund Update

The Teacher Innovation and Support Fund supports teacher-led projects that help provide better student and teacher experiences in today's classrooms. This fund's goal is to have local, innovative ideas brought forward to continue enhancing our classrooms in areas like student achievement, student and teacher wellness, and school safety. Because this is once and done funding, applications include programming or practices that do not require sustained funding.

NESD teachers have submitted 12 projects to date. Three of the projects, noted below have been approved by the Ministry. (see also [Provincial Approval List](#))

Applications	Status
K-12 Seating options designed to support self regulation – PPCS – \$36 720.00	NESD approved, submitted to Ministry – March 13, 2024, Ministry Approved April 17, 2024
PAA Tools – PPCS – \$2500.00	NESD approved, submitted to Ministry – March 13, 2024, Ministry Approved April 17, 2024
Athletics & Activity Equipment – MUCC – \$10 612.71	NESD approved, submitted to Ministry – March 26, 2024, Ministry Approved April 17, 2024

Celebrations across the North East School Division



May 2024

Celebrating Innovation

In partnership with Suncrest College, NESD students will be eligible to enroll in a new dual credit opportunity for the 2024-25 school year. NESD academic advisors are currently supporting student to access this course.



Box 2320, 400 Burns Ave. E
Melfort, SK S0E 1A0
suncrestcollege.ca

Dual Credit Early Childhood Education (ECE) Certificate of Achievement: Jan-June 2025

Students interested in obtaining the minimum credentials for seeking employment in a licensed daycare can take the 3 classes necessary as part of their high school programming with Suncrest College. This would be available to a maximum of 15 NESD students at no cost for the Polytechnic Courses.

How will the dual credit option work?

Suncrest College will offer the ECE Certificate of Achievement to NESD students in a synchronous cohort with a regional/online instructor in a proctored classroom at each of the three local Suncrest College campuses (Melfort, Nipawin, and Tisdale) from 1:30-3:30 pm commencing January 30th, 2025, and concluding June 26th, 2025.

Interested NESD students will be registered through Suncrest College to the Sask Polytechnic program and will be taught the three classes necessary for their letter of achievement by college staff as a physical cohort with proctored support. NESD students will work in and submit their assignments to their Suncrest Instructor using the Brightspace Learning Management System (LMS). There will be no tuition cost to students for the Sask. Polytechnic class.

NESD/local high schools will register their students through the Ministry of Education for the three locally developed/dual credit 30 level elective classes as part of their regular registration.

Suncrest College will submit all ECE course marks to Sask Polytechnic for credit and will work with NESD students to ensure that they complete the necessary paperwork to be eligible to receive their Certificate of Achievement in ECE.

Courses:

Sask Polytechnic Course
ECE 106 – Dynamics of Play 1
ECE 142 – Health, Safety and Nutrition
HUMD 183 – Child Guidance 1

Ministry of Education Course and Code	
Psychology 30 (DC)	9554
Health, Safety and Nutrition (DC) 30L	9504
Child Guidance 1 (DC) 30L	9511

Celebrating Empowerment

2024 Mosaic School Nutrition Challenge Winner - Porcupine Plain Comprehensive School

Project Highlights:

- Implement universal snack programs
- Purchase commercial cooler
- Students lead and implement nutrition programs

“The Mosaic School Nutrition Challenge has supported student nutrition across Saskatchewan for 18 years, making it one of our longest partnerships,” says Marnel Jones, Mosaic’s Director of Government and Public Affairs – Canada. “Through the Challenge, students learn first-hand to grow food, the importance of nutrition, and have the opportunity to create healthy environments in their schools. Congratulations to this year’s ten winning schools.”

The winning projects have goals including implementing or extending nutrition programs, promoting cooking and gardening, enhancing facilities, increasing educational opportunities, and supporting projects with cultural components. These will be supported by the grants.

For the total of \$150,000 in prizes provided by Mosaic, schools from across the province submitted their projects to compete. Schools receiving grants this year are governed by the Horizon, Ile-a-la Crosse, North East, Prairie Spirit, Prairie Valley, Regina Catholic, Regina Public, Saskatchewan Rivers, and Saskatoon Public school boards and the Meadow Lake Tribal Council.

This program began in 2006 to encourage grassroots initiatives to help improve student nutrition.

“We see amazing ideas and initiatives continue to come forward in this 18th year of the Mosaic Challenge,” said Jaimie Smith-Windsor, president of the SSBA. “We are grateful for Mosaic’s ongoing commitment.”

Celebrations across the North East School Division



June 2024

Celebrating Connections

We are delighted to share the remarkable success of our community volunteer initiative in Tisdale and Melfort. This initiative, which aims to maintain regular school schedules and prevent a compressed day for our students, has seen tremendous support from our local communities.

In Tisdale, we have engaged 26 volunteers, and in Melfort, 54 volunteers have come forward. These volunteers collectively fill 29 supervision spots daily during noon hour, ensuring our students have a safe and structured environment.

A significant portion of this success can be attributed to the unwavering support of the six School Community Councils in both communities. These councils have been instrumental in mobilizing their local networks and friendships, ensuring all volunteer spots are consistently filled. Their commitment to shoulder-tapping and rallying community members has been invaluable.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the volunteers and the School Community Councils for their continued dedication and support. This collaborative effort is a testament to the strength and unity of our community, ensuring the best possible educational experience for our students.

Thank you for your ongoing support and commitment to our schools.

Celebrating Connections

Our CUPE Local 4875 has contributed \$5000.00 to provide nutrition baskets to families in the north east. With this contribution NESD Outreach Workers were able to purchase nutritional food from local grocery stores and deliver over 100 food baskets across the north east to support families.

Celebrating Connections

The exceptional contributions of Prairie North Co-op in supporting school nutrition programs in Melfort is a highlight for the NESD. Prairie North Co-op's commitment to our Melfort schools goes far beyond mere supply; their dedication and time investment have made a significant impact on the health and well-being of our students.

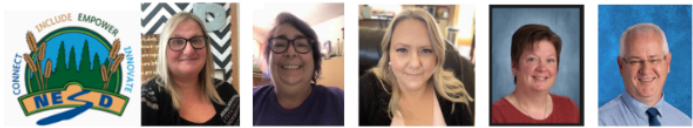
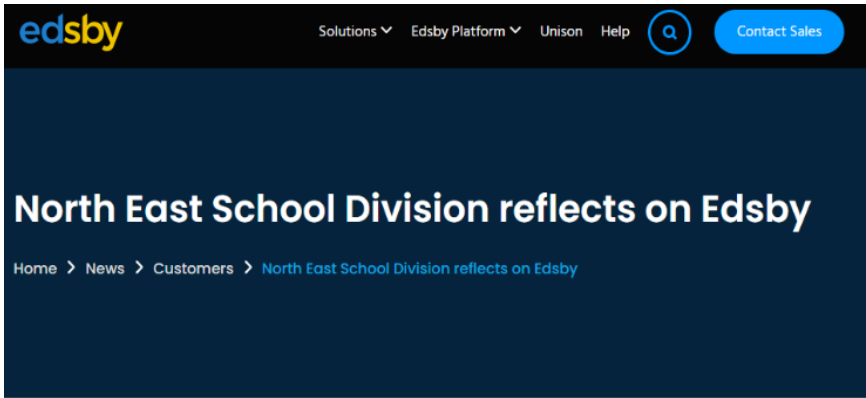
Prairie North Co-op not only supplies the necessary ingredients but also takes the initiative to do a significant amount of the work necessary to prepare school snacks. This invaluable

support enables our schools to offer nutritious options that would otherwise be unattainable. Their efforts ensure that our students have access to healthy snacks, fostering better learning environments and promoting overall well-being.

Thank you, Prairie North Co-op, for your unwavering support and for going above and beyond to ensure our students have access to nutritious snacks.

Celebrating Innovation

Edsby has highlighted the work of NESD teachers as they progress the NESD strategic goal, to advance effective student assessment practices,
<https://www.edsby.com/north-east-school-division/customers/>



District explored how its teachers are using Edsby to promote student learning

The North East School Division (NESD) is a public school district north of Regina, in the Canadian province of Saskatchewan. The district manages 21



Celebrations across the North East School Division



September 2024

Celebrating Connections

NESD schools are dedicated to supporting the Terry Fox Foundation by raising funds each year through activities and sponsorships involving students, SCCs, and staff. We are thrilled to announce that last spring, two of our schools were recognized as part of the Top 50 Fundraisers in Saskatchewan.



Celebrating Empowerment

The 2024-25 Provincial Youth Council provides advice and insights on education policies, curriculum, programs or priorities in response to requests made by the Minister of Education, Ministry of Education staff and sector partners. We are pleased to congratulate Elissa Holinaty, a student from Porcupine Plain Comprehensive School on her appointment to the 2024-25 Youth Council.

“The Government of Saskatchewan knows our youth play a fundamental role in building a strong province. Being a part of the provincial Youth Council provides students an opportunity to bring their individual voice, creativity and life experiences directly to the table. Sharing their perspectives on education allows our province to continue to be a place where we celebrate our differences and learn from each other to ensure our greatest potential for the future.” - Honourable Jeremy Cockrill, Minister of Education

Celebrations across the North East School Division



October 2024

Celebration Connection



Hudson Bay Community School (BCS) received an email from Tony Stevenson - a Residential School Survivor, who spoke to local students on September 30 several years ago. He had followed the progress and work of HBCS through Elder Corinne Severight. He sent the following expert to CBC news. In a conversation he shared with our School Principal Louise Gel, lots of people now acknowledge September 30 as a day for Truth and Reconciliation however what makes our school different is that we honor the truth and continued Education all year long.

Letter from Tony Stevenson - Residential School Survivor

"There is a school in Hudson Bay Saskatchewan that is by far, the greatest example of what real truth and reconciliation means. The principal, Ms. Louise Gel, is a true definition of an educator. Her determination to make a positive difference for her student's future and the community's educational core values is a template that should be followed by the provinces, or better yet, the country.

Of course, it takes several people to carry that mindset with compassion to make this a reality. The students embraced the residential school history presented to them, and their open minds created the initiative to learn more. The fellow teachers and staff of the school are also responsible for harbouring a very safe, positive learning environment. Many community members are also very open-minded and empathetic towards the teachings of the residential school history. They no doubt, deserve some serious recognition for the work and efforts they have also put into the effort.

Last, but not least, I'd like to recognize my fellow First Nation family member from the Cote First Nation, Ms. Corrine Severight. The school, members of the community, and the local museum have embraced her endless knowledge and first-hand experience to carry on the act of reconciliation. The education and the lived experience that she has attained through her life experiences have allowed her to be one of the top educators to all the students and members of the community.

Celebrating Empowerment

A volunteer group of 14 grade 9-12 students from across the school division began their journey as student school communicators. This initiative is part of the broader NESD goal to empower students to take an active role in highlighting and celebrating school events and initiatives. A sample of their early work is show-cased below. In addition, their work will soon be showcased through our school websites and social media platforms, providing a student-led voice that amplifies the amazing work happening within our schools.

[View September Featured Work](#)

Celebrations across the North East School Division



November 2024

Celebration Connection

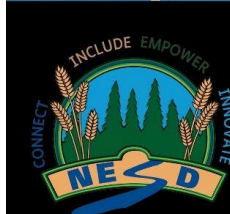
We're so proud of our MUCC and TMSS football teams for making it to the Provincial final. What an incredible achievement to have the championship fought by two of our schools! 🏈👏

<https://www.sasktoday.ca/north/humboldt-journal/community-abuzz-over-tisdale-melfort-9-man-matchup-9772684>



[9-man-matchup-9772684](https://www.sasktoday.ca/north/humboldt-journal/community-abuzz-over-tisdale-melfort-9-man-matchup-9772684)

Proud of our strong
representation from the North
East at the Provincial Girls
Volleyball Championship!



Congratulations to the three
NESD teams that triumphed
to vie for the provincial title!
LP Miller, MUCC, TMSS

Celebrating Empowerment

Building Thinking Classrooms

The NESD is excited to bring Building Thinking Classroom to all Math Leads and other lead teachers. Building Thinking Classroom is derived from Peter Liljedahl's research and was shared with us by his colleague, Kyle Webb. Building Thinking Classroom engages students with curiosity and deeper thinking by actively engaging students in tasks at vertical whiteboards. Teachers are gathering on Dec 5th for their second day.

Stay tuned for more Building Thinking Classroom updates.

Curious about Thinking Classrooms in the NESD? Be sure to check out our [NE Voices Podcast](#)

- Episodes 4-6 - Conversation with Kyle Webb - Educational Consultant with Building Thinking Classrooms

- Episodes 1-3 - Conversation with Dan Mielke - NESD Admin and Teacher - Sharing His Journey into Thinking Classrooms in Science 7 and 8.



Celebrations across the North East School Division



January 2025

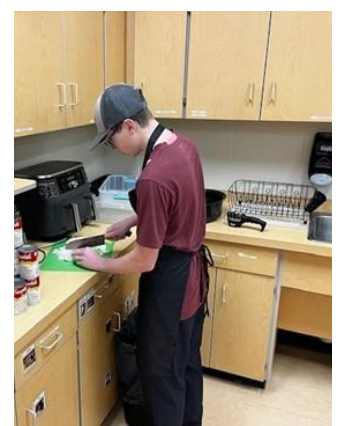
Celebration Connection and Empowerment

Porcupine Plain Grade 10 Students Showcase PAA Skills in a Memorable Christmas Dinner Event

We are thrilled to celebrate an outstanding accomplishment by a group of Grade 10 students who demonstrated their exceptional skills and dedication through the Practical and Applied Arts (PAA) program. These young chefs showcased everything they've learned by preparing and serving a full Christmas dinner to over 250 guests.

This remarkable event exemplifies **connection**: The students brought together over 250 people to share a festive meal. Their efforts reflect the power of connection in fostering a sense of belonging and togetherness. **Empower**: Through this hands-on learning experience, the students applied their knowledge and skills with confidence, demonstrating the transformative impact of empowering learners to take on meaningful challenges.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the students and their teachers for bringing this festive event to life, and we are proud to recognize them for making the holiday season brighter and demonstrating excellence in PAA while living out the NESD values!



Celebrating Innovation

Carrot River Valley School Recognized in Architecture Publication

We are proud to celebrate Carrot River Valley School being featured in a renowned Architecture-Design-Construction publication! This recognition highlights the innovative design and collaboration that went into creating a space that inspires learning and community connection. Congratulations to everyone involved!



Celebrations across the North East School Division



February 2025

Celebrating Connections - A Milestone for TMSS & Cumberland House Basketball

At the heart of the North East School Division is our commitment to connection—building relationships that strengthen our schools and communities. Last week, that commitment was on full display as Coach Keith and his basketball team made a historic trip to Cumberland House for a NESSAC game.

Upon arrival, they were warmly welcomed by Aaron Fosseneuve, who expressed heartfelt gratitude. Their visit marked a significant moment—the first time a basketball team had traveled to Cumberland House for a home game. This simple yet powerful act of showing up reinforced the importance of inclusion, recognition, and respect for all schools in NESSAC (North East Sask School Athletic Conference), no matter the distance.

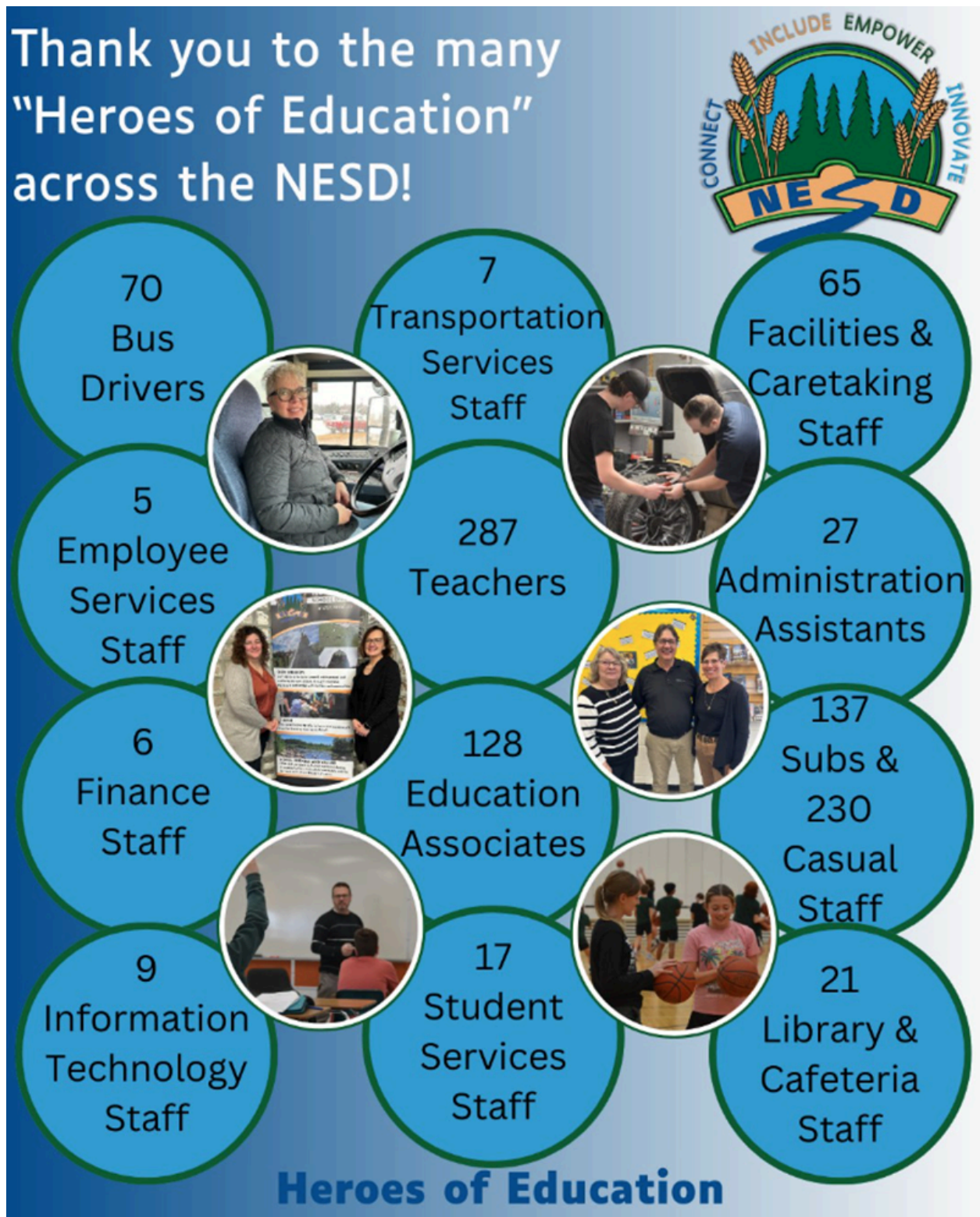
Moments like these remind us that connection is more than just a value—it's an action. By taking the time to engage, support, and celebrate one another, we strengthen the bonds that unite us.

A special thank you to Coach Keith and the team for leading by example, and to everyone in Cumberland House for their warm hospitality.



Celebrating and Appreciating NESD Staff

During the week of February 10th–14th, the NESD proudly celebrated Staff Appreciation Week, recognizing our staff as the true *Heroes of Education*. Whether they are directly supporting students or supporting the people who do, their dedication, passion, and commitment make a lasting impact in our schools and communities. To honor these everyday heroes, we shared the following posts on social media, Edsby, and our website.






**THANK YOU
TEACHERS
&
EDUCATION
ASSOCIATES
&
SUBSTITUTES
&
STUDENT SERVICES**

Your work with students each day makes you Heroes of Education. Thank you for your commitment to helping students learn. Whether it is in the classroom, the hallway, the field, court or stage, your dedication to students across the NESD is appreciated more than you are ever told. Thank you!

Last year, teachers and other division staff logged over 17,510 extracurricular hours, providing rich learning experiences beyond the classroom.





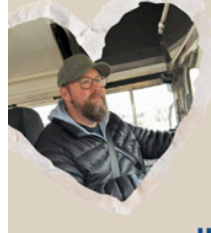
HEROES OF EDUCATION




**THANK YOU
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICES
&
BUS DRIVERS**

For many students, the day begins with a bus ride to school. Thanks to Transportation Services for their work in arranging efficient bus routes and ensuring the buses are maintained and ready to roll.

Thanks to the many Bus Drivers who endure early mornings and sometimes extreme weather to get students to school.





HEROES OF EDUCATION




**THANK YOU
FACILITIES
DEPARTMENT
&
LIBRARY STAFF
&
CAFETERIA STAFF**

The physical environment plays an important role in learning, and we thank the Facilities Department for keeping our school buildings in good working order, and our Caretaking Staff for keeping our schools clean. Thank you to the Library Staff, who provide students with a safe, quiet learning space outside the classroom, and quick access to necessary resources for learning. And, for those schools with a cafeteria, thanks to the Cafeteria Staff for providing nutritious meals and an inviting place for students to gather during their lunch break.





HEROES OF EDUCATION




**THANK YOU
INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY,
FINANCE, PAYROLL,
&
ADMINISTRATIVE
ASSISTANTS**

Thank you to the Information Technology Department that keeps us digitally connected to the rest of the world. Your work helps to significantly expand classroom walls.

We are also grateful to the Finance Department and Payroll for all they do behind the scenes to keep salaries and bills paid across the division.

Finally, thanks to all the Administrative Assistants who work so hard to keep everyone organized. You do more for your staff than most people realize.





HEROES OF EDUCATION

Celebrations across the North East School Division



March 2025

Celebrating Connections – NESSAC (North East Sask Schools Athletic Conference)

The NESD has had an outstanding 2024–25 school year thus far, filled with remarkable sports achievements. In a historic 9-Aside Provincial Football final, Melfort and Tisdale met for the first time, with Melfort claiming gold and Tisdale earning silver. Volleyball was highly competitive, as Melfort's 4A boys' and 4A girls' teams both won regionals, with the girls later securing a silver medal at provincials. Other provincial qualifiers included nearly 40 cross-country athletes, the Melfort boys' curling team, and golfers from Nipawin, Melfort, and Hudson Bay. Several communities hosted key events, including 2A girls' volleyball conferences in Naicam, 3A girls' volleyball conferences and regionals in Carrot River, 4A girls' and boys' volleyball regionals in Melfort, and 1A boys' basketball regionals in Porcupine Plain. Wrestling reached a historic milestone as Carrot River hosted the first-ever regional event in the NESD, where one girl won her weight category, and the Carrot River boys earned the 3A team award. Carrot River sent five wrestlers to provincials, bringing home two silver medals, while Nipawin also sent a competitor.

Congratulations to all athletes, coaches, and communities for their dedication and success!



Celebrating Connection – Student Led Conferences at Central Park Elementary, Nipawin

Prior to SLCs, teachers invited families to sign up to celebrate and reflect on their students' learning journeys. Classrooms from Pre-K to Grade 3 were set up in a variety of stations where students, parents and even siblings joined in different learning tasks which included learning through play and creating, sorting and counting, story sequencing, using success criteria to highlight math skills, sharing examples of growth in writing and other areas of literacy, as well as reflecting on learning.

Using Learning Story with Families.... Grade 2 students led their families through a spring writing reflection, which included viewing their writing and reflecting on the success criteria with their parents. They then used their Edsby QR code to share their writing along with a reflection focused on what went well and what they are working on.

Honoring Family Learning....Grade 1 students in Miss Hildebrand's class have been watching eggs hatch and helping little chicks to grow, while learning about animal life cycles. The Yager family have been sharing about their family homestead and farm at the classroom and the children are excited to return the chicks they are helping to raise to their farm. More learning ahead!

[VIDEO](#)

Celebrations across the North East School Division



April 2025

Celebrating Connections

Porcupine Plain 2025 1A Sr. Boys Basketball Hoopla Gold



After two consecutive silver finishes, the PPCS Senior Boys Basketball team struck gold, winning the SHSAA 1A Boys Provincial Championship in a thrilling showdown against the Preeceville Panthers. With the crowd roaring and chants of “Go Bears Go!” echoing through the gym, the boys gave it their all.

Congratulations to the team and coaches Bloski and Morin on a well-earned victory and hats off to Preeceville for a hard-fought final.

Celebrating Years of Service and Dedication

On March 28, 2025, the North East School Division hosted its annual Staff Appreciation Banquet, bringing together colleagues from across the division to celebrate long service milestones and honor retirees. The evening was filled with connection, laughter, and gratitude, as we recognized team members for 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, and even 40 years of dedicated service.

A special congratulations and heartfelt thanks to our retirees whose careers have left lasting impacts in our schools and communities.

From cocktails to the Corrie J's interactive game show, the night was a memorable celebration of the people who make NESD such a meaningful place to work and learn.



Retirees: Top (left to right): Norma Meier; June Hill; Debbie Dufault
Front (left to right): Angela Evans and Brian Ofukany

Thank you to everyone who joined us—it was an evening to remember!

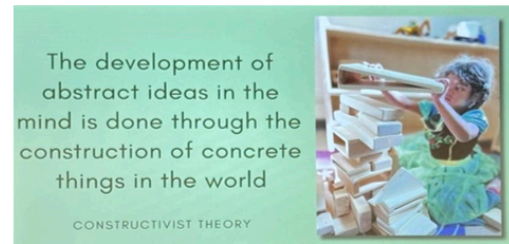
Retirees and service recipients – [Banquet list](#)

Celebrations across the North East School Division



May 2025

Celebrating Innovation – North East Early Years Summit



The North East School Division is pleased to celebrate the success of the Early Years Workshop held on May 1st in partnership with the Tisdale Family Resource Centre. This inspiring day of professional learning featured Dr. Sarah Aiono, a leading voice in early childhood education, who delivered powerful sessions on the critical role of play in children's development. Her engaging presentations offered valuable insights for parents, caregivers, and educators alike.

The event brought together community members and professionals from across the region, reinforcing the importance of collaborative efforts to support our youngest learners. Special thanks to Reanne Usselman, the organizer and driving force behind this important endeavor. Her leadership and commitment were instrumental in making the day possible.

Thank you goes out to the many individuals and sponsors who contributed to the day's success:

- Prairie Collaborations Homemade Goods and Furniture
- Northern Lights Gallery
- Sauder's Home Hardware
- Local authors: Laura Lawrence, Patty Torrance, and Desirea Binning
- Dr. Sarah Aiono, for her generous contributions and time
- O' The Taste Catering, for providing a delicious lunch

Together, we created a meaningful and memorable day that will leave a lasting impact on early years learning in our division.

Celebrating Empowerment – 2025 School Community council Workshop, Navigating Leadership: Supporting Families and Schools

On May 1st, 32 dedicated School Community Council members from 11 different NESD schools came together for a meaningful evening of learning and collaboration at the SCC Spring Workshop.

The evening began with structured collaboration time, where SCC members engaged in two focused discussions to support planning for the upcoming school year:

- **Understanding Assessment and Grades in Today's Classrooms**
- **Supporting Mental Health and Well-Being in School Communities**

SCC members connected, share perspectives, and gather actionable ideas to strengthen their school communities.

The evening concluded with a choice of two powerful keynote learning sessions:

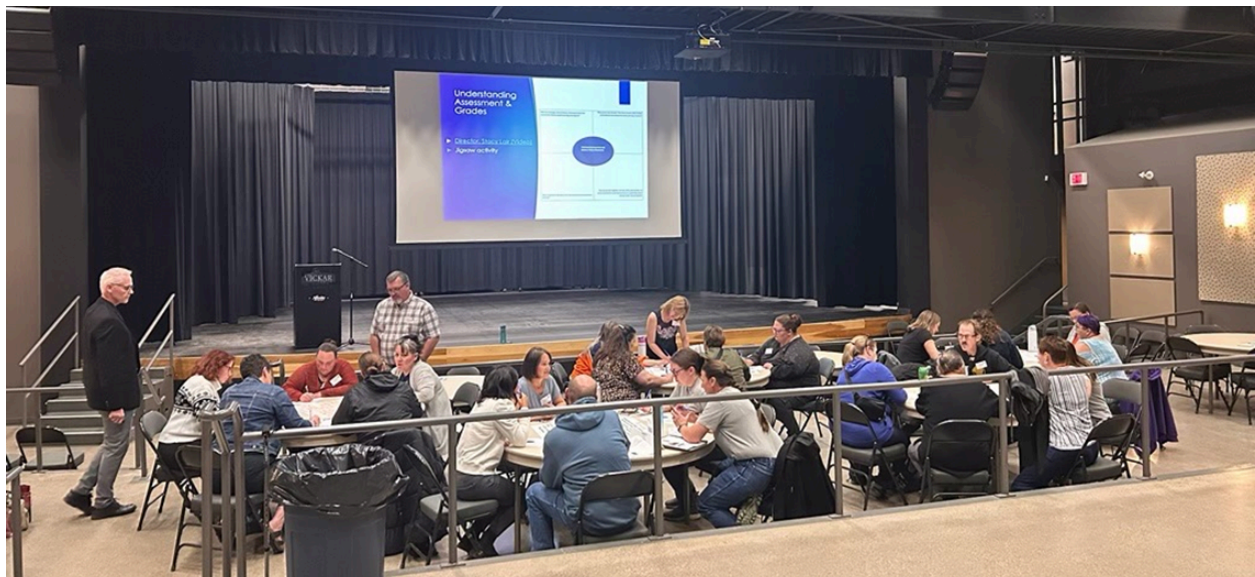
- **Why Play Matters at School & at Home: Setting Up Opportunities for Play - Dr. Sarah Aiono**

Dr. Aiono highlighted the critical role of play in child development and offered practical strategies for creating enriching play opportunities both at school and at home.

Enhancing Student Well-being: Foundational Understanding and School Application - NESD Staff

This session offered participants a deeper understanding of what contributes to student well-being and how schools and families can work together to foster thriving learners.

The SCC Workshop was a celebration of partnership and shared commitment to student success. NESD thanks all SCC members who attended and continues to value the important role SCCs play in shaping positive, supportive school communities. In addition, a special thank you goes out to the Melfort SCC chairs who helped to plan the event!



Celebrating Connection

Gavin Enns is a thirteen-year-old MUCC student who captured many hearts this past year at TeleMiracle!

Gavin was one of eighty Sask Talent performers this past year. Diagnosed with autism and having previously faced speech challenges, Gavin discovered the power of music. After two years of voice lessons, his teacher recognized his talent and encouraged him to audition for TeleMiracle. Despite limited spots, Gavin's heartfelt performance secured him a place on the big stage.



Inspired by the Kinsmen Foundation's impact in their own community, Gavin and his family embraced fundraising with incredible dedication. From a 50/50 raffle at his brother's hockey game (where Gavin sang 'O Canada!') to performances at local restaurants and schools, their efforts ignited a wave of support. Businesses rallied behind Gavin's story, leading to an outpouring of donations.

"It has been a very humbling experience to see people rally behind our son and take such an interest in what he is doing. We are so grateful to everyone that took the time to donate, offer encouraging words or just follow along on Gavin's journey to the stage."

Thanks to his inspiring journey and the incredible generosity of his community, Gavin

and his family raised an astounding \$27,044.50 for TeleMiracle!

Gavin's story is a powerful testament to the heart of TeleMiracle and the vital work of the Kinsmen Foundation – helping people every day!

Gavin's on-air cheque presentation and performance.

https://youtu.be/Ybaua7-i3ew?si=_BxpOI1qHT2Nz00c&t=2807#TM49TeleMiracle49
[#KinsmenFoundation](#) [#HelpingHands](#) [#RingThosePhones](#) [#KinCanada](#) [#SK](#)
[#SaskatchewanCharity](#)

Celebrating Connections

Recognize a Colleague Making a Difference

NESD staff share colleagues who lives out our NESD values—**connecting, empowering, innovating**, and including—in their daily work.

Shining a light on the incredible work happening across our division!



Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion

Your work is making a difference—and your colleagues noticed

Nicole is committed to supporting our NESD employees and students. She goes out of her way to help everyone. She genuinely cares about people and ensures they have the support they need. She always makes time to help out her colleagues when they are busy - Nicole is always willing to go to any schools to deliver devices or help with tech support. Nicole continually revises and updates "how to" documentation to make life easier for our administrative assistants as well as for teachers and support staff. She thinks about the documentation from the end-users perspective and not the IT viewpoint using terminology everyone can understand. In addition, Nicole is always thoughtful and caring. She brings donuts and treats to the IT and transportation office. She spends her own money on gifts for prizes as well as for administrative assistant appreciation and thank-you's. She is a huge asset to the school division! I could go on and on about all the wonderful things she does. She has been an amazing mentor to me!

Nicole is a wonderful person to work with in the office. She includes new employees and treats everyone with compassion and respect. If you ever have an IT issue, Nicole is the first to help and if she can't help she will connect you with someone who will. Her upbeat and positive attitude in the workplace is a breath of fresh air. Nicole exhibits the NESD values on a day to day basis.

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day



Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion

Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed



Julie teaches in Choiceland School. She is an advocate for all her students and cares for them all individually. Julie's compassion and dedication to student wellness is admirable. While we all know this is taxing and often times exhausting, she does it with a smile on her face - or, an Easter Egg on her head for dress up day! Julie, the impact you have is noticed!

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day

Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion



Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed

Amy teaches in White Fox School. Amy's willingness to try
on the DET role part way through the year is commendable!

Navigating/learning a new role while balancing other
responsibilities is never easy. Amy supports all her students
and their unique needs. One might even say she is possess
an unlimited about of patience!

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day

Celebrations across the North East School Division



June 2025

North East Threat Assessment Protocol Partnership

The North East Threat Assessment Protocol Partnership has been updated this school year.

Partnership agencies were able to meet on May 29, 2025 to have a short meeting and pose for a historic picture. Current partnership members include the following: Sask. Health Authority, Ministry of Social Services, RCMP, Suncrest College, and Ministry of Corrections, Policing, and Public Safety, and the North East School Division. It is our hope to expand our partnership to include Cumberland House, James Smith Cree Nation, Kinistin Saulteaux Nation, Red Earth, and Shoal Lake, and Yellow Quill First Nations.

The purpose of our partnership is to work together to support schools and communities in Violence Risk Threat Assessment. In doing so our partners have agreed to the protocols of risk assessment and to share information within the protocol.



In the Photo: Jenica Moen, Suncrest College; Trevor Norum, NESD Coordinator; Stacy Lair, NESD Director; Kirby Rudderham, Community Corrections, Ministry of Corrections, Policing and Public Safety; Jan Boughen, Sask. Health Authority; Shannon Schmidt, Ministry of Social Services, Allison Dubriel, Suncrest College; Cecil McNab, Kinistin Saulteaux Nation.

Celebrating Team Saskatchewan

Congratulations to Team Saskatchewan on their dominant 38-0 victory over Team Manitoba in the 9 A-Side Football Challenge Cup on May 19th, 2025! This was an incredible team effort, and their hard work and dedication truly paid off.

A special shout-out to the players from our NESD schools: Elias Kellington (MUCC), Brodie Taylor (MUCC), David Goudy (MUCC), Finn O'Flanagan (MUCC), Evan Rolles (MUCC), Aiden Zslinka (TMSS), Zenek Chapman (TMSS) and Lane Livingston (LP Miller). Comet Head Coach David Rogers was an important part of the coaching staff as the Offense Coach for the team. Your strong representation on Team Saskatchewan highlights the commitment and talent within our school division.

Brodie Taylor (MUCC), two touchdowns were a huge contribution to the win! And a massive congratulations to Zenek Chapman (TMSS) for being awarded the Defense MVP for Team Saskatchewan – an outstanding achievement!

What a way to bring home the Challenge Cup!



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Shining a light on the incredible work happening across our division!



Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion



Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed

Debbie teaches in Star City School. Debbie is my daughter's teacher. She has has worked to support my Autistic child to foster a love of school. She is supportive of her co-regulation needs and makes her feel safe, connected, regulated, and valued. She meets all her students where they are at and puts their emotional wellbeing at the forefront.

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day

Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion



Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed

Morag teaches at Star City School. Morag goes above and beyond to pitch in to support the intense needs at her school. She helps with co-regulation of students across grade levels and is ALWAYS first to pitch in where a gap exists. She is supportive, comapssionate, and caring.

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day

Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion

Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed



Ashley teaches at Star City School. Ashley is my son's teacher. My son is Autistic, ADHD and Dyslexic. She has been so creative this school year in meeting his needs for regulation and interest based learning. She is weaving in his love of transformers, minecraft, and robots into learning in such creative ways. She is working hard to teach him how to use the various assistive technologies that support his reading and writing. She is a positive and warm teacher and staff member.

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day

Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion

Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed



Amber has been a total superstar in the Financial Services Department for 14 amazing years! She's consistently gone above and beyond in supporting staff with financial inquiries with her "let's-get-this-figured-out" attitude. Known for her approachable and people-focused nature, Amber finds genuine fulfillment in helping others and is always willing to assist—whether by phone, Teams, or in person.

She has played a pivotal role in several major finance system implementations, including KwikTag during the NAV era and, more recently, the successful implementation of the finance module of Sparkrock. Amber also takes personal responsibility for ensuring the department's bus books stay in tip-top shape.

Never one to shy away from a challenge, Amber eagerly takes on new responsibilities and contributes wherever needed to ensure tasks are completed efficiently and on time. Her expanded role in preparing audit working papers during last year-end was a testament to her dedication and skill, of which she did an outstanding job!

We are deeply grateful for Amber's unwavering commitment to NESD, her positive get-it-done attitude, and her fun-loving spirit. THANK YOU, Amber, for your exceptional service and contributions. You are a powerhouse of positivity and a total star!

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day

Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion

Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed



From the moment I walked in for my interview, Triki made me feel welcome and at ease. No matter the question, she either has the answer or goes out of her way to find it. Always ready to go above and beyond, Triki is a constant source of support for everyone around her.

As the assistant to the director, Triki truly is the face of the NESD Division Office—and what a calm, kind, and welcoming face it is. This place simply wouldn't be the same without you, Triki.

Thank you for everything you do!

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day

Celebrating You – A Champion of Connection, Empowerment, Innovation, and Inclusion

Your work is making a difference—and your
colleagues noticed



This year, Casey has taken on an extraordinary teaching role at Tisdale Middle & Secondary School, leading the first-ever Nakawe 10 and Indigenous Cultures 30L dual credit courses. As a non-Indigenous educator and non-speaker of the Saulteaux language, Casey stepped into this work with humility, care, and creativity—setting a powerful example of allyship and respect.

Teaching a new language course is no small task, but Casey's approach has thoughtfully honoured both the spirit of the course and the students who are learning alongside her. Her dedication to embedding cultural understanding, making space for Kinistin Elders and families, and navigating the complexities of new curriculum has laid a meaningful foundation for ongoing partnership with Kinistin Saulteaux Nation.

Casey's work reflects the values at the heart of our division and responds directly to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. Her efforts have deepened relationships, strengthened cultural learning, and demonstrated how language instruction can serve as a powerful act of reconciliation. One of Casey's students shared that, "Nakawe feels like a win"—a simple yet profound statement that speaks to the impact Casey has had.

Thank you, Casey, for your wholehearted service to this work, your unwavering commitment to your students, and for helping to move our collective journey forward.

Keep shining—you're making a difference every day