

NIGHTHAWKS SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 - NTHS LEARNING COMMONS



Board Members Present:

Dawn Barcham Stephanie Bissky Sara Moores Scott Murayama
Sarah Palinkas Tavis Settles

Non-Board Members Present:

Mike Bester 44 NTHS Parents

Call to Order

- Meeting Called to order at 6:09pm by Stephanie
- CBE Land Acknowledgement was read by Adele
- Motion to approve the agenda by Tavis, 2nd Dawn. No one opposed, motion carried
- Motion to approve minutes from June 9, 2025 by Sarah, 2nd by Tavis. No one opposed, motion carried
- Introduction of Laura Hack, Trustee for Area 3 & 4
 - Laura's role is to represent, lead and serve the families in Area 3 & 4
 - Laura monitors the student achievement results, monitors and develops policies and advocates for the CBE and CBE students
- Introduction of Mike Bester and the Board

Student Leadership Report – Adele Ringuette

- 4 students will be attending the Leadership Conference in Ottawa in October
- Terry Fox Run was organized by the leadership committee
- Leadership committee is volunteering at the Coventry Hills Colour Run fundraising for their new playground

Principals Report – Mr Bester

- Great start to the 2025-26 school year. Welcomed the Grade 10 students with a staggered entry and held assemblies for all 3 grades
- How did North Trail High School get its name?
 - North Trail High School was named to honor the historic Siksika and Blackfoot peoples and their connection to the land. The name refers to the "north trail," a route used by ancestors for preparation and spiritual ceremonies, as well as potential trade routes with the Cree.
- Introduction of staff
 - Principal: Mike Bester

- Assistant Principal: Claudia Fehres (last name A-G)
- Assistant Principal: Nzingha Austin (last name H-O)
- Assistant Principal: Heidi Brandstadt (last name P-Z)
- Student Services Team:
 - Amber Murray, Lindsay Farrell, Christie Rattee, Leanne Richmond
 - Their job is to help students with scholarships, career pathways, and secondary schools.
- SRO – Police:
 - George Kovacs
 - His role is to build positive relationships with the students and deal with school issues if any arise
- School Information
 - Make sure your student is on time and prepared to learn. School starts at 8:55am. Doors open at 7:30am.
 - Make sure your students attend Trail Time. Critical information is provided to the students during Trail Time
 - Remind your students about Tutorials which are Monday to Thursday from 8:15 – 8:45am. Every subject has a tutorial, and teachers are there to help if a student is struggling
 - Remind your student of Admin Regulation 6009: No communication devices allowed during teaching time. Using a device must be approved by the teacher
 - Student ID's must always be carried with the student. It helps staff identify if a person is a student or a visitor. Visiting other schools is not allowed
 - Bathrooms – there are individual and group bathrooms. Students are not to hang out in the bathroom or have meeting times with their friends. Students must have a bathroom pass. Hanging out in the bathroom will get a student a warning the first time and then sent home if it happens again.
 - Cafeteria is available to all students. There are Halal options and a variety of food
 - Have your students join a school club! There are over 20 different school clubs – sports, music, drama, language, dance, robotics – there is a club for everybody.

Key Communicator – Robert Brooks

- COSC Meetings have not yet been scheduled. They should be announced at some point after the Oct. 20 election when the new Board of Trustees is determined.
- ASCA membership has been renewed.
- The ASCA Board of Directors invites ASCA Member School Councils to participate in the September 2025 [Access Pass](#) presentation for FREE. Please log in to the Members Only section for registration information.
 - Topic: Supporting Students through Transitions
 - Presenter(s): Sashbear Foundation
 - Date/Time: Wednesday, September 24th, 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Chair Report – Stephanie Bissky

- NTHS Casino on December 30 & 31. Approximate payout of \$86,000. Will be looking for volunteers
- Cobbs Carrington donates bread to families in need. Over the summer donated to Station 31, Station 27, Station 42 and Station 44. They donated over 1600lbs of bread over the summer
- Stephanie attended the school council meeting at St Francis to get some new ideas.
- Parent Engagement will be doing a beading class for parents and students. More information to come
- Looking for a volunteer to help with the Bylaw Updates
- Looking for a volunteer for Bingo

Next Meeting October 22 at 6:30pm

Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:07pm by Tavis

Meeting minute prepared by Sarah Palinkas – Secretary

Meeting minutes approved by Stephanie Bissky - President