

September 2023



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Principal's Message



Tansi Hello, Calling Lake families. I'm tremendously pleased and excited to be starting off this brand new school year.

As a newcomer to both the school and the community, I have a lot of listening and learning to do. I've been deeply grateful for the many colleagues, community members, Elders, and knowledge keepers who have generously shared their insights, ideas, and wisdom as I settle into my new role. Kinanâskomitinowaw kahkiyaw awiyak.

I look forward to meeting each and every one of you before too long—hopefully at our **Welcome Back Barbeque on September 13th** at 5:00. All are welcome!



Northland
SCHOOL DIVISION

Our students love to come to school in Northland

Important Calendar Dates in September



Sept. 11 | First day for ECS and PANCAKE BREAKFAST for all students

Sept. 13 | Welcome Back Barbeque starting at 5:00 pm—Families and community members welcome!

Sept. 15 | Picture Day

Sept. 28 | Orange Shirt Day (also a staff meeting day, so students will be dismissed at noon)

Sept. 29 | Professional Learning Day for teachers—No school for students

Sept. 30 | National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Welcome from the Board Chair



Cathy Wanyandie
Chair of the Board of
Trustees

Tansi, Edlánat'e, Hello students, parents, guardians, staff, and community members.

I hope everyone had a safe and restful summer. On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I welcome back returning students and staff. For new families and staff, welcome to the Northland School Division (NSD) team.

Please welcome our new Superintendent of Schools/CEO

On behalf of the of the Board of Trustees, I am pleased to welcome back **Shelley Willier** to the Northland team and look forward to working with her to continue our pursuit of providing high-quality relevant education for our students.

We believe that Shelley's values of trust, courage, wisdom, and kindness, her Indigenous background, and her overall focus on student engagement are an excellent fit for building on the current strengths of Northland.

[Click here](#) or visit www.nsd61.ca for the full text of Ms. Wanyandie's welcome message, including **information for those who have been adversely affected by wildfires**, and about **upcoming community engagement events**.

Learning as a Community

We got some new furnishings over the summer, and the school foyer is becoming a vibrant and popular gathering place, both for social connections and shared learning. Teachers and students have wasted no time making great use of the space! On the very first day of school, Ms. Ell's high school class got together with the grade 4 and 5 students in Ms. Peredery's class for some buddy reading time. After the forced separation we've all experienced in recent years, it was heartwarming to see older and younger students connecting and learning together.



Teacher Profile



**Juan Carlos
(JC) Jimenez**

Please join us in welcoming Mr. Jimenez to the cast of characters at Calling Lake School. Mr. Jimenez (pronounced *him-EN-eh*) is teaching grades 7 and 8 this year.

If there's a record for the longest journey to this community, Mr. Jimenez is surely a contender—born and raised in Chile, he was a teacher for many years in Santiago before relocating to Canada in 2016.

"I've long been inspired by Gabriela Mistral, who was a Chilean teacher of indigenous roots and a Nobel Prize winner." says Mr. Jimenez. "He said, 'Always teach: in the playground and on the street as in the classroom. Teach with attitude, gesture and word.' That's the opportunity I see for myself here in Calling Lake, and I'm honoured and grateful to be here."

Message from the Superintendent

Tansi, Edlánat'e, Hello students, parents, guardians, staff, and community members.

Welcome back to another school year! I hope you had a safe and enjoyable summer. To our new families and staff, welcome to Northland School Division. I am honoured to be back with the Northland team and serve as the Superintendent of Schools/CEO.



Shelley Willier,
Superintendent of
Schools/CEO

As we begin a new school year, Northland School Division is placing a strong emphasis on establishing positive relationships and creating an environment

Where trust and collaboration hold great importance. By treasuring the connections, we build among students, parents/guardians, staff, and communities, we're dedicated to forming a strong support system for everyone.

To actively support this focused approach, we are planning a series of community engagement events throughout the school year. During these gatherings, we will be seeking input from students, parents/guardians, staff, and community members. The Board and Administration are committed to ensuring that Northland School Division is a great place to learn and grow.

Speaking of student success, I'm delighted to share some exciting things we have in motion to make the learning experience even better for Northland learners...

[Click here](#) or visit www.nsd61.ca to learn about Ms. Willier's news regarding **Choice in Learning, Literacy & Numeracy, and New Opportunities for High School Students.**



Did you know...

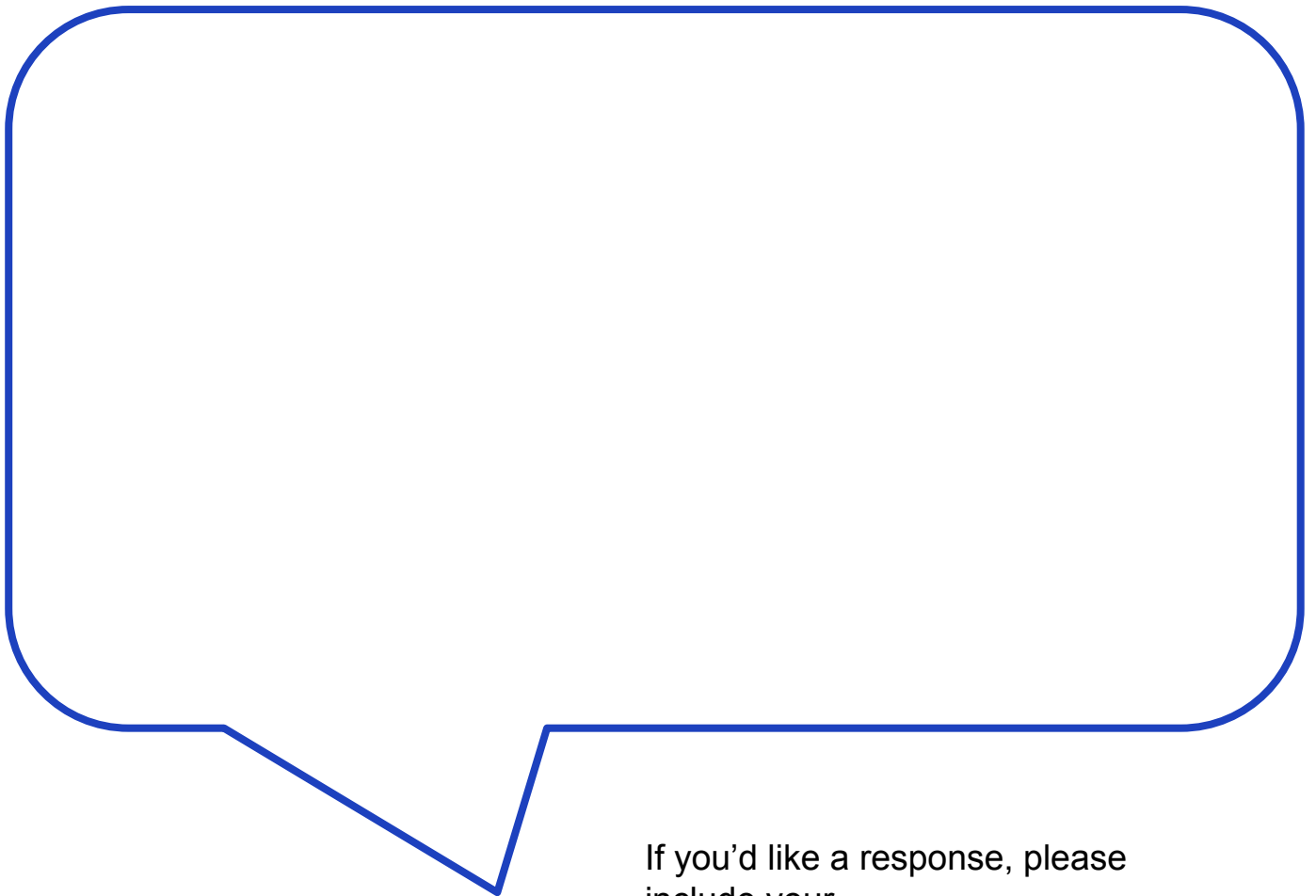
You can find out what's going on with your child's bus quickly and reliably using the Bus Status app, *and...*

There's a new and improved version! Bus Status 4 is now available for download on both the App Store and Google Play. Click on the icon to the left for instructions to download and set up Bus Status 4 on your device.

Have Your Say!

Do you have a question, a concern, or an idea for how to make Calling Lake School a better place for students? We welcome your input, and there are many ways to communicate with us.

- By phone: 780-331-3774
- By email: stephen.marsh@nsd61.ca
- Through [Facebook or Facebook Messenger](#)
- With this page—write a message using the space below and drop it off at the school



If you'd like a response, please include your...

Name: _____

Phone or Email: _____

Best time to reach you: _____