



Newsletter No. 3 January 2026

Greetings, Ward D Community!

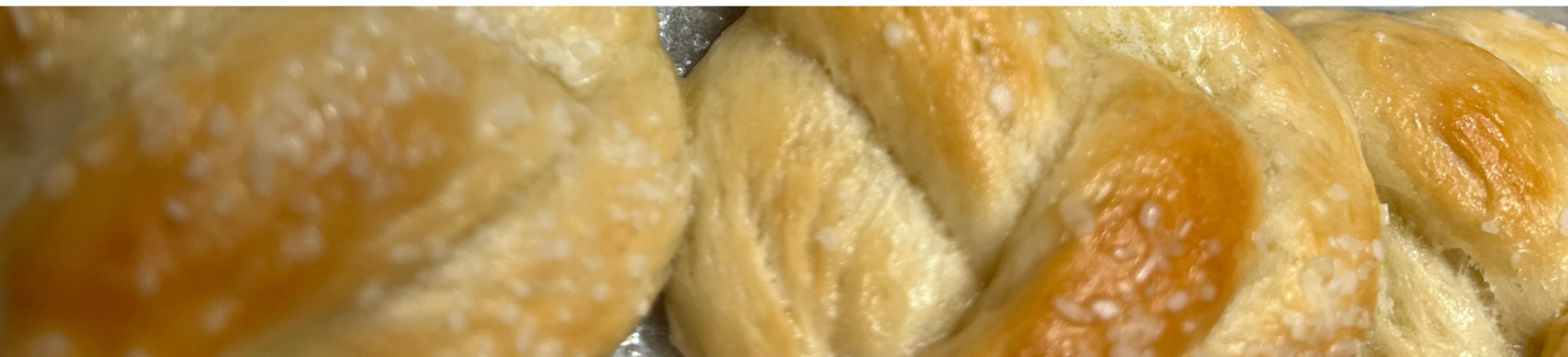
January marked an important milestone—my first three months as your trustee. It's been a period of deep learning, listening, and absorbing the many layers of our public education system, alongside the lived experiences of our students, families, and staff. Thank you for the warm welcomes, thoughtful conversations, and openness you've shown as I continue to learn this role.

Out in the Community

January was information-rich and action-packed across our schools and neighbourhoods. I'm grateful to every school and community group that welcomed me in and shared their day-to-day realities.

- **Forest Heights Elementary School** – Attended a school visit and School Council meeting and witnessed firsthand the power of a passionate, engaged school community.
- **Wihkwentôwin School** – Participated in the Friendship Assembly and school tour, a meaningful example of living the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action.
- **Abbott School** – Joined the School Council meeting and saw first hand how to ensure a diverse parent community is included at the table.
- **McNally High School** – Engaged in conversations focused on student safety and well-being.
- **Eastglen High School** – Attended the theatre production of Little Women—bravo to the students and staff for an outstanding performance.
- Meetings with City Councillors Michael Janz and Ashley Salvador.
- Public School Boards' Association of Alberta webinar on Indigenous Relations.
- **City of Edmonton Partners Network Event** – Connecting with community organizations and celebrating collaboration.
- **The HeArt of It** – Student and teacher art exhibit at Boone Doon Mall's Night of Artists Gallery (on display until March 31).
- Attended the **North Central District Community League Meeting** listened to what matters to communities and neighbours.
- **Rutherford School & Flying Canoë Volant Festival** – Proud to support this vibrant community fundraiser while taking in a colourful cultural festiverse.

And yes — January also included sharing lots of sourdough pretzels with school staff. A small thank-you for the big work they do every day (and a reminder that food is always a good way to start a conversation).





Inside the Blue Building

Inside the Board office, January included meetings focused on advocacy, policy review, and governance responsibilities. I continue learning through information sessions with Division staff on topics including:

- Library materials
- School Resource Officers (SROs)
- Site-based decision-making authority
- All in for Youth programming

These sessions are critical for grounding the work in evidence, policy, and operational realities.

What I'm Hearing

This month, constituents raised important concerns related to:

- Aging school infrastructure
- Supports for students with special needs
- Supports for English language learners
- Supports for the German Bilingual program

With support from Division staff, I'm digging into these issues to better understand them and explore possible solutions. Thank you for sharing your experiences—your feedback helps guide the work I bring forward.

I remain committed to staying connected with every school community in Ward D and welcome invitations to attend school council meetings, school events, school tours, and community conversations.

Pre-Enrolment Is Open

Pre-enrolment for the upcoming school year is now open. If you have a child starting school or are considering a program change, I encourage families to review their options and submit their pre-enrolment on time. Early pre-enrolment helps the Division plan staffing and resources to best support students.

More information and important dates are available on the [Division website](#).





Division Feedback Survey

The Division Feedback Survey is open till March 25! This survey is critical for schools and division overall to hear back from families. Learn more [here](#) or take the survey [here](#).

Upcoming Meetings and Events

February:

- Black History Month: Celebrating the achievements and contributions of Black Canadians!
- Public Board Meeting: February 10 at 2:00 pm
- ECBEA Lunar New Year Celebration: Londonderry Mall, February 8 from 12:00–5:00 pm
- Highlands School Council Meeting: February 18 at 6:30
- International Mother Language Day: February 21
- Pink Shirt Day: February 25 - Attending the Delton School Assembly in the morning
- Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention Association: February 26–27

March:

- Public Board Meeting: March 3 at 2:00 pm
- Ward D Council of School Councils: March 5 at 6:30 pm
 - Please reach out if you're interested in learning more about this gathering.

Stay Connected

You can connect with me anytime:

- Email: trustee.nickela.anderson@epsb.ca
- Website: nickelaanderson.ca
- Office: 780-429-8079
- Social: @nickelaanderson
- Listening Survey: Available on [my website](#)
- [Sign up for emailed newsletters](#)

Thank you for your continued engagement and support. It's an honour to represent Ward D, and I look forward to continuing this work with you.

Warmly,
Nickela Anderson
Ward D Trustee

