

Newsletter No. 4, February 2026

Greetings, Ward D Community!

February may be a short month, but it has certainly been action-packed.

On February 26, the provincial government tabled its budget in the Alberta Legislature. While we are still reviewing the details, and waiting for clarity on what it will mean specifically for Edmonton Public Schools, I want you to know that I am paying close attention to the potential impacts on our students, staff, and school communities. As more information becomes available, I will share updates and implications for Ward D families.

Across Ward D and throughout the Division, I've had the opportunity to connect with school leaders, students, families, and community partners — listening, learning, and bringing your voices into board discussions.

As we move into March, a couple of important dates to note:

- March 8 – International Women's Day
- March 9 – Daylight Saving Time (Spring Forward)
- March 20 - No school/PD day for staff
- March 30 to April 6 - Spring Break



Beacon Heights Neighbourhood Renewal:

If you live in or your kids attend Beacon Heights School add your voice to the City of Edmonton's engagement by:

- Attending a drop-in event and bus tours of Beacon Heights, Saturday, **March 7**, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m Beacon Heights School, 4610 121 Avenue NW
- Completing the survey [here](#) by **March 11**.



Happy to meet for a coffee with a constituent any time - just send me an email!



Out in the Community

January and February have been information-rich and filled with meaningful conversations across our schools and neighbourhoods. I'm deeply grateful to every school and community group that welcomed me in and shared their day-to-day realities. Highlights include visits to:

- **Abbott School** – A conversation with the principal and a tour of the school, followed later in the month by delivering books for their free library.
- **Centre High Campus** – A conversation and tour highlighting the critical transition space Centre High provides for high school students pursuing alternative pathways.
- **Eastglen School** – A focused visit on safety and belonging.
- **Argyll Centre** – A conversation and tour showcasing their online learning opportunities, supports for medically fragile students, and the truly unique program of choice, The Caraway School.
- **Windsor Park School** – A Friendship Assembly celebrating kindness and connection, along with a school tour and meeting with the principal.
- **Highlands School** - A fantastic time with the School Council with their Improve workshop followed by their monthly meeting.
- **Rutherford School** – A visit with the principal and tour of an incredible school community.
- **Delton School** – A monthly assembly celebrating literacy, numeracy, and students embodying “The Delton Way,” followed by a school tour.

I also had the privilege of attending:

- **Night of Music – 60th Anniversary** – A powerful expression of student talent and the enduring strength of music education in public schools.
- **Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA)** professional learning session, covering language access, programs of choice, governance, and communication.
- **Greater Edmonton Teachers' Convention Association (GETCA)** sessions focused on supporting LGBTQ2SIA+ students and affirming families.

Every visit reinforces the importance of strong, well-supported public education communities.





Inside the Blue Building

February's Board Meeting was equally full.

The Board approved:

- The Governance and Evaluation Committee work plan.
- An ambitious Policy Review Committee (PRC) term project to review all board policies with the goal of:
 - Streamlining and eliminating outdated or redundant policies
 - Improving efficiency for future review cycles
 - Enhancing clarity, effectiveness, and accountability

As this work progresses, there will be opportunities for interested and impacted groups to share input. Both committees are subcommittees composed of four elected trustees.

We also received two important information reports:

- School Council Annual Highlights Report
- Phase One Evaluation Report: School Resource Officer (SRO) Program

These reports are available on the Division website.

What I'm Hearing

This month, constituents raised important concerns related to:

- Ongoing support for Division staff, particularly those in Division centres
- Student enrollment pressures
- Yellow bus transportation
- Supports for students with special needs
- 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 continuing to share your experiences. Your feedback helps guide the work I bring forward at the Board table.

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





Upcoming Meetings and Events

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'd like more information about this gathering.)
- Positive Light Gala – March 7 (hosted by HIV Edmonton)
- South East Edmonton Community Fair - March 14 from 1 to 4 pm at Spirit of Hope United Church (7909 82 ave)
- Public Board Meeting – March 17 at 2:00 pm

Reminders:

- Complete the Division Feedback Survey (closes March 25). Learn more [here](#) or take the survey [here](#).
- Complete your current EPSB student's pre-enrolment on SchoolZone
- (closes March 25)

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](#)

Warmly,
Nickela Anderson
Ward D Trustee

