District School Board
Ontario North East

Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, December 2, 2025, at 6:15 p.m.
Schumacher Board Office and Microsoft Teams Meeting

AGENDA

Item		Topic	Presenter	Page
1.0		Call to Order		
	1.1	Territorial Acknowledgement		
	1.2	Quorum		
		Motion: THAT the Board approve the absence of the following Trustees from the December 2, 2025, meeting of the Board:		
	1.3	Approval of the Agenda		
		Motion: THAT the Board approve the agenda for the Meeting of the Board dated December 2, 2025.		
	1.4	Declaration of Conflict of Interest		
2.0		Consent Agenda		
	2.1	Minutes of the Meeting of the Organizational Board held November 18, 2025		3
		Motion: THAT the Board approve the consent agenda		
3.0		Items for Information Only		
	3.1	Minutes of the Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee		8
4.0		Unfinished Business		
5.0		Chair's Report		10
6.0		Board Committee Reports		
	6.1	Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee	Trustee Peever	12
		Motion: THAT the Board approve the Governance and Policy Committee Terms of Reference		
7.0		Director's Report		
	7.1	Director's Report		15
	7.2	Director's Annual Report		
8.0		Staff Reports		
	8.1	Trustee Expenses: 2025 OPSBA Northern Regional Meeting	Superintendent Edwards	16
	8.2	Strategic Plan Vignette	Communications Manager Denis	
	8.3	Mentorship Pilot Project	Superintendent Elvestad Superintendent Mowbray	17
9.0		Student Trustee Report		
10.0		Reports from Advisory Committees and Statutory Committees		
11.0		Other Business		
12.0		Trustee Motions for Consideration (Introduced at a Previous Meeting)		

13.0	Trustee Notices of Motion (Discussion for Next Meeting)	
14.0	Correspondence / Announcements	
15.0	Items for Future Meetings	
	15.1	February 2026: Strategic Plan Monitoring of Goals and Actions
	15.2	April 2026: Strategic Plan Monitoring of Goals
	15.3	September 2026: Strategic Plan Year-end Monitoring of Goals and Actions
16.0	Adjournment	
		Motion: THAT we do now adjourn

District School Board
Ontario North East

Organizational Meeting of the Board

Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 6:15 pm
Schumacher Board Office and Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Bob Brush
Jonathan Byer, Chair
Dennis Draves
Crystal Hewey – Vice-Chair
Steve Meunier
Brian Peever
Rosemary Pochopsky
Doug Walsh
Larry Wiwchar

EXCUSED TRUSTEE ABSENCES

Howard Archibald

STUDENT TRUSTEES PRESENT

Sawsan Alahmed
Andrew Cull
Summer Nickoshie

STUDENT TRUSTEES ABSENT

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Lesleigh Dye	Director of Education
Lisa Edwards	Superintendent of Business/Finance and Treasurer
Kirsten Elvestad	Superintendent of Education
Al McLean	Superintendent of Education and Human Resources
Chad Mowbray	Superintendent of Education

RECORDING SECRETARY

Melanie Demers	Executive Assistant to the Director of Education Lesleigh Dye

STAFF PRESENT

Melanie Demers	Executive Assistant to the Director of Education, Lesleigh Dye
Andréanne Denis	Communications Officer
Larry Souliere	Information Services Coordinator

CALL TO ORDER
The Organizational Meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. by Director Dye.

TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
The meeting opened by respectfully acknowledging being situated on the Traditional Territory of the Cree, Ojibway and Oji-Cree people of the Mattagami First Nation, located in Treaty 9 Territory, and the Métis who have chosen to settle in this area.

TRUSTEE ABSENCE

9328-25 BRUSH / MEUNIER

THAT the Board approve the absence of the following Trustees from the November 18, 2025, meeting of the Board:
Trustee Archibald

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

9329-25 WALSH / POCHOPSKY

THAT the Board approve the agenda for the Meeting of the Board dated November 18, 2025, as amended:
Delete: 2.0 Consent Agenda: 2.2 DSB1 By-Law
Add: 5.0 Other Business: 5.1: DSB1 By-Law

CARRIED

DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Trustees were asked to declare conflicts of interest as they arise and must do so in writing in the log kept in the Chair's office.

Trustees declaring a conflict are to disconnect from Microsoft Teams at the time of the discussion and will receive a text from the Director of Education / Secretary of the Board when they are welcome to join.

APPOINTMENT OF SCRUTINEERS

9330-25 PEEVER / WIWCHAR

THAT Superintendent Edwards and Superintendent Mowbray, be appointed as scrutineers.

CARRIED

ELECTION OF CHAIR
Trustee Brush nominated Trustee Byer
Trustee Byer accepted the nomination.

9331-25 POCHOPSKY / HEWEY

THAT Nominations for Chair be closed.

CARRIED

9332-25 BRUSH / WALSH

THAT Dr. Jonathan Byer be acclaimed as Chair of District School Board Ontario North East.

CARRIED

Chair Byer thanked the Board of Trustees for their confidence in his role of Chair. He looks forward to serving as Chair and working together to endeavour to serve students with their health and well-being at the forefront of discussions.

ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR
Trustee Pochopsky nominated Trustee Hewey.
Trustee Hewey accepted the nomination.

9333-25 WALSH / PEEVER **THAT** Nominations for Vice-Chair be closed.
CARRIED

9334-25 PEEVER / WIWCHAR **THAT** Trustee be acclaimed as Vice-Chair of District School Board Ontario North East.
CARRIED

Trustee Hewey thanked the Trustees for the nomination to the role of Vice-Chair.

APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE CHAIR

9335-25 BRUSH / MEUNIER **THAT** Trustee Hewey be appointed Alternate Chair of District School Board Ontario North East.
CARRIED

APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE VICE-CHAIR

9336-25 BRUSH / WALSH **THAT** Trustee Meunier be appointed as Alternate Vice-Chair of District School Board Ontario North East.
CARRIED

CHEQUE SIGNING AUTHORITIES
9337-25 PEEVER / HEWEY **THAT** the Board appoint Dr. Jonathan Byer , Chair of the Board, and Superintendent Lisa Edwards, Treasurer of the Board as cheque signing authorities.
CARRIED

BANKING RESOLUTION
9338-25 HEWEY / MEUNIER **THAT** *we, our and us mean* District School Board Ontario North East, *You and your* mean Scotiabank, The Bank of Nova Scotia.
Resolve THAT:

1. We appoint you as our banker and agree to the terms set out in the Scotiabank Financial Services Agreement, or where applicable, the Scotiabank Financial Services Agreement section of the Business Banking Services Agreement.
2. Any other of the following persons are authorized to sign and deliver the Scotiabank Financial Services Agreement, any service requests and any other banking agreements with you:

   a. Any One of Chair or Vice-Chair together with Any One of The Director of Education or Superintendent of Business

3. The persons and the required combination of those persons we verify, are the persons authorized, and the combination of those persons required, to give instructions, verifications and approvals on our behalf from time to time. We will provide this verification by a certificate in writing given to you by any other of the officers set out below. The most recent certificate given to you will be the current certificate in effect:
   a. Any One of Chair or Vice-Chair together with Any One of The Director of Education or Superintendent of Business
4. We may exercise every power to borrow money and otherwise obtain services from you and to receive repayment thereof and to secure our obligations to you arising out of our acquisition of services from you which is conferred upon us by our governing legislation. The persons and the required combination of those persons we verify, are the persons authorized, and the combination of those persons required, to borrow money from you on our credit from time to time in the amounts and on the terms that those persons determine, and to grant security to you over any of our property from time to time. We will provide this verification by a certificate in writing given to you by any Other of the Officers set out below. The most recent certificate given to you will be the current certificate in effect:
   a. Any One of Chair or Vice-Chair together with Any One of The Director of Education or Superintendent of Business
5. All instructions, agreements and documents which we sign, make, draw, accept, endorse or complete and which are signed by the persons we have authorized from time to time are valid and are binding on us. Our seal is not required on any written document to make it valid or to show consideration.

6. This Resolution remains in effect until we cancel it by written notice to you and you have acknowledged receiving the notice.

CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA

9339-25 MEUNIER / HEWEY

THAT the Board approve the consent agenda as follows:

Consent Agenda Items for approval:

2.1 Minutes of the Meeting of the Board held November 4, 2025

Consent Agenda Items for receipt:

2.5 Personnel Report

2.6 Enrollment Report

2.7 Correspondence: November 11, 2025: Proposed Expansion of Highways 11 and 17

CARRIED

REPORTS

NIL

MONITORING

NIL

OTHER BUSINESS

9340-25 BRUSH / WALSH

THAT the Board approve the DSB1 By-Law

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9341-25 PEEVER / MEUNIER

THAT the Board approve Policy 3.1.7 – Trustee Expenses

CARRIED

9342-25 WALSH / PEEVER

THAT the Board receive the Trustee Committee Structure.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

9343-25 WIWCHAR / POCHOPSKY

THAT we do now adjourn

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD **CHAIR OF THE BOARD**

District School Board
Ontario North East

Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee

Wednesday, November 26, 2025
Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

TRUSTEES PRESENT

Jonathan Byer
Dennis Draves
Crystal Hewey
Brian Peever
Doug Walsh

ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

Lesleigh Dye Director of Education

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Byer called the meeting to order at 4:33 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

WALSH — **THAT** the agenda for the Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee Meeting dated November 26, 2025, be approved.

CARRIED

CONFLICT OF INTEREST
Trustees declaring a conflict of interest were asked to do so in writing, with a log kept on file by the Chair. Trustees declaring a conflict are to disconnect from Microsoft Teams at the time of the discussion and will receive a text from the Director of Education / Secretary of the Board when they are welcome to join.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR

Chair Byer called for nominations.

Trustee Walsh nominated Trustee Hewey.
Trustee Hewey respectfully declined the nomination.

Trustee Byer nominated Trustee Peever.
Trustee Peever accepted the nomination.

PEEVER — **THAT** nominations for Chair be closed

CARRIED

Trustee Peever was acclaimed as Chair of the Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee.

DRAFT DSB1 TRUSTEE COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

HEWEY — **THAT** the Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee recommend that the Board approve the Governance and Policy Terms of Reference.

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS
NIL

ADJOURNMENT

DRAVES — **THAT** the Ad Hoc Terms of Reference Committee now adjourn.

CARRIED

District School Board
Ontario North East

Chair’s Report

December 2, 2025

Achieve: Uphold high expectations in diverse learning and working environments.

Trustee Self-Assessment Results *Artificial intelligence tools were used to assist in analyzing survey data. All findings were reviewed and validated by DSB1 staff.*

- 9 of 10 Trustees completed the self-assessment survey.

- Strategic Plan:
  - Most respondents indicated that the Board of Trustees is focusing well on the strategic plan priorities.
  - Respondents mentioned positive results of the strategic plan, such as increased focus on student achievement and well-being.

- Board Effectiveness:
  - Respondents felt that the Board is “somewhat effective” at listening to community and student voices as well as allocating resources.
  - Most respondents thought the Board is “very effective” at budgeting, with a few respondents indicating “somewhat effective”.
  - Respondents shared they “always” or “often” leave operations to the Director of Education.

- Representation of Community
  - Overall, responses about community involvement were positive. Respondents confirmed regularly attending meetings and bringing forward concerns from community members to the Director of Education.

- Meeting Format and Preparation:
  - There is a strong preference for in-person meetings, but virtual meetings are valued for convenience and accessibility.
  - Respondents self-rated highly in being prepared for meetings, being punctual and communicating absences.

- Student Trustees
  - Student Trustees are perceived as active and influential, with their input considered valuable by respondents.

Chair's Report

- Additional Comments
    - Trustees enjoy the role and find it meaningful.
    - Some express interest in more discussion about provincial issues, being more involved or informed.

Belong: **Build inclusive communities where all feel supported and valued.**

OPSBA recently participated in an Advocacy Day at Queen's Park, with members of the Executive Council and senior staff participating in meetings with MPPs from all parties. OPSBA presented a briefing package, highlighting key areas of funding challenges and other recommendations.

Create: **Foster collaboration, innovation and skill development in all learners.**

We look forward to bringing more details about the committee structure under our new By-Law, following the first Ad-Hoc Terms of Reference Committee. If you would like to indicate your committee preferences prior to the committees being formally established, please send an email to both the Chair and Vice-Chair.

District School Board
Ontario North East

District School Board Ontario North East (DSB1) Trustee Committees

STANDING COMMITTEES: Established by the Board to perform a continuing function.
• Governance and Policy • Finance and Property • Student Achievement and Well-Being

STATUTORY COMMITTEES: Set out in the Education Act
• Audit Committee (Ontario Regulation 361/10) • Director of Education Performance Appraisal Committee (Ontario Regulation 83/24) • Parent Involvement Committee (Ontario Regulation 612/00) • Special Education Advisory Committee (Ontario Regulation 464/97) • Student Discipline Committee (Education Act, s.309 (12), and s.311.3(9)) • Supervised Alternative Learning Committees (Ontario Regulation 374/10)

ADVISORY COMMITTEES
Indigenous Peoples' Advisory (IPAC) TriBoard Joint Transportation and Governance

DELEGATES
OSBIE Voting Delegate (Trustee Draves) OPSBA (Trustee Pochopsky)

District School Board
Ontario North East

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY	
Committee Type:	Standing
Membership:	Five (5) Trustees
Election of Committee Chair and Vice-Chair:	Election to be held at the first meeting of the Committee after the Inaugural Meeting or the Organizational Meeting of the Board.
Term of Appointment:	Two (2) Year Term
Quorum Requirement:	A majority of members
Meeting Frequency:	At least four (4) meetings per school year
Reporting Structure:	Directly to the Board of Trustees
Administrative Responsibility:	Director of Education
Applicable Legislation/Policies:	Education Act DSB1 By-Law
Board Resolutions:	**Established by:** **Amended by:**
Approval Date/Last Update:	

District School Board
Ontario North East

GOVERNANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MANDATE

- to consider and make recommendations to the Board regarding the development, review, revision or elimination of Board policy
- to monitor, prioritize as required, and make available to the public a list of Board policies scheduled for review, based on a four-year cycle, concurrent with the trustees' term of office
- where applicable, to discuss and, receive for information purposes only, Board procedures related to the committee's work
- to entrust the implementation of Board policy, through operational procedures, to the Director of Education
- to implement a policy development and review process that incorporates specific methods to obtain input from the educational community to inform the Board's policy direction
- to ensure that relevant Board policy changes, including the development of new policies, will be communicated broadly to the educational community with related rational and supporting documentation, including Board procedures (where applicable) and information about how the policy direction aligns with the Board's Multi-Year Strategic Plan and student learning
- to ensure the Committee's deliberations and recommendations are undertaken with integrity and in compliance with its obligations under the Ontario Human Rights Code and related policies
- to provide all members of the educational community with an opportunity to provide input to the Committee so that its decision-making process and any subsequent
- to consider and make recommendations to the Board regarding the addition, amendment, repeal or replacement of the DSB1 By-Law
- to receive delegations, as scheduled, in accordance with the Board's by-law

District School Board Ontario North East

Director's Report

December 2, 2025

Achieve: Uphold high expectations in diverse learning and working environments.

The Information Services Department recently met with Cybersecurity experts through an initiative funded by the Ministry of Education to review DSB1's workplan in meeting specific milestones. The group commended the department for their work and the infrastructure already in place to protect the organization.

Our first report (mid-term) marks have been calculated for our secondary students. We are delighted to see the improvements at almost every school and have attained an 88% credit accumulation for our Grade 9 students. This is for students being on track to earn their credit at the end of the semester.

Belong: Build inclusive communities where all feel supported and valued.

More than 1,000 staff and families have already completed the 2026-2027 school year calendar survey. We look forward to reviewing the data and creating a draft calendar that honours the feedback received.

Our attendance rate (AR) and persistent absenteeism (PA) rates are improved over last year. We are very appreciative of the support from our families to ensure their children come to school. Our kindergarten rates have significantly improved over the past 4 years which makes such a difference for our learners.

Create: Foster collaboration, innovation and skill development in all learners.

Students enrolled in a Specialist High Skills Major program at TH&VS and RMSS recently came together at Mount Jamieson Resort for an innovation challenge. The resort is now considering implementing several recommendations that stemmed from this activity. We are grateful for meaningful community partnerships such as this one.

We are excited that the Red Cross will attend our December Leadership Meeting and share updates and effective practices about student nutrition programs for all schools.

District School Board
Ontario North East

Board Report

Title	Post Professional Development Spending Report – by Event
Date	December 2, 2025
Presenter	Lisa Edwards
Strategic Priority	Achieve
Background and Information	The OPSBA Northern Conference was held in Sault Ste Marie in October 2025. Three Trustees attended with total expenses of $5,728.99.

Grade 9 Mentorship Pilot

Superintendent Mowbray,
Superintendent Elvestad
December 2nd, 2025

District School Board
Ontario North East

Our Vision

Preparing our learners for their future success.

Our Mission

Providing meaningful growth opportunities.

Our Strategic Priorities

Achieve

Belong

Create

What is mentoring?

- Engaging in structured peer-to-peer support
- Supporting character development
- Contributing to a positive school climate

Grade 9 Mentorship Pilot Goals

- Supporting grade 9 students in a successful first year of secondary school
- Fostering a sense of belonging and community
- Fostering a culture of responsibility, respect and positive role modelling for mentors

Harmony Movement

Social Change Leadership Certificate

Ecole Secondaire Cochrane High School

Summary: L.E.A.D. - Leadership, Experience and Development

- Mentoring via Grade 9 physical education
- Belonging via Intramural activities grades 5-8 at Cochrane Public School
- Learning event organization
- Building Leadership fundamentals

Ecole Secondaire Cochrane High School

Impact

- Improved peer relationships
- Increased leadership experience for students
- Improved sense of belonging within the school

Ecole Secondaire Cochrane High School

Next Steps

- L.E.A.D class running semester 2 with a focus on school events and initiatives that help to foster inclusivity, awareness and belonging

Kirkland Lake District Composite School

Summary

- Mentoring via leadership class
- Building belonging with Grade 9 students organized in color groups
- Fostering relationships via non-athletic activities

Kirkland Lake District Composite School

Impact:

- Improved engagement with Grade 9 students
- Created sense of school spirit during lunchtime activities
- Fostered leadership skills with mentors

Kirkland Lake District Composite School

Next Steps

- Leadership class running again this semester
- Lunch time activity participation improvement
- Extra-curricular sports expansion
- Leadership class working with grade 7&8 students to build a sense of belonging and inclusion
- Leadership class working with K-6 schools to support transition to KLDCS

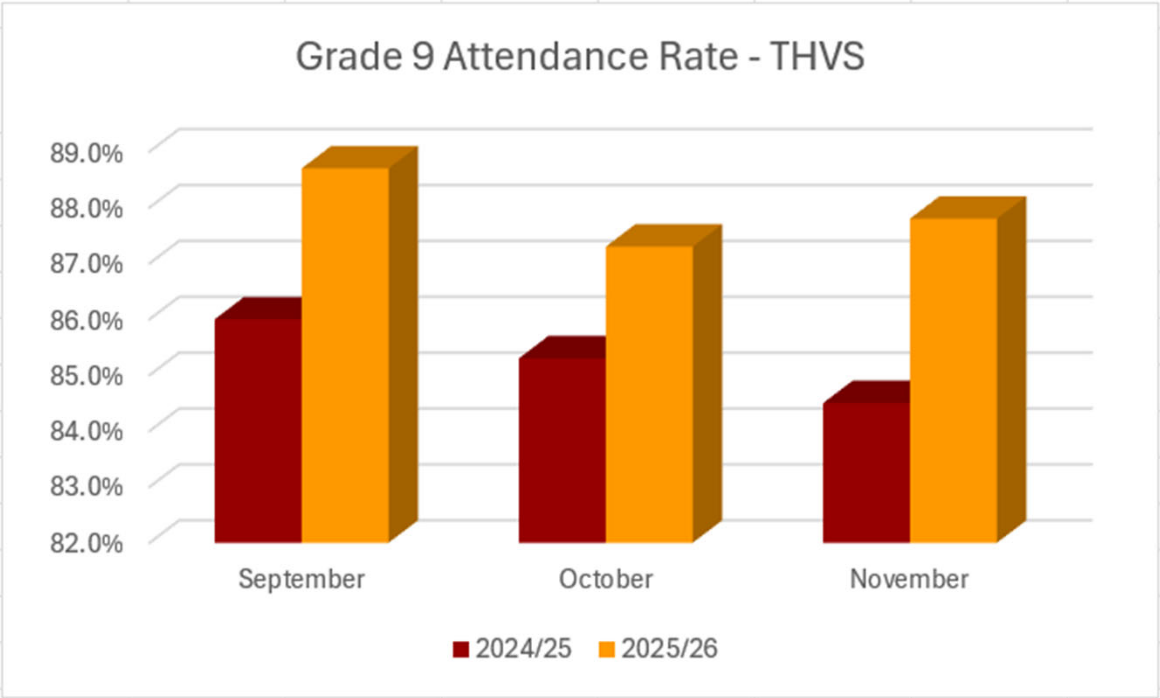
Timmins High and Vocational School

Summary

- Program was planned and designed last year despite staffing needs
- 141 grade 9 mentees
- 44 grade 11/12 mentors

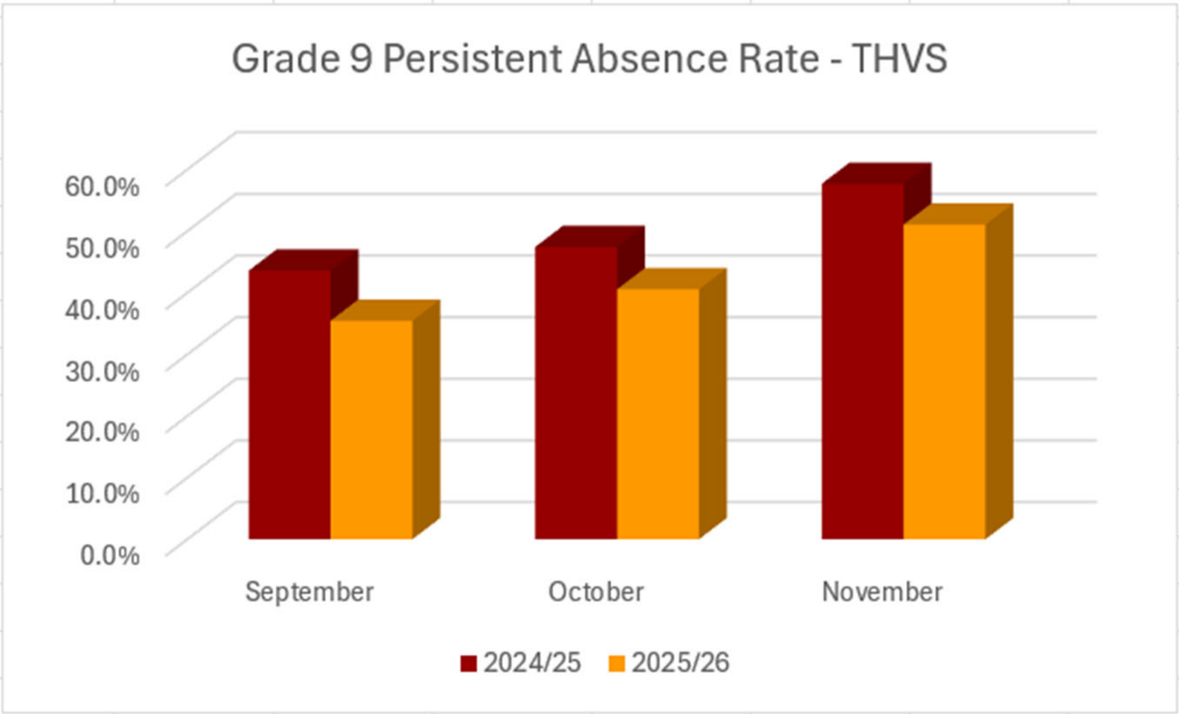
Timmins High and Vocational School

Impact



Timmins High and Vocational School

Impact



Timmins High and Vocational School

Impact

Timmins High and Vocational School

Next Steps

- Moving through themes for each month
- Working with grade 8s at R. Ross Beattie in the spring to begin the mentoring earlier
- Celebrating – Final Showcase

District School Board
Ontario North East

Merci
Thank you
Meegwetch