



PEACE WAPITI PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION #76

www.pwsd76.ab.ca

BOARD NEWS & EVENTS

November 19, 2009

Dates to Remember

Thurs. Dec. 10, 2009

Next Regular Board Meeting starts at 10:30 AM in Spirit River

Thurs. Mar. 26, 2009

Next Joint School Board/School Councils Meeting Sexsmith Civic Centre - 6 PM

School Council

Toolbox is now available on the Peace Wapiti web page - use the School Councils link under Parents on the home page.

Judy C. Belcourt, recent appointee as the Education Councilor at Horse Lake, was welcomed to the Board table as the Horse Lake representative.

Signs to Evoke

Change Presentation by Harry Balfour School Grade 7 students is currently on display in the Board Room.

School Improvement Plan (SIP)

Mrs. Barb Brown, Principal, presented the School Improvement Plan for Teepee Creek School.

Class Size Report

The report was reviewed and will be available on the PWS D web page.

Board Budget Approval

The Board originally approved the 2009/10 budget on June 4, 2009. In August 2009 the Department of Education reduced grants to PWS D by \$595,000 and requested that PWS D resubmit its 2009/10 budget by November 30. The Board met in September and October and developed a new budget. Part of the process included informing our parents of proposed expenditures and collecting their feedback. The Board approved a budget which will see expenditure reductions in administration and support staff, transportation, board governance, site budgets, professional development, and maintenance and technology projects. This reduction will be insufficient to address all grant losses and rather than impact the classroom, PWS D plans on accessing its operating reserves.

Annual Education Results Report

The Superintendent presented the Annual Education Results report at today's meeting. PWS D has seen improvement in a number of areas. Diploma Examination results continued to show improvement with six of seven subjects showing improvement over the previous three year average. Our parent, teacher and student satisfaction survey results continue to show marked improvement in the areas of safe and caring schools, program of studies, quality of education, work preparation, citizenship, school improvement and parent involvement. Transition rates from High School to Post Secondary improved to 57.1%. This represents an improvement of 4.1% above our three year rolling average. PWS D is pleased to see an ever increasing percentage of its students go onto post secondary training.

The following projects which will enhance our ability to serve our students were completed:

- Two capital projects, one at Hythe and one at Clairmont;
- Full wireless computer networking coverage has been implemented in Beaverlodge Regional High School, Sexsmith Secondary School, Peace Wapiti Academy and at the Peace Academy of Virtual Education;
- Peace Wapiti School Division has completed the implementation of Interactive SMART Board technology in over 230 of our classrooms;
- Partnering with the town of Wembley and CFSA to open a child care facility.

The following travel requests were approved:

Approval in principle for Peace Wapiti Academy students to travel to France in 2011 and students from Sexsmith Secondary to travel to Europe in 2011. Final approval for students from PWA to travel to Europe in March 2010.

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Charter School Funding

According to administration research and calculations, the Valhalla Charter School Society receives about \$4,000 more per student in government funding to operate a school in Valhalla than Peace Wapiti School Division would be eligible to receive if the division were operating the school today, based on an enrollment of 86 students.

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	* Valhalla 2008 students if PWSD operated	Valhalla 2008/09 using 2009/10 grants info supplied by Alberta Education	Estimated income 09/10 Valhalla School Website	* If PWSD had it at 86 students not by necessity
Population	47.5	47.5	86	86
ECS-Gr 6 (inc SSBN)	\$ 196,000	\$ 256,000	\$ 578,000	\$ 578,000
Admin Grant		\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	
One Time Grant *		\$ 100,000		
Plant operations	\$ 42,550	\$ 68,000	\$ 66,692	\$ 68,000
Lease Support/IMR	\$ 9,500	\$ 160,000	\$ 161,000	\$ 17,200
Transportation	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000	\$ 71,000	\$ 65,000
TOTAL	\$ 289,050	\$ 815,000	\$1,066,692	\$ 728,200
SSNBN (inc above)	-\$ 60,000			**
Per student funding	\$ 6,085	\$ 17,158	\$ 12,403	\$ 8,467
inst / student	\$ 4,126	\$ 11,495	\$ 8,930	\$ 6,721
facility / student	\$ 1,096	\$ 4,800	\$ 2,648	\$ 991
transport / student	\$ 863	\$ 863	\$ 826	\$ 756

*Does not include funding for any special programming				
**Appears that the adjustment for not by necessity for this count (86) will net close to 0 for a K - 9 operation with only 1/14 not by necessity				
***PWPSD would not receive transportation funding for cross boundary program choice				

Conclusion:

For 2009/10 based on an enrollment of 86 students, the charter society will receive \$338,000 more than Peace Wapiti would receive if it were operating a school in Valhalla today. This works out to the Charter receiving \$4,000 more per student than what Peace Wapiti would receive if it operated the school.

Specifically the charter society receives: \$12,403 per student

Peace Wapiti School Division would receive: \$8,467 per student

For 2007/08 based on the enrollment of 47.5 students, the charter society received \$525,000 more than Peace Wapiti would have received. This works out to \$11,000 more per student than Peace Wapiti School Division would have received if it had operated the school in that year.

Specifically the charter society received: \$17,158 per student

Peace Wapiti School Division would have received: \$ \$ 6,085 per student

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216 Years of Experience were recognized as the Board honored these retirees:

Jesse Boyd, Harry Balfour School, 35 years

Dorothy Kusyk, Sexsmith Secondary School, 33 years

Randy Horneland, Sexsmith Secondary School, 31 years

Hilda Wozniak, Eaglesham School, 29 years

Betty Grusie, Codesa Colony School, 22 years

Robert Knoll, Crooked Creek Colony School, 20 years

Anna Walker, Sexsmith Secondary School, 19 years

Lorna Barrett, Bonanza School, 16 years

Wilma Nyland, LaGlace School, 11 years

WorldSkills Legacy Equipment

Students at both Savanna School and Peace Wapiti Academy will benefit from state-of-the-art equipment purchased by the Alberta government for WorldSkills Calgary 2009. As a legacy from the international competition, the government has distributed the equipment to schools across the province.

Computers, televisions cooking equipment and machines are among the many items used during the four-day WorldSkills competition held in September 2009.

2009 Minister's Award for Municipal Excellence

Peace Wapiti School Division #76 and the County of Grande Prairie No. 1 were acknowledged recently with the Minister of Municipal Affairs' Award for Municipal Excellence at the Alberta Association of Municipal Districts and Counties Fall Convention. They were recognized for their collaborative practices in the Partnership Category. The partnership between Peace Wapiti and the County resulted in the building of the Clairmont Community School and Wellington Resource Centre. The Community of Clairmont will continue to benefit from this innovative partnership for decades to come.

Inclement Weather Policy

The Board reviewed Policy EEAF – Inclement Weather. The process for cancellation of buses has been refined. Previously if the temperature was -40 at the Grande Prairie Airport all PWS D buses were cancelled. Now we will be able to use weather stations located in four quadrants and cancel buses in a more appropriate manner. See the new policy on the PWS D web page. See the 'Official Weather Stations' on quick links on the PWS D web page or on your school web page.

High School Attendance Area	Key Weather Station Location
Savanna and SRRA (includes schools in Bonanza, Rycroft, Woking)	CWB Savanna School Weather BUG
Eaglesham	Bayer Eaglesham Weather BUG
Beaverlodge (includes schools in Elmworth, Hythe, Wembley)	AMA near Beaverlodge – Camera 43-02 (Highway 43 – 96 metres east of Junction 723)
Ridgevalley	AMA near Debolt – Camera 43-06(Highway 43-875 metres East of Range Road 265)
PWA and Sexsmith (includes schools in Grande Prairie, Teepee Creek, LaGlace, Bezanson, Clairmont and Grovedale)	Environment Canada at the Grande Prairie Airport