



**PEACE WAPITI PUBLIC SCHOOL
DIVISION #76**

www.pwsd76.ab.ca

BOARD NEWS & EVENTS

October 1, 2009

Thurs. Oct 27, 2009

Next Joint School
Board/School Councils
Meeting Location
Sexsmith Civic Centre
6 PM. Contact your
school for agenda and
RSVP information.

Thurs. Oct. 29, 2009

Regular Board Meeting
starts at 10:00 AM.

**School Improvement
Plan (SIP)**

Mrs. Wendy Crispin,
Principal and Tyla
Klassen, School
Council Vice Chair,
presented the School
Improvement Plan for
Harry Balfour School.

Citizenship

Peace Wapiti is
especially appreciative
at this time of the year
for the donations of
approximately \$3,000 of
gift cards for school
supplies from the
United Way
Tools4Schools
program, 100 back
packs and school
supplies from Telus Kits
for Kids programs, and
another 100 backpacks
and supplies from
Costco.

PW also appreciates
the Edmonton Oilers
reading incentive
program **Give It a Shot**
which gives Gr 4-6
classes an opportunity
to win tickets to Oiler
Games

Some of the Board discussions included:

- **In keeping with Board policy and reflecting the tough economic times that we are in, the Board of Trustees of Peace Wapiti unanimously voted to roll back their per diem rates. The Board's policy states that per diem rates will be adjusted by the Canadian Consumer Price index. As of August 31, 2009 the CPI is -0.8%. Instead of an increase or even a zero increase the Board will reduce its rates by 0.8%.**
- **The Hythe and District Recreational Society is working at acquiring the Hythe Regional Junior High School facility with the intent of creating a Community Centre.**
- **The Board and the Town of Wembley are proceeding with a lease agreement for a Child Development Centre.**
- **Mrs. Coy, Principal of Peace Academy of Virtual Education (PAVE) and Mrs. Gerard, Principal of Peace Wapiti Academy (PWA) presented on the Technology Mediated Learning Project. This project develops strategies for using technology to engage students in learning. This year 27 teachers are offering 20 high school courses to more than 200 students across the division. Courses include Sciences, English, Math, Social and Spanish. Students are excited, engaged and learning.**
- **Mrs. Gerard explained a pilot project underway at PWA. The Flex Project will provide opportunities for independent learning, self-assessment and allow for more differentiated instruction. The premise is that students don't necessarily need to be in a classroom in front of a teacher for 25 hours to earn a credit; however, they do need to prove that they have met the learning outcomes required for that area.**
- **Communications Committee discussed ideas for using the web page to engage public.**

Peace Wapiti Public School Division Pleased with Exam Results

We are pleased with the results that our students continue to demonstrate on provincial achievement tests. PAT results are good news for PWSD as its schools continue to meet our expectations and fall within a few percent above or below the provincial average in the area of meeting standard.

Grade Three PATS

For Language Arts, the percent of PWSD students who met standard was above the province. (83.5% for PWSD versus the province at 81.3%). In Math, the percent of PWSD students who met standard was also above (80.7% for PWSD versus the province at 79.6%).

Grade Six PATS

We were below the province in Math (PWSD 71.1% versus the province at 76.6%). We were below the province in Science (PWSD 67.4% versus the province at 76.5%). We will need to follow up this result to see if it is a single event or a trend. It is quite possible that these results reflect the province's requirement for students to write PATS in years where the curriculum is not being taught.

In Language Arts PWSD met standard (79.9% versus the province at 81.8%) and in Social Studies we were well above the province (PWSD 77.9% versus the province at 65.8%).

Grade Nine PATS

Our grade nine results in Language Arts (PWSD 74% versus the province at 78.7%) and in Math (PWSD 56.5% versus the province at 67%) dropped from last year.

We were slightly below in Science (PWSD 69.1% versus the province at 72.2%).

We were above in Social (PWSD 71.8% versus the province at 65.5%).

In order to maintain continued improvement in our PAT results, we are investing significant dollars on AISI (Alberta Initiative for School Improvement) projects. These projects support teachers in developing new teaching strategies to be used in delivering the curriculum.

The 2008-2009 school year Diploma Examination results were **good news for Peace Wapiti School Division and our students**. In 5 of 7 subjects, the percentage of Peace Wapiti students achieving at the acceptable level was higher than in 2007-2008, with the highlights being Pure Math 30 up 5.6% and Applied Math 30 up 7.9% over 2007-2008 results. In the other 5 subjects, with results that can be compared on a year to year basis, Peace Wapiti results ranged from 1.1% down to 1.9% above. In the area of students achieving at the level of excellence, our results were improved in 5 of 7 subjects compared to 2007-2008 results. Curriculum changes in Physics and Chemistry make it difficult to compare current results with the old curriculum and exam results.