



BOARD NEWS

Central Office, 8611A-108 Street, Grande Prairie, Alberta T8V-4C5 | www.pwsd76.ab.ca

Inspiring all learners to become confident, collaborative and ethical citizens motivated with a passion to achieve a sustainable future.

Upcoming Events

Merv Crouse Coats for Kids
Distribution: Monday - Saturday, October 1-31,
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Closed on Thanksgiving
Canopy West Bldg., 11308-100 St.

ASTAC School Bus Safety Week
October 21-27
K - Grade 6 students: Enter the 2018 AB Student Transportation Advisory Council (ASTAC) poster contest.
Theme: School Bus...Bully-Free Zone!
<https://astac.ca/safety-week>

PSBAA Fall Events
October 24-26, Edmonton
www.public-schools.ab.ca

AB Student Voice
October 24-25, Edmonton
View schedule online:
www.public-schools.ab.ca

Remembrance Day observance and Day off in Lieu of Parent-Teacher Interviews
Monday, November 12 – no school.
PWPSD offices/shops will be closed.

Take Our Kids to Work Day
Wednesday, November 14

Administrator's Meeting
Tuesday, November 27,
Board Room, Central Office

Next Board Meeting
Thursday, November 29,
10:30 a.m., Central Office



Left-right: David Penner, John Young, Teresa Cote, Connie Bouchard, Rene Metituk, Rose Shmyruk and Margaret Kosabeck. Missing from photo: Beth Ann Caufield, Deborah Reynolds, Kimberly Lock, Barbara Winia, Karen Laycock, Betty McFadzen, Arthur Perry, Jason Caufield, Marianne Boychuk, Debbie Student, Sandra Taylor and Sandra Sopko.

PWPSD celebrates 2017-2018 retirees, long service award recipients

Retirees of the past 2017-2018 school year were honoured with awards and a luncheon at the Board meeting on October 18, 2018. Those achieving five-year incremental career milestones also

received Long Service Awards*. The Board expressed appreciation to the retirees for their years of service and dedication, and offered best wishes for an enjoyable retirement.

Beaverlodge Regional High School:

- David Penner, 26 years
- Beth Ann Caufield, 12 years

Central Office:

- Deborah Reynolds, 15 years*

Clairmont Community School:

- John Young, 28 years

Harry Balfour School:

- Kimberly Lock, 33 years
- Teresa Cote, 27 years
- Barbara Winia, 22 years
- Karen Laycock, 21 years
- Connie Bouchard, 12 years

Helen E. Taylor School:

- Rene Metituk, 32 years

Hythe Regional School:

- Betty McFadzen, 23 years

LaGlace School:

- Arthur Perry, 28 years

Peace Academy of Virtual Education:

- Jason Caufield, 21 years

Spirit River Regional Academy:

- Marianne Boychuk, 26 years

Robert W. Zahara Public School:

- Rose Shmyruk, 40 years
- Debbie Student, 33 years
- Sandra Taylor, 33 years

Rycroft School:

- Sandra Sopko, 20 years
- Margaret Kosabeck, 17 years



Board to request modular classrooms

Alberta Education has set November 1, 2018 as the deadline for the annual submission of requests for new modular classrooms and relocations.

In his presentation to the Board, Deputy Superintendent Darren Young outlined the need for two modular classrooms at Peace Wapiti Academy (PWA), to address the school's growing student enrolment.

Alberta Education deems a school fully utilized once it reaches 85 per cent of capacity. This year, PWA reached 79.34 per cent utilization.

When considering straight line projections from feeder schools in the PWA attendance area, enrolment

projections indicate significant growth, reaching 84 per cent utilization by 2019, and increasing to 99.15 per cent by 2022.

PWA's enrolment is fed by junior high students progressing from the surrounding Bezanson, Clairmont Community, Harry Balfour, Penson and Whispering Ridge Community Schools.

The Board approved that the request for the 2019-2020 school year be submitted to Alberta Education before the November deadline.



Horse Lake Representative Report

Horse Lake Rep. Joachim advised the Board of the community Halloween Carnival, to be held on Saturday, October 27 during 4:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. at the Horse Lake Rec Centre. Everyone welcome.

PWPSD releases results of 2017-18 Provincial Achievement Tests, Diploma Exams

Students of Peace Wapiti Public School Division (PWPSD) continue to demonstrate success on the Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs), administered annually by Alberta Education to students in Grades 6 and 9, and the Grade 12 Diploma Exams.

Provincial Achievement Test results are good news for PWPSD's Grades 6 and 9 students

Grade 6 students continue to perform near provincial results. The percentage of students achieving the Acceptable Standard saw improvement over the 2016-2017 school year in all four subjects – Language Arts, Math, Science and Social Studies – while the percentage achieving the Standard of Excellence improved in three of the four subject areas, with Science remaining on par with the previous year's outcome.

The percentage of Grade 9 students achieving the Acceptable Standard in Science saw an increase over the 2016-17 school year, while Social Studies and Language Arts remained on par. The decline seen in Math was reflected in the provincial outcome. The percentage of Grade 9 students achieving the Standard of Excellence improved year-over-year in Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. The 2.7 per cent drop in the Grade 9 Math Standard of Excellence is not concerning, given that the provincial data declined by more than 4 per cent.

Diploma Exam results show significant improvement

The percentage of students achieving the Acceptable Standard saw significant improvement over 2016-17 results in seven of ten courses. Most significant were the increases seen in Math 30-1 and Math 30-2, with outcomes now hovering near provincial averages. In his analysis of the data, Deputy Superintendent Darren Young remarked that the math results are the highest on record for PWPSD. Also, the percentage of PWPSD students achieving the Acceptable Standard was higher than that of the province in English 30-1 and 30-2, Physics 30 and Science 30. Slight year-

over-year drops in Biology 30 and Chemistry 30 percentages – by 2 and 2.3 per cent respectively – are not concerning. Social Studies 30-2 results improved by nearly five per cent, bringing students within close range of provincial outcomes.

Improvements in the percentage of students achieving the Standard of Excellence is encouraging, with English 30-2 and Science 30 results out-ranking provincial outcomes. Math 30-1 showed a significant year-over-year increase. Chemistry 30 and Social Studies 30-2 results are up, while English 30-1, Biology 30, Physics 30, Math 30-2 and Social Studies 30-1 outcomes are at or near 2016-17 results.

"Our PAT results remain on par or near provincial averages," says Superintendent Bob Stewart. "We are particularly pleased with Grade 6 results overall, and the Grade 9 Language Arts and Science outcomes. "PWPSD's Education Officers will work with Principals to identify supports to improve Grade 9 performance in Social Studies and Math. To maintain our improvement in PAT results, we have directed funds to support coaching projects, mentorship programs, reading intervention programs, Indigenous Education programming and our Collaborative Response Model (CRM) – a system-wide framework that promotes an educational team approach to the individual needs of all students. These projects support teachers in developing new strategies to deliver curriculum. We are also pleased with our Diploma Exam results, in both the Acceptable Standard and the Standard of Excellence categories."

Committee and meeting reports

Attendees provided an update on the Mâmâwîhtowin Conference held on October 15-16.

The Board approved trustee attendance at the Northern Spirit ATA Meet and Greet event on October 19, 2018.

For more good news, see News & Announcements at www.pwsd76.ab.ca.

PWPSD BOARD NEWS

A report on news from Peace Wapiti Public School Division, published following each Board Meeting.

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