



Peace Wapiti Public School Division

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

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

Orange Shirt Day events schedule:

<http://bit.ly/PWPSD-OSD2018>

Thanksgiving Day

Monday, October 8

No school. PWPSD offices/shops closed.

**Online registration for
PSBAA Fall Events closes**

Wednesday, October 10

[https://publicschools.wufoo.com/
forms/fall-events-2018-psbaa-
members](https://publicschools.wufoo.com/forms/fall-events-2018-psbaa-members)

Merv Crouse Coats for Kids

Accepting donations until Oct. 15.

Distribution: Mon. - Sat., Oct. 1-31,

(closed Thanksgiving), 10 a.m. - 4:00

p.m., Canopy West Bldg., 11308-100 St.

Mamawihtowin

"Coming Together" FNMI

Educators Conference

October 15-16, Pomeroy Hotel

Theme: Education for Reconciliation

<https://www.nrlc.net/conference/59>

Next Board Meeting

Thursday, October 18

10:30 a.m., Central Office

Professional Learning Day

Friday, October 19 – no school.

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

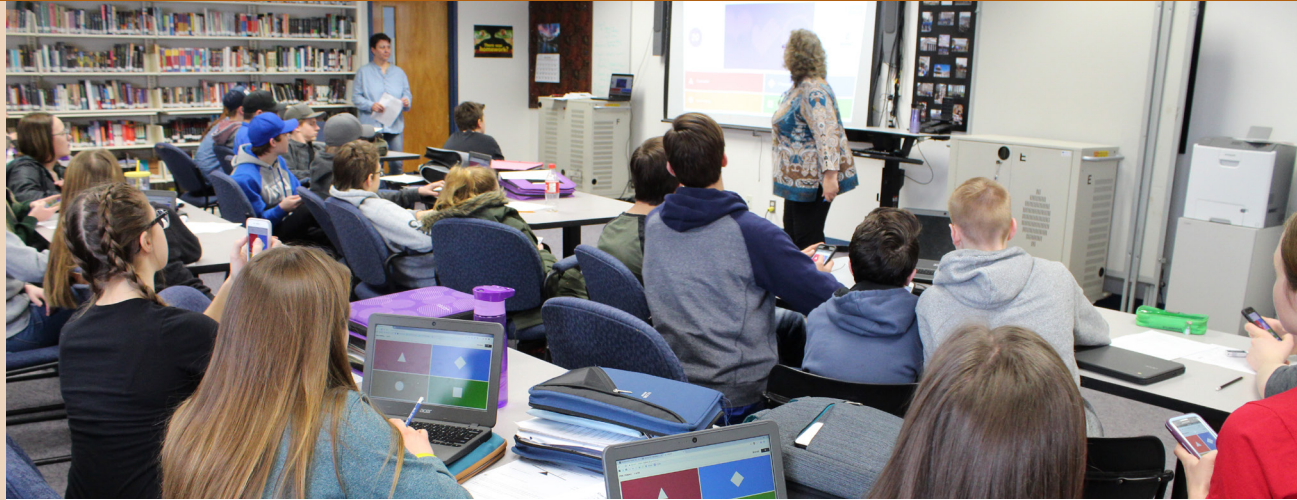
www.public-schools.ab.ca

AB Student Voice

October 24-25, Edmonton

View schedule and register online at

www.public-schools.ab.ca



With the influx of students from Bezanson, Clairmont Community, Harry Balfour, Penson and Whispering Ridge Community Schools, Peace Wapiti Academy's enrolment is expected to grow by 27 per cent by 2022. The Board has requested a new Grades 9-12 school as one of its three Capital Plan Priorities for 2019-2022.

Enrolment and Utilization Report

In his report to the Board, Deputy Superintendent Darren Young noted that enrolment at PWPSD schools has increased by 137 students over last September, and currently sits at 5,218 students.

Bezanson School's utilization rate of 98.37 per cent, the highest of all PWPSD schools, will be reduced with the addition of a new modular classroom. A school is deemed fully utilized when enrolment reaches 85 per cent of capacity. Following in second and third place are Helen E. Taylor School in Wembley at 87.74 per cent, and Robert W. Zahara Public School in Sexsmith at 82 per cent.

The addition of two modular classrooms at Peace Wapiti Academy (PWA) this year has brought utilization down to 79.19 per cent. However, the influx of students from Bezanson, Clairmont Community, Harry Balfour, Penson, and Whispering Ridge Community Schools in the upcoming school year will inflate this number by 8.4 per cent. PWA's enrolment is expected to grow by 27 per cent by 2022.

The Board has identified three Capital Plan Priorities for 2019-2022: a replacement Harry Balfour School, a new Grades 9-12 school located north of Grande Prairie, and a new K-8 school in the Clairmont area.

PWPSD honours Pembina Pipeline Corporation as 'Friends of Education'

Pembina Pipeline Corporation was honoured for their contributions to education during the annual Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 1 Awards luncheon on September 12 in Peace River. The event provides an opportunity for all Zone 1 school divisions to acknowledge local organizations. In her speech, Board Chair Dana McIntosh expressed gratitude for the work Pembina does in PWPSD schools and beyond, especially for the way in which their supports work toward shaping the next generation.



From left: Pembina Pipeline Corporation representatives Brad Beaupre, Manager, Deep Basin District, and Leanne Chartrand, Community Affairs Advisor; with PWPSD Board Chair Dana McIntosh.

Photo courtesy of HRCGD.



Alternate Education Program offers options for enhanced course delivery, high school completion, home-schooling

To date this school year, PWPSD's Alternate Education Program (AEP) has already assisted 17 students in completing the requirements for their Alberta High School Diploma, Certificate of Achievement, or High School Equivalency Diploma.

In his report to the Board, Assistant Superintendent Kevin Elias said many students who already have their High School Diploma register with the AEP Program to upgrade their courses and/or marks to meet specific post-secondary requirements.

The majority of AEP students are enrolled in Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC) courses, now available online and in print format. In this scenario, ADLC typically provides teachers and exam markers, while AEP staff work with students throughout the year to either meet graduation requirements or upgrade Grade 12 outcomes.

In other cases, AEP teachers provide courses, mark student work, administer and mark exams, and submit marks to Alberta Education. The program is also popular among PWPSD students wishing to augment local high school course offerings.

A combined annual average of approximately 100 students from Beaverlodge Regional High, Peace Wapiti Academy, Sexsmith Secondary, and Ridgevalley School are registered in at least one AEP course.

AEP teachers keep regular office hours at each of the four high schools and meet with students to order ADLC courses, deliver lessons, provide assistance with course content, work on course recovery, or provide advice toward achieving graduation. Services are also provided to Grades 1-9 home-schooled students who generally rely on ADLC course delivery with the AEP teacher acting as facilitator.

Bezanson Arena Agreement

During their June 22, 2018 Board meeting, a community group requested changes to the existing Bezanson Arena lease agreement. The arena is located on Bezanson School grounds. At the time, PWPSD Trustees moved to postpone their decision until the September 27th Board meeting, when following a further review, they acknowledged that their current agreement is with the County of Grande Prairie, and chose to maintain the existing agreement.

Policy Review Committee Report

The Board approved the Policy Review Committee's:

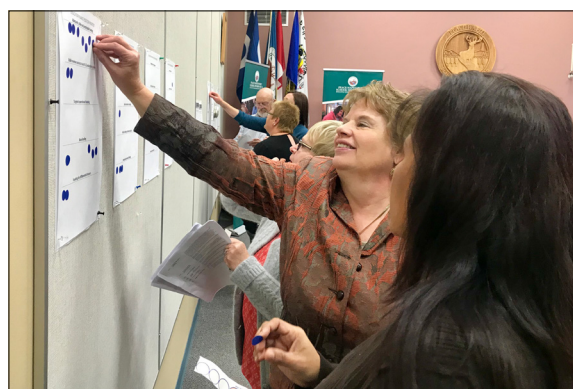
- update to [Policy EEA – Student Transportation Services](#)
- review of [Policy HGADA – Off-Campus Education](#)
- review of [Policy IE – Student Attendance](#).

PWPSD Board votes to develop policy for acknowledging Indigenous Lands and Peoples at special events



The PWPSD Board voted to direct the Policy Review Committee to build a policy regarding the processes and procedures for respectfully recognizing and acknowledging Indigenous Lands and Peoples at special events.

ASBA asks Boards to identify education, facilities priorities for survey



As part of its governance responsibility to review ASBA position statements, the ASBA Policy Development Advisory Committee (PDAC) will allocate time during their FGM 2018 for the membership to engage in a province-wide, generative discussion about the ASBA's priority messages around education and facilities funding.

The activity will be a way to voice ASBA positions in the lead-up to the 2019 provincial budget and election, and to assist the ASBA Board of Directors in developing key messages and advocacy points about education funding. In preparation for the activity, the PWPSD Board participated in a "Dotmocracy" exercise to identify their top five education priorities and their top five facilities priorities. The results will be submitted via an ASBA survey by the October 10 deadline.

PWSD BOARD NEWS

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

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PEACE WAPITI PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION
EDUCATING TODAY FOR SUCCESS TOMORROW

Board supports student attendance at AB Student Voice

The Board voted to support the attendance of high school students at the PSBAA Student Voice event in Edmonton on Oct. 24-26 at no cost to the Board.

Peace Wapiti Academy planning trip to New York City

Approval in principle was granted to Peace Wapiti Academy for travel to New York City in April 2018. Approval for all travel is pending compliance with [Policy HGCG – Off-Site Activities](#).

Thought Leaders Forum invitation

The Board reviewed an invitation from Minister Eggen to attend a free one-day Thought Leaders Forum, in Calgary on Nov. 23 or Edmonton on Nov. 30.

Committee and meeting reports

Trustee Clarke reported on the ASBA Zone One Meeting held on Sept. 12 and the Policy Review Committee meeting held on Sept. 14.

Trustee Anderson reported on the Survey Committee meeting held on Sept. 14.

Trustee Knull provided an update on the PSBAA budget.

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