THE UNFOLDING JOURNEY
PWPSD’S ONGOING FIGHT FOR EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING
Growing up on a farm, I don’t have time to help out on school days. I guess I have kind of gotten used to it, but we do have to get up so early. My early bedtime cuts way down on my homework and family time. I do a lot of sleeping on the bus and also do my homework.

My school bus picks me up at 7:05 a.m. I get home at 4:50 p.m.
I’m six! I’m a Grade 1 student at Bonanza School. I get on the bus in the dark and get off in the dark. I don’t get my reading done most nights because we don’t have time. My mom sends breakfast on the bus with me and tells me to take a nap on the way to school.

My school bus picks me up at 6:55 a.m.
I get home at 5:00 p.m.

LEAH HAS A 10-HOUR DAY. LONGER THAN MOST ADULTS.
I’m a Grade 6 student at Beaverlodge Elementary. I used to like school, but having to get up so early is changing my attitude. My mom will tell you that I now often say, “I hate school.” I leave the house in the dark and don’t get home until after dark. I fall asleep on the bus.

My school bus picks me up at 7:00 a.m. I get home at 5:15 p.m.

By graduation, Jane will have spent 312 days on a bus.
OUR TRANSPORTATION DEFICIT IS IMPACTING THE CLASSROOM

THE GROWING TRANSPORTATION DEFICIT IS COVERED BY INSTRUCTIONAL FUNDING.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NUMBER OF STUDENT RIDERS</th>
<th>2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR</th>
<th>2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR</th>
<th>2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR</th>
<th>INCREASES TO FUEL COSTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008: 4,135 109 ROUTES</td>
<td>$344,560</td>
<td>$524,986</td>
<td>$803,785</td>
<td>2014 $1,132,862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017: 4,100 103 ROUTES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2015 $944,513</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018: 4,100 102 ROUTES</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018 $1,057,894 (Includes Carbon Levy)</td>
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</tbody>
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THIS DEFICIT DATES BACK 14 YEARS WITH NO END IN SIGHT

WE NEED EQUITABLE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING TOTAL 14-YEAR DEFICIT: $5,000,000

$5,000,000 IN LOSSES TO INSTRUCTION EQUATES TO:

- **PROGRAMMING CUTS**
  - 7 inclusive education classrooms.
  - 13 Knowledge & Employability (K&E) classrooms.
  - 15 Junior/Senior High option teachers.
  - 10 counsellors, speech pathologists, psychologists and occupational therapists.
  - 8 School Community Liaisons and Indigenous Education Liaisons.
  - 15 full-time educational assistants.

- **350,000 LIBRARY & TEXT BOOKS**

- **50 TEACHERS**
OUR TRANSPORTATION DEFICIT IS IMPACTING STUDENTS.

STUDENTS BEAR THE BURDEN OF UNDERFUNDED TRANSPORTATION.

FEWER BUSES = GREATER DISTANCES = LONGER RIDE TIMES

OUR STUDENTS EACH NEED A $200 INCREASE IN FUNDING TO ELIMINATE THE DEFICIT AND REDUCE RIDE TIMES.

MEET MORE MEMBERS OF OUR 10-HOUR CLUB

Austin, Grade 4, Bonanza
Jeyda, Kindergarten, Ridgevalley
Destan, Grade 2, Grovedale

Layne, Grade 11, Ridgevalley
Addison, Grade 8, Bonanza
Lynden, Grade 5, Ridgevalley

Zander, Grade 4, Grovedale
Wade, Grade 1, Ridgevalley
Cale, Grade 10, Ridgevalley
OUR TRANSPORTATION DEFICIT IS IMPACTING FAMILIES

PWPSD BELIEVES:

Service to RURAL FAMILIES should equal that of FAMILIES WHO RESIDE IN OR NEAR TOWNS & CITIES.

PWPSD BELIEVES:

Families who live OUTSIDE THE 2.4 KM WALK LIMIT should not be responsible for FUNDING TRANSPORTATION.

PWPSD BELIEVES:

New Government of Alberta initiatives should be rolled out with ADEQUATE FUNDING TO SUPPORT THE CHANGES, including the cost of changes to DRIVER TRAINING & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.
SINCE 1995, PWPSD HAS PROVIDED COOPERATIVE BUSING TO OTHER LOCAL BOARDS

Peace Wapiti Public School Division (PWPSD) manages one of the largest transportation systems in the province of Alberta. Due to its vast size, PWPSD must maintain two bus garages. Each day, more than 100 school bus drivers travel in excess of 14,225 kilometres in a total service area of 16,159 square kilometres. More than 4,000 students are transported daily to 29 schools in the three local school districts.

In an effort to prevent duplication of services, PWPSD provides regular busing service to Grande Prairie Catholic School Division students in Beaverlodge, Spirit River, and Sexsmith; and field trip service to Grande Prairie Public School Division – a cooperative relationship that has been in place for decades.
CONTACT US

PWPSD POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

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