



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

Christmas concerts and events at PWPSD schools

Various dates during December 4-21

View schedule online at <http://bit.ly/PWPSD-Christmas-Events-2018>. In the event of cancellations due to inclement weather, the list will be updated in red to reflect the new dates and times.

Next Board meeting Thursday, December 13

10:30 a.m., Sub-Office, Spirit River.

Christmas break – no classes

Monday, December 24 - Friday, January 4

Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day

Tuesday - Wednesday, December 25-26 and Tuesday, January 1

PWPSD offices and shops will be closed for the statutory holidays. During the school Christmas break, PWPSD offices and shops will remain open on non-statutory holiday dates, but closed to the public.

Classes resume

Monday, January 7



PWPSD continues to struggle with inadequate transportation funding, and is reporting a \$804,000 deficit in this area for 2017-2018.

Audited financial statements approved

The audited financial statements for the year ending on August 31, 2018 were presented for Board approval by PWPSD Secretary-Treasurer Ralph Paquin during the Board meeting on November 29, 2018. Leon Pfeiffer, CPA, CA and partner at Collins Barrow Edmonton LLP, was available for questions.

The Board voted to approve the schedule of reserve changes and the audited financial statements.

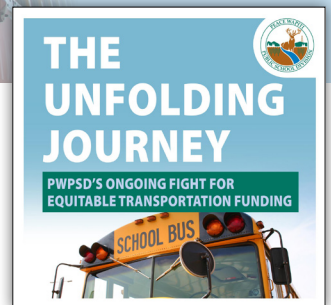
For the 2017-2018 year, the deficit was \$429,000. The actual financial results were on budget.

PWPSD continues to struggle with inadequate transportation funding from Alberta Education, and budgeted for a deficit of \$614,000 in this area for

the 2017-2018 year.

The actual deficit amounted to \$804,000, which will be funded by instructional grants.

PWPSD's Political Action Committee will meet with local MLAs on December 7 to discuss the mounting transportation deficit. The committee will also reach out to councillors and community members throughout the division, asking them to speak out about the need for equitable transportation funding in Alberta, and how rural boards are being shortchanged by the current funding grid. For more background on the issue, view [The Unfolding Journey](#).



PWPSD fall budget update

Alberta Education requires the submission of a budget update by November 30, 2018. The Board voted to approve the fall revised budget report for the year ending August 31, 2019. There was no significant change from the spring budget.

The Board is reporting a deficit fall budget of \$500,000, all of which is attributed to the Board's share of the one-time cost of supplies for the new Whispering Ridge Community School, which opened at the start of the current school year. The deficit will be funded by Operating Reserves.



Upcoming school trip plans reviewed

The Board provided approval for the following school international trips. Approval for all travel is pending compliance with [Policy HGCG – Off-Site Activities](#).

The following trips received final approval:

- Peace Wapiti Academy: Greece
- Sexsmith Sec. School: Australia and New Zealand
- Hythe Regional School: Portugal and Spain
- Spirit River Regional Academy: Italy

Approval in principle was granted to:

- Savanna School: Iceland
- Hythe Reg. School: Italy, Germany and Switzerland

Due to lack of participants, Peace Wapiti Academy's trip to Montreal and Martinique has been cancelled. The trip received approval in principle at the September 6, 2018 Board meeting.

Policy Review Committee Report

The Policy Review Committee met on November 6 to review and update policies. Policies were also reviewed by the PWPSD Executive Team. All policies are available in online at www.pwsd76.ab.ca/Resources/policies/Pages/default.aspx.

The following policies were reviewed without changes:

- *CAA – Site-Based Decision-Making*
- *GBG – Staff Leaves for Political Positions*
- *GBN – Long Service Recognition/Retirement Awards*
- *GCAEA – Hutterite Colony Administration*
- *GCAG – Teachers Duties and Responsibilities*
- *GCN – Teacher Growth, Supervision & Evaluation*
- *GCPD – Suspension & Dismissal of Professional Staff Members*
- *HGAC – Religious Education*
- *HHCA – Compressed School Week Schedule*
- *HK – Student Assessment, Grading and Reporting*
- *HNI – Hunter Training*
- *IHCH – Use of Service Dogs and Education Assistance Animals in Schools*
- *JJ – Advertising in the Schools*

The following policies were updated:

- *GC – Professional Staffing*: Updated to align with TEBA.
- *GCAD – School Administrator*: Updated to align with Leadership Quality Standard.
- *HC – Division School Year Calendar*: Updated to reflect current practice.
- *HGCG – Off-Site Activities*: Updated Guideline 4 for clarity.
- *IGD – Student Suspension/Expulsion*: Updated for clarity and to reflect current practice.
- *IGH – Anti-Bullying*: Policy statement was updated for clarity, language was updated, and a reference to *Policy IGD – Student Suspension/Expulsion* was added.
- *IHFA – Student Supervision*: Updated for clarity.

Three-Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report

Alberta Education requires the submission of a Three-Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report (AERR) for 2018 - 2021 by November 30, 2018. The Board voted to approve the document as presented. Read the full report on the PWPSD website at <http://bit.ly/pwsd-districtreports>. A summary AERR document will be posted at a later date.



Horse Lake Representative Report

Horse Lake Representative Joy Joachim reported that the Horse Lake Meet and Greet event held on November 5 was well attended, and included some new faces. Students appreciated seeing their teachers travel to the community of Horse Lake to attend the event and stay for supper.

Board pens letter of support for 2022 Arctic Winter Games

The Board sent a letter of support to Karen McGriskin, Manager of Sports Development, Wellness and Culture, stating that should the City of Grande Prairie's bid to host the 2022 Arctic Winter Games be successful, the Board is willing to provide any necessary spaces in PWPSD schools and access to school buses, at no cost to the Board.

Continued support for NW AB Skills Canada Competition

The Board will continue its annual \$2,000 contribution to the North West Alberta Regional Skills Canada Competition, as outlined in [Administrative Procedure JOBA-APM – Annual Contributions](#).

PWPSD BOARD NEWS

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

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Committee and meeting reports

Trustee Anderson, Chair of the Communications Committee, reported on the meeting held on November 6.

Trustee Clarke reported on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 1 meeting held on November 14.

Attendees reported on the Public School Boards Association (PSBAA) Fall Events held on October 25-26, and the ASBA Fall General Meeting and professional development sessions held on November 18-20.

Trustee Knull reported on the Public School Boards' Council (PSBC) meeting held on November 16-17, and the Rural Caucus of Alberta School Boards meeting held on November 18.

Trustee McIntosh provided the Political Action Committee update. The committee will meet with local MLAs on December 9.

The Board approved Trustee Clarke's attendance at the PSBC meeting on November 16-17, and Trustees Clarke and Scheers' attendance at the Rural Caucus of Alberta School Boards meeting on November 18.

For more good news, visit the News & Announcements section of the PWPSD website at www.pwsd76.ab.ca.