



HERE FOR ME. HERE FOR YOU.

Working together to improve student attendance.

February 2019

What is a Quality Learning Environment?

PWPSD's research-based Quality Learning Environment (QLE) model considers five critical elements that impact your child's school experience:

Cultural Conditions:

Beliefs and commitments that drive decisions for all learning environments.

Collaborative and Engaged Educator:

Teachers are the heart of a successful classroom.

Intentional Practice:

Proficient teachers apply a variety of instructional methods and strategies to enhance student learning.

Purposeful Assessment and Evaluation:

Feedback to improve student learning and instructional direction.

Dynamic Learning Environment:

Characterized by change, activity and progress to meet the needs of all students.

Our inclusive learning environments are designed with your child's success in mind. Students achieve higher levels when they are present and engaged with great teachers in great learning environments. Please help us make great attendance a priority.

View our QLE model online:

www.pwpsd.ca/services/curriculum/Pages/successful_lerner.aspx



Grade 2 students at Whispering Ridge Community School prepared wheat and made their own flour. Pictured are Kade Rohatinsky (left) and Grayson Hunt (right).



Learning is a process, not a worksheet

When students miss school, teachers work with parents to provide students with practice work and materials based on the learning outcomes covered during a planned or unplanned absence.

Teachers may also provide time during the school day when students can receive individual help and clarification. However, this does not replace the value of being present in a learning environment which consistently leads students to higher achievement in school, and later on in the world of work.

Practice work cannot take the place of an engaging classroom where students are taught specific learning outcomes required by the Alberta curriculum.



Science provides experiential learning that is difficult to make up when classes are missed. Grade 3 students at Beaverlodge Elementary School applied their knowledge of Testing Materials and Designs to build Popsicle stick bridges that can hold a 1 kg mass for 15 seconds. Abigail proudly displays her successful designs.

Students who are present in the classroom benefit from teacher expertise, discussion-rich learning tasks, purposeful use of technology, group learning, and ongoing real-time

formative assessments that provide feedback in the learning moment. This combination of classroom and teaching elements builds a student's learning capacity and supports future success.

What the research says:

What the data says about absenteeism

The following report from Johns Hopkins University Centre analyzes absenteeism data in the U.S. to begin the process of mapping its extent and characteristics. Of the handful of states that collect data on absenteeism, the report finds that an estimated 10-15 per cent of students are chronically absent each year and offers interventions to address the trend.

[The Importance of Being in School: A Report on Absenteeism in the Nation's Public Schools](#)



Resource: Attendance Works, www.attendanceworks.org