

School Trustee Report: Eleanor Hall School

January 22, 2020

Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report

Assistant Superintendent Mark Thiesen presented the combined Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report to the school board for approval prior to publishing and submission to Alberta Education. In addition to previously received data and commentary about standardized tests and satisfaction surveys, the AERR also describes Pembina Hills' history, geography and demographics.

We invite parents and community members to read the summary report available on our Pembina Hills School Division website.

Board to gather feedback on electoral wards

Over the next three weeks, trustees will be consulting with the public, as part of local school council meetings, to review the current electoral ward structure to ensure that it effectively represents community and school populations.

- Three (3) options have been put forward by the board. Members of the public are invited to participate in an online survey to indicate the option they support and what the school board should keep in mind as they make their decision.
- Please attend a school council meeting to learn more. Visit the Electoral Ward Review page on the Pembina Hills School Division website for full details, including school council meeting dates and a link to complete the survey before February 10, 2020.

Budget update projects \$2.2 M deficit

The board approved the updated 2019-2020 budget for Pembina Hills, projecting a deficit of \$2.2 million. The Alberta Distance Learning Centre is projecting a deficit of \$165,000.

The Pembina Hills deficit is a result of reduced education funding and unprecedented increases in insurance premiums. While the school division had earlier planned to draw down reserves in 2019-2020, the draw-down rate will be accelerated. As a result, it is estimated that the division will be left with reserves of 3% of operating expenses.

As part of the **Student Services Assurance Report** to the board, Director Rob McGarva reported that the graduation rate for Pembina Hills students with Alberta Education special education codes is 75% versus 68% for the province. Provincial Achievement Test acceptable results are 55% versus 47% for the province.

Parents invited to complete online survey

In January, parents received an email inviting them to participate in our Annual Satisfaction Survey. The email replaces the phone calls we made in previous years and contains a link to the survey. The short survey provides us with specific data about everything from school safety to extra-curricular opportunities. We have been collecting this information for about 15 years. This survey is an important way for parents to offer their 'voice' to the planning process.

The survey will be 'live' for about two weeks and will close on January 24, 2020. We thank parents in advance for their participation.

*A reminder to please check your "junk" mail if you did not see the email.

Citizenship Award Reminder

Nominations for PHPS Citizenship Awards are accepted until May 10th for this school year. Fill out your nomination form online or print and send in a paper copy. Anyone can nominate a student whom they feel is deserving.

School Board Meetings

The public is welcome to attend our school board meetings. The next school board meeting is February 12th, 2020 at the Regional Office in Barrhead beginning at 9:00 a.m.

*I invite you to contact me with any questions, comments, concerns or good news stories you may have!
Please remember to enter your email address on our division website to stay current on all
announcements and information from Pembina Hills School Division!*

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