



Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7

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BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS **September 9, 2015 Regular Board Meeting**

PLEASE NOTE: The following highlights are not an official record of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7. They are intended to provide a brief overview of the Regular Board Meeting. For a complete record, please refer to the official [minutes](#) of the meeting.

- The Board completed their submission to the provincial government as part of the province's public consultation process on their Budget 2015 and 2016. The following is their submission:
 - The Board of Trustees of Pembina Hills Regional School Division No. 7 welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission regarding priorities for Finance Minister Joe Ceci to consider in the fall budget. As locally elected officials, we work hard to be fiscally responsible and accountable to our communities. The rising costs of rural transportation, and the realities of decreasing enrolment means that we are facing challenges in meeting the needs of transporting our students within the current funding model. The funding does not align with the actual cost of providing the service.
 - Providing an excellent education to students in rural schools costs more and there needs to be a focus on how to make opportunities for programs and experiences available to all students regardless of where they live. Equity of opportunity is also essential in supporting our schools in programs that maximize students' learning and use of technology, but also addresses their struggles with mental health issues and the extra support required for our First Nations and new Canadian students. In your budget planning, please consider that the educational needs of students require adequate, sustainable, and predictable funding so that locally elected school boards are able to make decisions that support the success of all students.
- Assistant Superintendent of Employee Services David Garbutt provided the Employee Services Accountability Report, highlighting various strategies for attraction, supporting and retention of Pembina Hills Regional Division No. 7 employees as well as the 2015-2016 strategic plan for Employee Services. The Board regularly receives accountability reports from various departments, as outlined in their Annual Workplan.
- A delegation from the Neerlandia Christian Education Society made a presentation to the Board in support of Board Motion #6499/06/15 made at the June 10, 2015 Regular Board Meeting. The Board will consider Board Motion #6499/06/15 at their September 23, 2015 Regular Board Meeting.
- The next Regular Board Meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on September 23, 2015 at Dunstable School.
- The Board encourages the public to attend their Board Meetings. Please refer to the [Pembina Hills website](#) for a complete listing of meeting dates and locations.