

Board Highlights – April 13, 2016



About Board Highlights

The highlights is an overview of PHPS Board of Trustees' meetings. See the [minutes](#) for a complete record of the board's decisions.

We email Board Highlights to division staff, media, town and county councils, our MLA, our MP and subscribers.

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For more information contact **Tracy Meunier**, Secretary Treasurer at 780.674.8504.

Division moves to universal bus fees

See the 2016-17 transportation fees [here](#). Pembina Hills Public Schools offers busing to in-town students and rural students who choose to attend a school other than their designated school. The division offers this service on a cost-recovery basis – charging students a fee to ride the bus.

What's changing in 2016-17?

Next year these students will pay a universal fee. “We are taking the overall cost of busing these students and dividing it by the number of students who use it,” said Associate Superintendent Dave Garbutt. “We believe those who choose to use this service should pay an equal amount of the costs.” Previously students were charged different fees depending on what grade they were in, how far they lived from school and the number of days they attended school.

Bus fees for in-town students

(Service available on a first-come/first-served basis)

- Grade 1 to 12 students: \$350 per year (\$1.90 per day)
- Kindergarten students: \$175 per year

What will be different next year?

- Jr. and Sr. High students will pay \$75 less to ride the bus next year
- The family discount is discontinued

Bus fees for rural students who choose to go to out-of-attendance-area schools

(Service available on a first-come/first-served basis)

- Grade 1 to 12 students: \$450 per year (\$2.45/day)
- Kindergarten students: \$225 per year

What will be different next year?

- All rural students will be charged the same fee. Under the previous fee schedule, bus fees would have ranged from \$256 to \$649 per year.

Students attending the following programs, which are not available at their community school, are not charged a fee to ride the bus:

- students directed to a different school by PHPS Student Services
- students enrolled in French Immersion
- students attending Jr. or Sr. High (not available at community school)
- students in the Neerlandia Public Christian School attendance area who want to attend a regular program in Barrhead

Division to tender the demolition of former W.R. Frose School

The school board has asked administration to tender the demolition of the former W.R. Frose School building. If the school board proceeds with demolition, it will apply for ministerial approval.

“This young man is reaching for the stars,” Audrey Degner, FNMI Liaison

Board nominates Grade 11 student for Indigenous Shining Student Award

The school board has nominated Grade 11 student Skyler Grant for a provincial award which honors First Nations Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students who demonstrate leadership and inspire others through embracing and respecting an aboriginal perspective.

After a shaky start to his education, which culminated in him quitting high school to work to shore up his family's finances, Skyler returned to school at R.F. Staples with a newfound commitment to his studies.

Informed by his life experiences – and supported by school staff – Skyler flourished at school. Passionate about sharing Canadian Aboriginal history, Skyler helped PHPS FNMI liaison Audrey Degner lead a "Blanket Exercise" at a division Professional Development day. In April he will teach Eleanor Hall School Outdoor Education students to make fry bread on an open fire. And in June he will help facilitate a blanket exercise for the school board, followed by a feast of moose chili, fry bread and berries for dessert.

Skyler has applied to attend the Bold Eagle program in Wainwright and to King's University in Edmonton. "Even though life is still a daily struggle, I know from experience, pursuing an education is the only way to succeed in life," said Skyler.

Portrait of Pibroch Colony School

The school board met at Pibroch Colony School. See page 1 of the meeting [minutes](#) for details about Principal Brett Seatter's presentation of the school's highlights.

The next board meeting is April 27, 2016 at Regional Office starting at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome.