

Education Plan and Annual Report Summary

About Pembina Hills

Pembina Hills Public Schools has 16 schools. Barrhead Composite High School has four feeder schools—Fort Assiniboine, Neerlandia Public Christian, École Barrhead Elementary and Dunstable. R.F. Staples Secondary School in Westlock also has four feeder schools: Pembina North Community School, École Westlock Elementary, Busby and Eleanor Hall. The high schools in Barrhead and Westlock also operate off-site Outreach Schools. Swan Hills is a stand-alone K-12 school. Sunny Bend Colony and Pibroch Colony have Hutterite schools. Neerlandia's school has an alternate public program focusing on nondenominational Christian Education. Vista Virtual School provides direct teacher instruction from a distance using online and print services.



Safe and Caring Places to Learn

Our schools have excellent learning cultures where children and staff feel safe to learn and grow. PHPS achieved a high rating on this provincial measure. Although we have declined from last year's 'excellent' rating, the results of the local survey showed that 97% of parents agree that their child's school is safe and caring.

Statistics that Matter

The jurisdiction report on the next page reveals celebrations and challenges. We accept responsibility for low achievement ratings on PAT measures. It is important to know that these results are impacted by our service to almost 10,000 students from across the province who choose Vista Virtual School to provide them with distance learning. The challenges of these unique students vary widely and while most are successful in the courses they take through Vista Virtual, many simply do not write PATs. This non-participation impacts our overall results. For example, our local school PAT results are 5% higher in Grade 6, and 15% higher in Grade 9 when the mass of Vista Virtual students are removed from the total.

We can celebrate the improvements to the Drop-Out Rate (about 1.1% for our three main high schools), and the High School Completion Rate above 86%.

Alberta Distance Learning Centre

We administer the Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC) through a service agreement with Alberta Education. ADLC provides distributed learning services, including instructional delivery and the development of learning and teaching resources, to registering school authorities. The current service agreement expires August 31, 2020.

Our Priorities

Our results provide reasons for continued focus on four main priorities:

- Addressing the Diversity of Student Needs
- Student-Teacher Relationships
- Numeracy
- Literacy

Community Partners are Key

Our schools are the heart of our communities and we count on the partnerships that have been forged. In 2017-18 we collaborated with 145 partners! This is in addition to the 576 volunteers who help in our schools every day. They coach, read with kids, support classrooms, help out on special events, and lend us their experience in so many ways. For that we are forever thankful!



The PHPS audited financial statements for 2017-18 showed revenues of 60,414,897 and expenses of \$60,621,056 for an operating deficit of \$206,159. Together with the Alberta Distance Learning Centre, the division manages a combined operating budget of over \$83 Million.

Board Consolidates ADLC in PHPS

ADLC provides services for over 600 schools in the province of Alberta. In 2017-18 administration zeroed in on the priorities of the service agreement with Alberta Education. This led to 34 more staff in Barrhead's ADLC office. A related relocation incentive brought 29 staff into the PHPS boundaries. Our communities were included in welcoming these staff and their families to live, work and play in PHPS communities.

Read the full Education Plan and Annual Report at www.phpschools.ca/education-plans/

Read the Financial Statements at www.phpschools.ca/financial-reports/

Jennifer Tuininga
Chair

Wendy Scinski
Vice chair

Jackie Carson
Trustee

Jackie Comeau
Trustee

Nancy Keough
Trustee

Judy Lefebvre
Trustee

Kerry McElroy
Trustee

David Garbutt
Superintendent of Schools

School Councils Have a Role

The board has focused on developing effectiveness and collaboration by hosting Council of School Council meetings twice a year. Almost 92% of parents who responded to our annual survey agreed that School Councils have a meaningful role. The value of School Councils is in their ability to translate the needs of the community into actions possible in the schools. Our school principals rely on their School Councils as the ears and eyes of the community.

Addressing our Challenges

Teachers continue to work together to address challenges in Literacy and Numeracy in consideration of results on provincial assessments.

While PHPS citizenship achievement rating is still considered "intermediate", it has declined from previous highs. The decline comes from student and parent views on how students treat each other on social media. School staff are challenged to combat the harmful effects of social media.



Accountability Pillar Overall Summary - Jurisdiction Report

The Ministry of Education provides a summary of 16 measures. Seven of these are based on survey results—listed in blue—and the others are based on specific data gathered from student information systems—listed in black.



Measure	Measure Evaluation		
	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring	High	Declined	Acceptable
Program of Studies	High	Maintained	Good
Education Quality	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Drop Out Rate	High	Improved Significantly	Good
High School Completion Rate (3yr)	High	Improved	Good
PAT: Acceptable	Low	Maintained	Issue
PAT: Excellence	Low	Maintained	Issue
Diploma: Acceptable	High	Improved	Good
Diploma: Excellence	Very High	Improved Significantly	Excellent
Diploma Exam (4+ Exams)	Low	Maintained	Issue
Rutherford Eligibility Rate	n/a	Improved	n/a
Transition Rate (6yr)	High	Improved	Good
Work Preparation	High	Maintained	Good
Citizenship	Intermediate	Declined Significantly	Issue
Parental Involvement	High	Maintained	Good
School Involvement	High	Maintained	Good