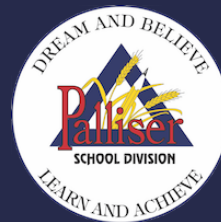


Board Meeting Highlights:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: Sep 10, 2024



Home Education Update

Palliser School Division's Home Education program has undergone significant changes before, during, and after the pandemic. Prior to the shift to online learning due to COVID-19, only a small number of students were registered in the Division's home education program. However, during the pandemic, enrollment increased dramatically. Although numbers decreased when traditional classrooms reopened, many families chose to continue with home education. This prompted a reimagining of the program, which is operated through Palliser Beyond Borders (PBB).

Under the leadership of Principal Jason Kwasny and Home Education Facilitator Laurie Zienchuk, the program has focused on building a community of families committed to high-quality education and meaningful experiences for their students. Laurie organizes a variety of in-person workshops that cover subjects such as language arts, STEM, and fine arts. The group also participates in field trips and communal learning experiences at venues like libraries. Last year, they hosted two Celebrations of Learning where students showcased their talents and skills.

Palliser School Division is proud to support a home education program of such high caliber, made possible through the dedicated efforts of the PBB team and the participating Home Education families.



Inclusive Education Update

Pln follow-up to the Inclusive Education Services Report from the May 2024 Regular Meeting of the Board, Shane Cranston, Director of Learning presented information on Individual Program Planning (IPP) in the division.

Shane explained the background of why the division adopted a renewed IPP which was to focus on inclusion and build communities of diversity and a culture of belonging. The new system will facilitate better collaboration between staff, families, and students, which aligns with our core belief that students and their families should help shape and inform their educational support plans. Additionally, this platform will streamline communication across Palliser schools, ensuring continuity of support as students transition between grades, schools, and beyond.

The key components of the renewed IPP includes student profiles, the use of "I can" statements, strengthened student/family voice and embedded competencies. Within the parameters of an IPP, students develop goals, strategies are developed and a triangular approach to gathering evidence of learning is used: observation, product and conversation. Shane reviewed a sample IPP with the Board. Please note IPP stands for Individual Program Plan which is a modified Program for the student.

Board Meeting Highlights:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: Sep 10, 2024



Eliminating Cell Phones and Other Learning Distractions in the Classroom

New guidelines from the Government of Alberta require school divisions to restrict access to cell phones and other personal devices during class time. Over the summer, our Division consulted with staff to develop an Administrative Procedure (AP) to guide the implementation of these changes. A survey conducted by the Government of Alberta prior to the new directive revealed strong support for this policy from parents, guardians, educators, and even many students. The Palliser Board of Trustees believes that these changes will benefit student learning and well-being.

For more information on how Palliser School Division is supporting this initiative, please refer to this document: [Cell Phone Policy Guidelines](#)

If you would like to know more about how your student's school will implement the policy on cell phones and personal devices, please contact your school.



The next regular Board Meeting will be on Oct 8, 2024

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