

Board Meeting Highlights:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: Feb 11, 2025



Bus Service Update

New Alberta Government walk limits for transportation funding will impact up to 250 students in Coalhurst and Coaldale:

- 1.6 km for elementary students
- 2.0 km for secondary students

To ease the burden on families, the Board of Trustees is considering three potential solutions. [Learn more about the options here.](#)

If you would like to provide feedback, please email: Inquiries@pallisersd.ab.ca



Information Technology Update

Esports Expansion

Esports continues to grow in popularity, offering regional tournaments and global competition opportunities. To ensure a structured, safe experience for students, the IT team has standardized:

- Game Selection & Safety – Approved, competition-friendly games; high-risk or violent titles excluded.
- Secure Accounts & Software – Guidelines for managing accounts (Steam, Nintendo, etc.).

Additionally, Nintendo Switch consoles are being tested to help smaller schools participate.

[Read more about our Esports program here.](#)



Artificial Intelligence in Education

AI presents both opportunities and challenges for education. The Board of Trustees and IT team will continue exploring its impact, ensuring responsible integration into our schools.

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Counselling Report

Our counselling team includes both Family School Liaison Counsellors and Making Connections workers, who play a vital role in supporting our division's goal: **'All Palliser students will engage with the foundational elements of well-being, equipping them with the tools and confidence to lead healthy lives.'**

Here are some of the key accomplishments over the past year:

- The HEADSTRONG Mental Health Summit kept school teams engaged.
- Student-led initiatives thrived with \$10,200 in SOARING grants.
- Bell Let's Talk Day was implemented division-wide to support mental wellness.
- Division-wide test anxiety and breakfast programs helped students perform better during exams.

Expanding Family & Student Support

- New emotional support services were launched in two Colony Schools.
- Social-emotional programming is expanding, with four high schools requesting funding for regulation rooms.
- Parenting courses are being piloted virtually.
- ADHD support groups for parents and children introduced.

Looking Ahead: Priorities for Next Year

- Enhancing High School Counselling – Balancing crisis support, drop-in services, and ongoing student counselling.
- Expanding Trauma-Informed Classrooms – Supporting educators in implementing effective strategies.
- Increasing Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) – Strengthening inter-school collaboration to bring SEL into all student development stages.



"Alice in Wonderland" production at Coaldale Prairie Winds Secondary

CONTACT US

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The next regular Board Meeting will be on Mar 11, 2025