

ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT 2013 SUMMARY

DISTRICT PROFILE

Palliser Regional Schools was inaugurated as a regionalized division on January 1, 1995. It is comprised of Lethbridge County and Vulcan County and covers an area that stretches from the Chin Coulee and Blood Reserve just south of Lethbridge to the Bow River and Siksika First Nation in the north. Since that time, the division has expanded to serve students in Calgary.

A Board made up of six elected trustees governs Palliser Regional Schools, with central administration offices located in Lethbridge.

Palliser employs more than 900 staff including approximately 434 certificated staff and about 488 non-certificated staff in full- or part-time roles (as of Fall 2013). They serve about 7,400 students in early learning programs through Grade 12. For the 2013-2014 school year, Palliser has 15 community schools; 17 Hutterite colony schools; 10 alternative Christian schools, nine of which are in Calgary; four outreach programs; an online school and two alternative Low German Mennonite programs.

GOALS

Alberta Education has identified as its goals the provision of:

1. Excellent start to student learning;
2. Success for every student;
3. Quality teaching and school leadership;
4. Engaged and effective governance.

Palliser Regional School shares these goals as it looks ahead to 2013-2016.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Palliser conducted nine school reviews in 2012-13. As part of that process, parents, staff and students were invited to participate in a survey to share their thoughts on the school, learning and school culture. In addition, focus groups were held with students, parents and support staff. Palliser administrators continue to share information with their school councils to develop school goals that drive school improvement.

Palliser trustees regularly attend school council meetings and encourage parents to participate in school council.

Palliser is active on Twitter ([@PalliserSchools](https://twitter.com/PalliserSchools)) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/PalliserRegionalSchools). Palliser also shares information through a YouTube channel (<http://www.youtube.com/user/PalliserRegSch>).



From left, back row, Vice-Chair Don Zech, Chair Colleen Deitz, Trustees Esther Willms and Robert Strauss. Front row from left, Trustee Debbie Laturnus, Superintendent Kevin Gietz and Trustee Joan Boras.

PALLISER HIGHLIGHTS

- Palliser continues to maintain some of the strongest results in the province, as measured by Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar.
- Palliser Regional Schools adopted the theme "Today a Reader, Tomorrow a Leader" for 2013-2014 in keeping with our focus on literacy. Literacy is vital to student success and improved literacy is of benefit to students, our communities and society. Palliser has two full-time literacy coaches who work with school leaders and classroom teachers to support literacy at all grade levels, in all subject areas and in all schools. For more information, please visit <http://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/literacy>
- Palliser provides teachers opportunities for collaboration with peers from across the division during division-wide professional development days.
- Meaningful school goals and comprehensive school reviews are key tools of ongoing improvement, and each school continues efforts to ensure students enjoy a safe and aring learning environment which is foundational to their success.
- The Board of Trustees approved two key initiatives: the creation of Palliser Beyond Borders, a school providing online delivery of courses to high school students; and the development of an international student program to enhance cultural understanding and create cross-cultural opportunities for our students.

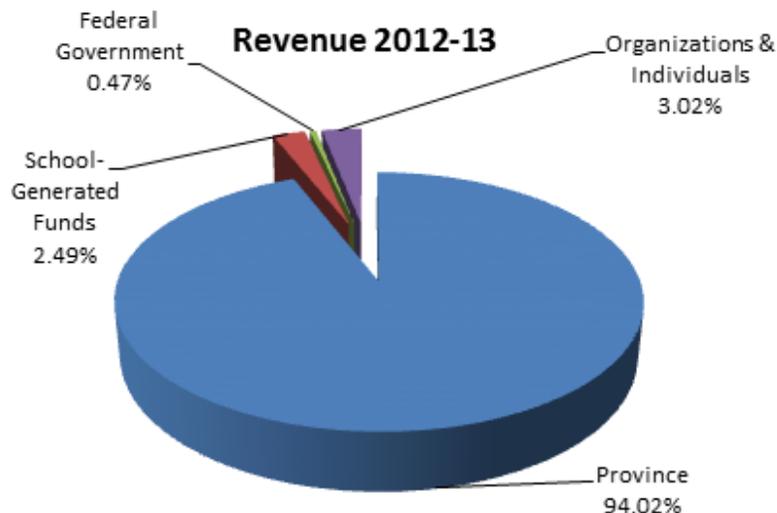
SUCCESS FOR EVERY STUDENT

Summary of the October 2013 Accountability Pillar from Alberta Education:

Measure Category	Measure Category Evaluation	Measure	Palliser Regional Schools	Alberta
Safe and Caring Schools	Excellent	Safe and Caring	92.2	89.0
Student Learning Opportunities	Excellent	Program of Studies	83.0	81.5
		Education Quality	92.6	89.8
		Drop Out Rate	2.4	3.5
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	N/A*	PAT: Acceptable	87.4	79.0
		PAT: Excellence	29.0	18.9
Student Learning Achievement (Grades 10-12)	N/A*	Diploma: Acceptable	89.1	84.6
		Diploma: Excellence	20.1	21.7
	Good	Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)	61.2	56.6
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	Excellent	Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate (Revised)	78.1	61.3
		Transition Rate (6 yr)	68.7	59.5
Parental Involvement	Excellent	Work Preparation	87.5	80.3
		Citizenship	87.5	83.4
Continuous Improvement	Excellent	Parental Involvement	87.1	80.3
		School Improvement	85.4	80.6

Results for Grade 9 PATs and diploma exams were “substantially impacted” by flooding. Alberta Education cautions use of that data for comparisons and trends as a result. On Palliser’s Accountability Pillar, key categories are marked “n/a” due to the dramatic reduction in exam participation caused by the flood.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS



Palliser’s revenues exceeded expenses for the 2012-13 school year resulting in a surplus of \$107,849. Revenues in 2012-2013 were \$82.5 million.

Key Financial Information as at August 31, 2013:

- Annual Operating Surplus - \$107,849
- Capital Reserves - \$0

Palliser routinely makes public its audited financial statements, budget documents and other reports including class size numbers.

These documents, as well as the full annual report and education plan, called our “Report to the Community, can be downloaded at our website at www.pallisersd.ab.ca/board-of-trustees/planning-and-reporting. There, you’ll also find annual audited financial statements, budget documents and class size reports from our schools,

If you’d prefer a paper copy of our reports, please call 403-328-4111 or 1-877-667-1234 toll-free.

