



Palliser Regional Schools

Highlights of our Report to the Community:

*Annual Education Results Report 2017-2018
and Three-Year Education Plan 2018-2021*

Palliser Regional Schools together we will ensure learning success for all students to develop their unique potential as caring citizens in a changing world. Our mandate is to: educate all children in an equitable manner; encourage and motivate the progressive development of fundamental knowledge, skills and attitudes; provide an educational program through a partnership of school, family and community; provide quality, life skill education to all students; foster positive self-esteem in students; and create and maintain a positive, safe and supporting learning environment. Palliser's strength lies in its diversity, and we welcomed the addition of Horizon Leadership Academy in Calgary, a faith-based alternative program with a leadership focus. We are also proud of the variety of learning options we offer, and have seen significant growth in Palliser Beyond Borders, both the online and outreach program, as well as our international program.

By the numbers, 2018-2019

- 8,494 kindergarten through Grade 12 students 1,075 dedicated, caring employees
- 15 community schools
- 11 faith-based alternative programs
- 5 outreach high schools
- 2 alternative programs for Low German-speaking Mennonite (LGM) students
- 1 LGM alternative program including junior/senior high inside a community school
- 1 online school, Palliser Beyond Borders, 1 home school program
- 17 Hutterite colony schools
- 1 international student program

Community Engagement

Palliser Trustees regularly attend school council meetings and encourage parents to participate in school council. Trustees also meet bi-annually with Society partners to discuss matters of mutual interest.

Palliser had ongoing dialogue with community stakeholders to meet the future educational needs in Iron Springs and Coaldale. This input impacted the design features for the new Huntsville School in Iron Springs slated to open in the Fall of 2020. Feedback from the Coaldale community also shaped Palliser's proposal for a new school now before the Government for consideration.

Palliser is active on Twitter (@PalliserSchools) and Facebook (www.facebook.com/PalliserRegionalSchools). Palliser also shares information through a You Tube Channel (<http://www.youtube.com/use/PalliserRegSch>).

What our stakeholders tell us

Surveys of students, staff and parents conducted by Alberta Education in February 2018 found very high levels of satisfaction with Palliser's provision of safe and caring schools, student learning opportunities, parental involvement and other measures. Highlights include:

- 91.4% of the teachers, parents and students agree that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school;
- 91.5% of teachers, parents and students are satisfied with the overall quality of basic education;
- 86.3% of teachers and parents agree students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school;
- 85.6% of teachers and parents agree that students are satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.





For the full annual report and education plan, called our “Report to the Community, can be downloaded at our website at <http://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.

Engaging Students

Palliser Regional Schools continued its efforts in 2017-2018 to provide truly engaging educational experiences for its students.

Hands-on opportunities were offered to students during Experiential Learning Week, first through a school-based pilot project and then a division-wide initiative. Whether provided through local experts or a post-secondary institution, real-life learning experiences, tied in with existing curriculum, were designed to spark a love of learning and perhaps guide students down a possible career path.

Students could choose options ranging from culinary arts to welding, and tree planting to fly-

fishing. Not only were students offered different learning opportunities than they would get in a traditional classroom setting, the community saw greater involvement in their educational experience.

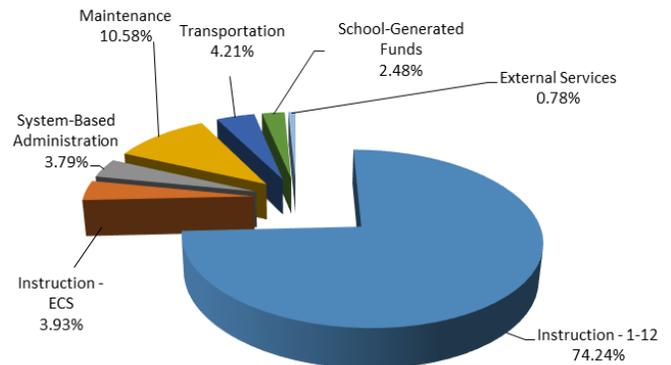
Off-campus education opportunities offered by Palliser Regional Schools increased in 2017-2018, including the introduction of a dual credit program. Students could earn high school and post-secondary credits at the same time. High school students also got a taste of a different learning environment, which should help in the transition to post-secondary education.

With one dual-credit course offered initially, the seeds were planted with several post-secondary partners to substantially expand those offerings in 2018-2019.

In 2017-2018, it cost \$98.1 million to serve about 8,265 students from kindergarten through Grade 12. Our biggest expense, and greatest resource, is people, with about 79.8 per cent of spending allocated to salaries and benefits. Their commitment shows in our outstanding results and student achievement.

Expenditures by Object 2017-2018	\$98,166,419	
Salaries & Benefits	\$78,389,245	79.85%
Services & Supplies	\$14,580,839	14.85%
School-Generated Funds	\$2,434,436	2.48%
All Depreciation & Interest	\$2,761,899	2.81%

Expenditures by Department, 2017-2018



We're listening

While 2017-2018 was a year of many changes for Palliser Regional Schools, there was also a continued commitment to stay true to the core beliefs and values that have served our students so well. There was a greater focus on student and staff wellness in 2017-2018 as Palliser Regional Schools implemented an internal wellness framework and partnered with external agencies. A cross-section of employees was brought together for a workshop on psychologically healthy workplaces, an initiative that was recommended in the division’s organizational review. In a follow-up survey, Palliser saw significant improvements in all areas of concern previously noted. Issues surrounding mental health and well-being were also highlighted in a division-wide professional development summit for staff and further work was done at each school through their Health Champions.