

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

REGULAR BOARD MEETING: SEPTEMBER 28, 2021



Truth and Reconciliation Day

Palliser School Division schools will be engaging in awareness activities related to nature, empathy, relationships, and Blackfoot language with Orange Shirt Day, landing on different days throughout the week. During the week of September 27, students in Huntsville School for example, will engage in a variety of school-wide activities, including a Medicine Wheel Feather Art Project where students will collect twigs and sticks to make a multi-media medicine wheel. As well, students will participate in a nature walk, where they will record observations from an Indigenous perspective. Divisional school, RI Baker, in consultation with Elder Bruisedhead, will be honouring National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on October 1, by giving the school a secondary Blackfoot name. Following the ceremony, students will be given the opportunity to take the information and what the name stands for, and create a Blackfoot school logo. This secondary Blackfoot name and logo will be displayed throughout the school for students to reflect on throughout the year. In addition to observing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, schools across the Division will continue to participate in Orange Shirt Day, as a way to honour residential school survivors who did not survive and their descendants. This day will be used as an opportunity to engage in meaningful conversation as a way to come together and recognize past transgressions towards Indigenous people.

COVID-19 Update

The Palliser School Division continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation across our schools. As AHS is no longer identifying nor following up with individual close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases, and quarantine for close contacts is no longer mandatory, the Division has started notifying families and school communities of reported cases of COVID-19 in our schools. We are monitoring school attendance and reporting instances to AHS where absenteeism due to illness on any given school day exceeds 10% or greater. Where absenteeism of 10% or greater has been identified by AHS due to illness, AHS is investigating and may declare an outbreak and recommend additional voluntary measures. The Palliser Guidance document was updated on September 22nd outlining specific requirements for cohorts, physical distancing, drop-off and pick-up procedures, masking, field trips, and performance activities.

Farewell to Two Trustees

At the end of Tuesday's meeting - the last one of the term before the October 18 election, the school division paid tribute to Robert Strauss and Kristine Cassie, both of whom did not seek re-election. The Board and administration thanked both trustees for their guidance, hardwork and insight that they have provided to our division over the years.

The next meeting of the Palliser Board of Trustees is

October 26, 2021 .