

# Board Meeting Highlights:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: June 18, 2025



## Palliser School Division Approves New Five-Year Strategic Plan

Palliser School Division's Board of Trustees approved the Division's new five-year strategic plan. This plan will guide Palliser's work from 2025 to 2030 and reflects the Division's ongoing commitment to supporting the success and well-being of every student.

The strategic plan was developed with input from students, families, staff, and community members. The feedback was collected and analyzed by an external partner, Incite, and helped shape six key goals that will focus the Division's efforts in the years ahead.

In these initial stages, the Division office team will take the lead on setting priorities, developing action plans, and establishing how progress will be measured. Staff and stakeholders will be engaged as this work moves forward, ensuring the plan's vision is brought to life across the Division.

The Board of Trustees is committing to deepening their community engagement practices for the upcoming school year.

Full plan available on Division Website: [Five-Year Strategic Plan](#)



## Expansion of Benefits for Non-Qualifying Employees

Division employees who are not currently eligible for benefits under the Alberta School Board Employee Benefit Plan will now have the option to enroll in employee-paid benefits program. Eligible employees will receive information and an invitation to enroll over the summer. Staff members who are currently part of the co-pay benefit plan will also have the opportunity to opt into this new option.

# Board Meeting Highlights:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: June 17, 2025



## Terry Fox Run

Superintendent Driscoll has received a letter of gratitude from the Terry Fox Foundation acknowledging the generosity of Palliser Schools in support of the 2024 Terry Fox School Run. Twenty-five Palliser schools raised \$18,255.37 for the Foundation in support of cancer research.

The division wishes to highlight the efforts of Vulcan Prairieview Elementary School for being recognized by the Foundation as having reached “Top Fundraising” status in Alberta for 2024, making the list as one of the top 25 fundraising elementary schools in the province. Vulcan Prairieview students have participated in Terry Fox School Runs for 22 years.

The Foundation commends the leadership of the Board for setting a shining example of what can be accomplished with a focused goal and a collaborative spirit of generosity and determination.

As the Foundation plans for September 2025, it is launching a campaign to register all schools in Canada for the Terry Fox School Run and is encouraging school divisions across the country to endorse the run.



## Financial Literacy and Physical Education And Wellness Curriculum Update

The Division has received some questions from families and community members inquiring about financial literacy and how it is taught in our schools, especially as it pertains to the younger grades. Students begin learning financial literacy as early as kindergarten, where they explore what money is, how it is used, and what Canadian money looks like.

By the time they reach Grade 6, students will have an understanding of banks, loans, investing, and even digital currencies.

# Board Meeting Highlights:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: June 17, 2025



## Off-Campus Report

Palliser's Off-Campus team supports our students through career exploration. This team has grown the offerings available to our students in incredible ways in the last five years. In 2016-17, only 2 students were enrolled in dual credit programs; today, that number has surpassed 180. Similarly, participation in work experience, Green Certificate, and RAP programs has expanded dramatically, with over 500 students engaged this year. Highlights from 2024-2025 include:

- The addition of a new Off-Campus Teacher (South Schools), a full-time Career Practitioner (Coaldale), and additional support staff
- Student success in Pre-Employment programs in Pipe Trades, Electrician, and Heavy Equipment Technician, earning 19-30 high school credits.
- A new partnership with Lethbridge Polytechnic for the Medical First Responder program, aiming for guaranteed Primary Care Paramedic acceptance.
- Received a \$150,000 in grants to enhance dual credit offerings.
- A pilot Early Childhood Education/Teaching Career Pathway in Coaldale, providing hands-on learning as older students spend time teaching younger students.
- A continued focus on building core competencies and executive functioning skills for grades 7-9 to support a smoother transition to high school.
- The nearing completion of Southern Alberta Collegiate at Lethbridge Polytechnic, with a planned move-in date of August 22, 2025, and grand opening in October.



Students report that these programs open their eyes to new career possibilities, provide valuable real-life skills, and offer engaging, hands-on learning experiences. To learn more about career exploration in our Division, please visit [the Palliser Off-Campus website](#).



# Board Meeting Highlights:

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD: June 17, 2025



## English as Additional Language Report

Palliser's English as an Additional Language (EAL) team continues to make a significant impact, supporting thousands of students in their language development journey. This year, we have 3,820 identified EAL learners enrolled across our division, an increase of 134 students compared to last year.

2024-2025 highlights include:

- Ongoing implementation of Making Content Comprehensible, ensuring language and content instruction are integrated to support student success.
- Expansion of professional learning opportunities for all staff, including targeted support for early learning and language instructors.
- Full implementation of the new EAL Benchmarks across schools, with professional development provided to ensure effective use.
- A collaborative approach to professional learning, involving sharing expertise within Pallier as well as partnerships with provincial consortia and other school divisions.
- A high concentration of EAL learners across our division: 2,503 in Calgary area schools, 662 in Lethbridge, 147 in Vulcan, and 357 in colony schools.

Achievement data shows encouraging trends, with a continued focus on literacy and numeracy support:

- Provincial literacy assessments for Grades 1-3 indicate steady participation and support for students requiring additional assistance.
- Our team continues to monitor achievement on Grades 6 and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests and high school outcomes, ensuring alignment with targeted interventions.

These efforts reflect our division's commitment to fostering language acquisition and academic achievement for EAL students as they transition through school and beyond.

### CONTACT US

The Palliser School Division

Direct Line: (587) 486-0311

Phone: (403) 328-4111

or (1-877-667-1234 toll-free)

Fax: (403) 380-6890

[www.pallisersd.ab.ca](http://www.pallisersd.ab.ca)

Facebook: Palliser School Division

Instagram: @PalliserSchools

**The next regular Board Meeting will be on Sep 2, 2025**