

Board Meeting HIGHLIGHTS

DECEMBER 17, 2024



Our Vision

Our students possess the confidence, resilience, insight and skills required to thrive in, and positively impact, the world.

Our Board

Aileen Wagner
WARD 1

Lorraine Stewart (Chair)
WARD 2

Aimee Hennig (V. Chair)
WARD 3

Paul McCann
WARD 4

Eric Cameron
WARD 5

Anne Montgomery
WARD 5

Jill Osborne
WARD 5

Find more online

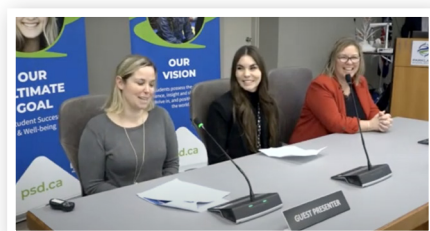
Watch a video recording of the meeting by clicking on the image below.



Trustee profiles and more at
www.psd.ca/board

Counselling Supports Presentation

The Board welcomed Josée Huston (Division Psychologist), Brittany Thorarinson (School Counsellor) and Leah Andrews (Principal, Forest Green School) who presented on student supports in schools. They explained PSD's tiered approach to supports and services (universal, targeted and individual) and shared how integral counsellors are to educational development.



School Calendar

Trustees received as information the [2025-2026 School Year Calendar](#). Each year, the Division invites stakeholders to take a survey and provide feedback on the draft calendar for the upcoming school year. The survey is also used to gather input from the partners in our regional transportation system. The school calendar is finalized after careful consideration of stakeholder feedback, the placement of non-instructional professional development days, and Alberta Education's schedule for diploma exams.

Important dates in 2025-2026 include:

- First Day of School on Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2025;
- Fall Break from Nov. 10-14, 2025;
- Spring Break beginning on March 30, 2026; and,
- Last Day of School on Friday, June 26, 2026.

Board Policies

The Board approved revised versions of [Board Policy 8: Board Committees and Representation](#) and [Board Policy 11: Board Delegation of Authority](#).

Potential Board Bylaw

Trustees debated whether to require criminal record checks for school trustee candidates. If the Board passed a bylaw requiring a criminal record check by December 31, 2024, the paperwork would be required for the 2025 municipal election. After deliberations, Trustees voted against the [recommendation to pass a bylaw](#); therefore, a criminal record check will not be required to run in the upcoming PSD School Trustee election.

Advocacy Update

Per PSD's [Board Policy 2](#): the Board shall establish and maintain governance and organizational structures that promote student well-being and success which includes an annual plan for advocacy. Recent Board advocacy includes:

- The Board is collaborating with Parkland County on a letter to the Minister of Transportation and Economic Corridors regarding roadway and traffic concerns related to Highway 779 near [Muir Lake School](#). The joint letter addresses and suggests solutions to issues, including the lack of a decrease in the speed limit near the school, inadequate signage to warn drivers of high traffic congestion during peak school arrival and departure times, and merge lanes that are too short to safely accommodate the volume of traffic accessing the school parking lot.
- Board Chair Stewart encouraged all Trustees to complete the Province's online survey soliciting Albertans' views on priorities for government spending in the 2025-2026 provincial budget. The survey provides an additional opportunity to relay the critical importance of ensuring sufficient education funding.

Other highlights

- Outgoing Transportation Director, John Blood presented the [Transportation Services Department Report](#). Trustees and the Executive Leadership Team wish him well as he heads into retirement.
- [Student Wellness Report](#)
- [Career Pathways Report](#)
- [Benefit Plan Advisory Committee Report](#)