

Fairview & Area Learning Store



Bridging Gaps

Building Futures

Notes From the Underground

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Moses Garaba

Surely 2020 has not gone as planned. What a year it has been for all of us. Thankfully we have made it to the last week of school before the holiday and look forward to better things.

Please be sure to take note of the Important Dates listed on this page as well as the letter from Dr. Bennett on pages 3 and 4 for information on when students return after the Christmas break.

On behalf of the staff and students of Fairview and Area Learning Store I would like to wish everyone a healthy and restful Christmas and a Happy 2021.

Please stay safe.

From all of us, a Merry Christmas!

IMPORTANT DATES:

- ◆ **CHRISTMAS SCHOOL DECORATING:**
December 3, 2020
- ◆ **CHRISTMAS SUBWAY LUNCH:**
December 17, 2020
- ◆ **LAST DAY OF SCHOOL:**
December 18, 2020
- ◆ **AT HOME LEARNING for Students:** January 4-8, 2021
- ◆ **FIRST DAY BACK:**
January 11, 2021



SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Message from Superintendent Paul Bennett

Have your say on the Divisional School Calendar



In December, we will invite members of our school communities to review and provide input on the proposed 2021-2022 Divisional School Calendar for Peace River School Division. We welcome and encourage input from our families, staff and community members in order to help us develop our divisional school calendar reflecting the needs of our school communities.

All input received regarding the proposed 2021-2022 Calendar will be reviewed by the PRSD Calendar Committee that consists of a parent, teacher, principals, management and representatives from neighbouring school boards. Input from our school communities will be reviewed and considered as the committee collaboratively develops a calendar for the PRSD Board of Trustees' consideration. The Board of Trustees will review the calendar and input as collected and the calendar will be presented to the board for their approval at the March 2021 board meeting.

Please watch for more information on how to share your input on the school calendar in the upcoming weeks. We will share more details through newsletters, websites, email and social media.

This is an excellent opportunity for our families and school communities to be involved in decision making on a school and divisional level, and we thank you in advance for your input.





November 26, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff:

Further to Peace River School Division's initial correspondence on November 25, 2020, outlining the mandatory shifts in learning as announced from the Alberta Government on November 24, 2020, this correspondence provides greater details and clarification of what the weeks ahead will look like.

First and foremost, we would like to take this opportunity to thank our school communities. This ever-changing landscape impacts everyone and we are extremely grateful for the continued support, patience and understanding of all our school communities.

Please note that it is expected, and very much encouraged that students participate fully in at-home learning as outlined in PRSD's Scenario 3 Plan. Grades will be given for assignments, quizzes, exams, and projects that will go toward each student's final mark. Content delivery for each grade is broken down as per Alberta Education guidelines in the PRSD Scenario 3 Plan. [View PRSD's Scenario 3 Plan in detail HERE.](#)

Schedule:

- **November 30, 2020 – December 18, 2020** – grades 7 – 12 classes will move to Scenario 3 (at home learning). Kindergarten to grade six classes continue at school until December 18, 2020.
- **December 18, 2020 – January 3, 2021** – Christmas Break – no school for students or staff.
- **January 4, 2021 – January 9, 2021** – All classes (Kindergarten to grade 12) will move to Scenario 3 (at-home learning)
- **January 11, 2021** – Kindergarten to grade 12 students return to in-person classes at school

Additional Points:

- Technology will be loaned to families who require it for online learning. This is being coordinated by the school.
- For families without reliable internet services, schools will share plans whereby packages of materials will be developed and made available for students, and for students to return any required work for feedback and grading.

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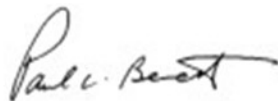
Rhonda Freeman

- Students with special or complex needs and/or high-risk circumstances in grades 7 – 12 may attend school (if staffing levels are adequate) to receive specialized programming. This is being coordinated by PRSD Learning Services Department and each respective school.
- Individual students in grades 7 – 12 may attend the school by appointment for additional help, to use resources, or gather materials.
- PRSD School Social Workers will provide mental health support via single phone sessions for students who are struggling. The 15-30 minute phone sessions can be coordinated by parents by speaking with their child's teacher or school principal.
- Grades 10-12 students enrolled in Career and Technology Studies (CTS) courses will continue their studies with modified learning at the discretion of the teacher.
- Peace Regional Outreach Campus and Daycare and Fairview and Area Learning Store will remain open with no disruption to the current structure and schedule.
- Bus services for grades 7 – 12 students (who normally ride the school bus) is available for students who have an appointment at the school. In order for the Transportation Department to transition the routes smoothly for pick up, the PRSD transportation department must be notified 48 hours in advance of the appointment. Details such as the length of the appointment is critical to coordinate transportation services.
- Staffing levels and funding remain intact.

PRSD reminds families to monitor for any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 using the [Alberta Health Screening Questionnaire](#). If you or a member of your family has any of the symptoms of illness listed, please complete the online [Alberta Health Services COVID-19 self-assessment](#).

PRSD remains committed to meeting government requirements to ensure the safety and well-being of our school communities. Thank you for your patience, understanding, and support as we coordinate and plan according to the new requirements.

Sincerely,



Dr. Paul Bennett
Superintendent of Schools
Peace River School Division



Nods for Mods!

We are thrilled to announce the resumption of our world famous Nods for Mods incentive program for students.

Whenever a student completes a module or exam their name is placed in a draw box for a chance to win a subway gift card. Since we were a bit behind getting this program off the ground this year, we decided to give every one of our hard working students lunch on us to start off this years program, and in the past month we have drawn the names of two students.

Going forward a draw will be held every second week until the end of the school year. Way to go FALS students,

You Rock!!



Emmalee Gelech



Cynder Duggan





Children and adults face challenging situations every day at home, at work, at school, online, and in their communities. Discussing and teaching personal safety skills with children is important to their overall well-being and provides them with important life skills.

Examples of personal safety skills that are important for children to learn include: how to be and act aware, calm and confident, how to be prepared for different situations and activities, how to take charge, how to set boundaries, how to get help, and how to protect oneself. It is also very important that children know how to call 9-1-1, know their address, phone number and their parents' names.

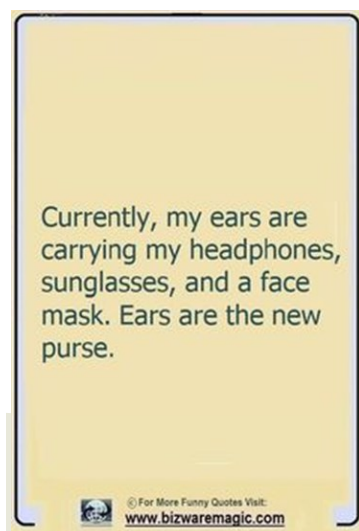
As adults, being mindful and present in our daily activities will reflect onto our children, at home, at school and in our communities. Whenever possible, use teachable moments to reinforce personal safety practices and above all, ensure children know how to get help if they need it.

COVID-19 has certainly caused us to look at our personal safety in new ways. Washing our hands, wearing a mask, staying 6 feet apart and maintaining our cohorts are some of the new ways of living we are faced with. These personal safety measures not only protect ourselves but they protect our loved ones and those around us.

Peace River School Division encourages our school communities to continue to look after their personal safety and wishes everyone a safe and healthy holiday season. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank our school communities for their ongoing support and patience during these challenging times.

We wish you a safe and happy holiday season! Joint Worksite Health and Safety Committee

Covid Humour...



"I'm not saying I'm going to suck at homeschooling my kids but my daughter just asked, 'Dad, what's a synonym?' And I replied, 'It's a spice.'" —**Joe Heenan**

"So far, 2020 is like looking both ways before you cross the street then getting hit by an airplane" —**Unknown**



[Home](#) → [Education and training](#) → [Kindergarten to Grade 12 education](#) → [K to 12 provincial assessment](#) → [Diploma exams](#)

Diploma exams

Resources to help students prepare to write diploma exams and information for exam administrators.



COVID-19 response:

The November 2020, January 2021, April 2021, June 2021 and August 2021 diploma exams are optional due to COVID-19.

For further information see: [Learning during COVID-19](#).

Applying to post-secondary

To find out whether a student needs to write a diploma exam to apply to a specific post-secondary institution, contact that institution.

Please check out this link for answers regarding Diploma exams:

<https://www.alberta.ca/diploma-exams.aspx>



What in the world is happening at FALS!??



