



Peace Wapiti Public School Division  
March 13, 2025 - Peace Wapiti Board Meeting - 10:30 AM

- 1 **Trustee Disclosure (Reminder)**
- 2 **Call to Order (Chair)**
- 3 **O Canada**
- 4 **Land Acknowledgement**
- 5 **Consent Agenda (Chair)**

that the Board approve the Consent Agenda including:

  1. **Peace Wapiti Board Minutes** - February 20, 2025
  2. **International Travel - pending compliance with Policy HGCG Off-Site-Activities**
    - a. Hythe Regional School and Helen E. Taylor School - Approval in Principle Request - Japan, Spring Break 2026
  3. **Information**
    - a. Speaker's Corner Report, Tr. Riding
- 6 **Adoption of Agenda (Chair)**
- 7 **Good News**
- 8 **Presentations**
  - 8.1 11:30 a.m. Numeracy Annual Report (Asst. Supt. Rose)
  - 8.2 12:45 p.m. Inclusive Education Annual Report (Asst. Supt. O'Shea)
- 9 **Action Items**
  - 9.1 Approval of Capital Plan (Dep. Supt. Young)
  - 9.2 Friends of Education (Tr. Piebiak)
  - 9.3 2025 Election
    - 9.3.1 Deputy Returning Officer (Sec. Houle)
    - 9.3.2 Joint Elections (Sec. Houle)
  - 9.4 Eaglesham Playschool (Tr. Piebiak)
- 10 **Reports**
  - 10.1 Superintendent's Report (Supt. Stewart)
  - 10.2 Alberta Rural Education Symposium (Tr. Piebiak)
    - 📎 Tr. Riding Report
  - 10.3 ASBA Zone 1 Meeting (Tr. Riding)
  - 10.4 Political Action Committee Report (Tr. McIntosh)

- 11 Board Calendar**
- 11.1 CASS First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Gathering (Tr. Clarke)
- 11.2 CSBA 2025 Conference (Tr. Riding)
- 12 Adjournment**

## Trustee Meeting Report/PD Request Form

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**Trustee:** Blaine Riding

**Name of Meeting/Workshop/Session:** Rural Education Symposium

**Date of Meeting:** 2025-03-02

**Three Key Points:**

1. Sunday night-Minister Nicolaides. He talked of the budget which just came out on February 27. He stated that education was one of the few government departments that saw an increase in its funding. Classroom complexity grants are going up. There are two new grants which are Small Rural School's Grant and the Geographic Grant. He stayed for a Q and A session and is well regarded by the group of trustees. Our board will not really know anything about how the budget affects Peace Wapiti until the funding manual comes through in early April.
2. Monday-Dr. Joel Westheimer-Education that Matters for the Students We Teach. Schools foster democratic values. They help the child reach their full potential and it might not be in academics. The goal of schools is to improve society. He had a saying that "democracy must be reborn in every generation and education is the midwife". He commented on standardized testing is part of the global education reform that is going on presently, but he also said the schools are not like Macdonalds where everything is standardized. One other important saying that Westheimer stated was, "comfort the troubled, and trouble the comfortable". It a comment that while a citizen should be empathetic toward others, you must always question the complacency that can occur in society. He has three visions for society: you can be a problem-solving citizen, a participatory citizen, and a personally responsible citizen. In the end, he told the story of his family getting out of pre-World War II Nazi Germany. His father's family fled to Lisbon and his mother left Germany on a Kindertransport to Switzerland. She remembers her mother and grandmother running alongside the train waving goodbye. It was the last time she saw them. Forging Career Pathways-Dr Carla Johnson and Holly Bilton-They talked about Dual Credit and the way that Career Pathways take place in Germany. Trades need academic people too. Kids need to be pushed to do hard things because it teaches resiliency. Kids also need to be taught that it is alright to FAIL. We need people to be creative and innovative; the problem with this is that we teach it out of them by Junior High. Being uncomfortable in a situation is an important part of learning. "Be the ball that bounces back" was an important phrase that the two of them used. Another issue with school is that it is based on an industrial model that was created 150 years ago and it is still being used. Transformational Family and Community Engagement: A Means to Equitable Outcomes-Dr. Debbie Pushor-She talked about family engagement and how it has to be authentic and meaningful. For teachers, she said that it was important to create a partnership because families play a role in a student's achievement. Parent volunteers are important in a school; they can become mentors.

\* The Board will be surveyed once a year (at the last Board meeting in June) to select Professional Development Training for the upcoming year.

3. Tuesday-Generative AI and the Changing Landscape of Education-Dr. Alex Couros-Big changes coming to K-12 education in Alberta. AI can reduce creativity. A teacher can use AI to give feedback to their students on an assignment. Can you trust AI? Couros went through several options to show us what AI can be used for. It can be quite handy in the hands of a skilled person. He also talked about the CRAAP test which is used to evaluate sources. It stands for currency, relevance, authority, accuracy, and purpose. Trustee Panel Discussion-They talked about how public education teaches democracy. School districts also have to grow their own teachers if they want to retain teachers. Communities are the backbone of the province. When it comes to community engagement, AI may be a possible solution when it comes to gathering feedback on a particular issue.

**Making Connections:**

Was this session connected primarily to Governance? (Make the connection.)

No

Comments:

Which, if any, of the Assurance Priorities (Student Learning, Equity and Wellness) were captured in this PD session? (Make the connection.)

Student learning was covered when it came to talking about AI and the challenges that come with it.

**Professional Development Recommendations\***

Were there any professional development recommendations coming from this meeting?

No

I recommend the Board consider the following Professional Development (include presenter's name and contact info if possible):

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