

# GUIDING OUR FUTURE Engagement Summary

## Junior High Programming in Beaverlodge & Hythe



The Peace Wapiti Public School Division (PWPSD) organized the following opportunities for the public to share their thoughts on the most important considerations for junior high programming in the communities of Beaverlodge and Hythe. This input will be used by PWPSD in combination with logistical, financial and planning considerations to make decisions about junior high school programming in these communities.

Thank you to everyone who participated in this conversation. This is a complex discussion concerning important issues such as school programming, the needs of students, change and maintaining vibrant schools and a positive learning experience. Your voice and participation will help us ensure sustainable results.

This document offers a summary of the results of the community engagement for junior high programming that took place in January and February 2023. All the input and feedback will be collected, analyzed and shared with Administration, the Board of Trustees and all participants prior to the end of the 2022-2023 school year. We will share a more detailed What We Heard report on our website in May 2023 at [www.pwpsd.ca](http://www.pwpsd.ca).



### Online Surveys

- An online survey was available from January 24-February 24. We shared three potential scenarios for junior high programming and asked community members to share the benefits, trade-offs and potential impacts of each scenario.
- Community members were also asked to share their ideas for other ways to configure junior high programming in these communities.

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**683 Completed Surveys**

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### Brainstorming Ideas with the Community

- Using a crowd-sourcing survey tool called All Our Ideas, we brainstormed ideas for junior high programming together with the community and asked participants to share which ideas aligned most with them.
- 15,178 votes were received on a wide range of submissions between January 24 and February 3, 2023.

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**Over 450 Idea Submissions**

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### Staff Deliberative Forums

- In-person, facilitated conversations with school teachers and staff were held at Beaverlodge Elementary School and Hythe Regional School on February 14 and 15, 2023.
- At each event, attendees discussed the benefits, drawbacks and considerations for each of the three scenarios under consideration for junior high programming.

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**Over 58 School Staff**

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### Student Conversations

- PWPSD staff spoke to elementary, junior high and high school students at Beaverlodge Elementary School, Beaverlodge Regional High School, and Hythe Regional School on February 7, 9 and 13, 2023 asking them to share their perspectives on junior high programming.

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**Over 265 Students**

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### Community Conversations

- In-person community conversations took place on February 14, 15 and 16 in Beaverlodge, Hythe and Horse Lake First Nation. At each event, project team members shared the three scenarios for junior high programming under consideration and asked attendees to share the benefits, drawbacks and considerations for each scenario.
- Participants were encouraged to share their ideas for other ways to maximize benefits and address drawbacks, ask questions for compilation and response, and to also complete the online survey following each event.
- Additional emails, letters and phone calls from community members received by PWPSD will also be included along with the overall feedback.

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**Over 185 Community Members**

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### How We Communicated

- Sent emails to students and families through school email lists.
- Responded to 28 emails and 18 letters from engaged community members
- Posted on the official Facebook, Twitter and Instagram pages.
- Created a dedicated "Guiding our Future" page on pwpsd.ca website.
- Distributed printed posters at Beaverlodge Elementary School, Beaverlodge Regional High School, and Hythe Regional School.