

## Special Interest Articles

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## This Month's Highlights:

- **Twins Day Feb 22**
- **Hot Lunch February 22 – Hamburger Sale**
- **Pink Shirt Day Feb 24**

### Attendance

Please inform the office if your child is going to be away from school or is sick.

You can call at any time as we do have an answering machine.

780-584-3751

## Virtue of the Month February – Kindness



## Kindness - Build People Up

### Valentine's Buddies - Card Exchange

Kindergarten to Grade 9 are preparing Valentine's cards, during school time, for a "secret" buddy in a different grade. Students will receive the name of their "secret" buddy from their teacher and exchange cards on Feb. 15.

### Use Your WITS

We strive to be kind and work together, but conflicts will still arise in everyday life. We are revisiting the WITS program to help our students Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it Out, and seek help when dealing with teasing and bullying to keep our school and community a fun place to be and learn.

### New Supports in Place and Staffing Changes

Our school division has been very supportive in providing extra administrative and PA time. We have welcomed back Debbie Breitz from retirement and she is teaching Gr. 2&3 LA, which allows Mrs. Hiemstra more time in the office. We have also received additional funding to provide extra PA supervision at bus times.

We have said "au revoir" to Miss Whiting who is now doing Speech & Language assistance throughout the division. We will see her back at the Fort in her new role on a weekly basis. Mrs. Nelson is now assisting full time in Grade 1.

### Parent Advisory Council (PAC) - Wed. Feb. 23 @ 6:00 pm in the Library

Parent input is needed to provide valuable feedback about our school Education Plan. We will look at all the current programs and supports that the school offers and discuss what's working well, what needs to be changed, what is no longer viable, and are there other solutions. Posters will be set out around the library for parents to record their thoughts.

### School Council Update - Executive Representation Needed

In order to have a functioning School Council there must be a representative willing to serve in the role as Chairperson. The main role of the Chairperson is to communicate with the Principal and set an agenda together before a meeting is held. A community member may be elected Chairperson if no parent is willing to be nominated as chair. We are trying one last time for the 2021-2022 school year to elect an executive. **We will have an election meeting at 7:00 pm in the Library on Feb. 23 (after the PAC meeting).** If a School Council can not be formed we will proceed with a Parent Advisory Committee for the rest of the school year, and hold an establishment meeting again in the fall.

While we await the formation of a School Council executive, please contact me directly with any questions or concerns that you would like to see on the School Council agenda.

Lorna Hiemstra  
Principal  
[lorna.hiemstra@pembinahills.ca](mailto:lorna.hiemstra@pembinahills.ca)  
(780) 584-3751

## Fun in the Sun!!



### Important Upcoming Days:

March 4 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL  
 March 11 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL  
 March 18 - PD Day NO SCHOOL  
 March 25 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL  
 March 28 - April 1 - SPRING BREAK - NO SCHOOL  
 April 4 - Classes Resume

### Jr High CTF/Option Classes

Jan 10 – Feb 25

#### Monday & Wednesday

**Basketball Skills or Winter Games/Activities**

#### Tuesday & Thursday

**Drama or Genius Hour**

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#### Skating Schedule ONLY

Skating in January and Feb  
 STARTING JAN 17th

Mon/Wed	Tues/Thurs
	11:45 - 12:15 4/5's
1:00 - 2:00pm 1/2/3's	1:00 - 1:50 6/7's
3-3:50 - CTF CURLING WEDNESDAYS	2:00 - 2:50 8/9's & K

Students will need their own skates, a CSA Approved helmet, and ski pants.

Parent volunteers must be registered ahead of time at the office. Covid measures are to be followed: masks worn in the lobby, and stay 2m apart (dressing rooms are available to avoid congestion in the lobby).

## February 2022

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	Jan 31	1	2 	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Extra Kindergarten Day	10 Teacher's Convention NO SCHOOL	11 Teacher's Convention NO SCHOOL	12
13	14 	15 Valentine Card Exchange Wear RED day	16	17	18 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	19
20	21 Family Day NO SCHOOL	22 Dress Up Day-Twin's Day	23 Parent Advisory Council (PAC) Meeting 6:00 p.m. School Council Elections @ 7:00 p.m.	24 Pink Shirt Day 	25	26
27	28	March 1	2	3	4 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	5

### Elementary Basketball Schedule

Thurs. Feb 3 Fort @Dunstable depart 3:00, return approx 6:30 pm

Mon. Feb 7 Host Barrhead Elementary 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Tues. Feb 15 Host Swan Hills 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Thurs. Feb 24 Fort @Neerlandia depart 12:15, return at 4:00 pm

Thurs March 3 PHSD West Tournament @ Barrhead Elem.



### Junior High Basketball Schedule

Wed Feb 2 Fort @ BCHS

Mon. Feb 14 Divisional Tournament @ Westlock Spirit Center



# PHSD Board News

## Board News

### Student Services Director presents assurance report

Director of Student Services Rob McGarva presented the board with a comprehensive [report](#) on the support services that Pembina Hills School Division provides to its students. Pembina Hills students with identified needs consistently perform better than provincial averages for students with identified needs on achievement tests and graduation rates. Dr. McGarva links those successes to key priorities and strategies including:

- **Student-staff relationships**
- **Focus on literacy and numeracy**
- **Support for staff**

The board expressed its appreciation for the report, and for the important work that the Student Services team does.

### Financial update projects small surplus

The board received a [report](#) outlining the financial operations of the division for the first three months of the school year. Overall, the school division's finances are on budget, and the current projection is for a small surplus.

### Board to meet with local government leaders

The board regularly meets with elected and appointed officials in order to engage with the community, to share what's important to the division, and to learn what's important to other government bodies. The board discussed dates and logistics for meeting with Reeves, Mayors, and administrators for the towns, counties and villages that the board serves.

Meetings will be scheduled over the next few months, and the topics to be discussed include the division's key priorities and highlights, as well as other topics as needed

Melissa Hanna – [Melissa.hanna@pembinahills.ca](mailto:Melissa.hanna@pembinahills.ca) – 780-333-8753

## Trustee



## Student's Activities Report

### Valentines Card Exchange

On Tuesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, Kindergarten through Grade nine will be sharing a special Valentine's Day Card.

Each student will be randomly partnered with another student. We've kept this as close to their class cohorts as possible.

Students will have time during the school day to prepare a special Valentine for their partner.

If you have any questions with regards to the card exchange, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. \*Please note there will be no cross grade St. Patrick Day activities this year.



### PINK SHIRT DAY

Thursday February 24

Pink Shirts have be purchased for each student to wear that day - shirts will be handed out closer to Feb 24

### Dress Up Day

Twin's Day Tues(Two's)day  
2/22/22 - February 22, 2022

### HOT LUNCH

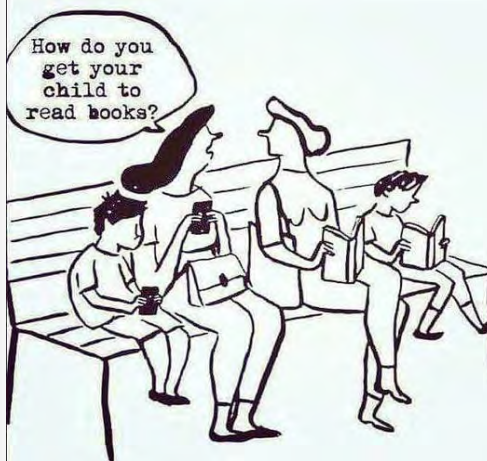
Hamburger Sale - Feb 22  
Pre-order forms coming home soon



Kindergarten and Grade 1 classes learned about some small things that we can do to make a big difference in keeping our world beautiful!



**Fort Assiniboine Public Library**



Sunday: Closed  
Monday:  
08:30 AM - 04:00 PM  
Tuesday:  
08:30 AM - 04:00 PM  
06:00 PM - 08:00 PM  
Wednesday:  
08:30 AM - 04:00 PM  
Thursday:  
08:30 AM - 04:00 PM  
Friday:  
08:30 AM - 04:00 PM  
Saturday: Closed

Phone:  
780-584-2227

Check out new book titles on Facebook (Fort Assiniboine Public Library) or our website <https://fortassiniboinelibrary.ab.ca/>



**Fort Assiniboine Arena**

**Open Skating Schedule**

Open skating is per household only, please book your time with Penny @ 780-584-2100

Saturday & Sunday  
9am - 5pm  
(unless arena is booked)

Masks must be worn in the lobby, physical distancing on the ice.

**February**  
5, 6, 13, 19, 20, 26, 27

**March**  
5, 6, 13, 19, 20 last day of Family Skate

**Parent Advisory Council / School Council**

Parent Advisory Council (PAC) - Wed. Feb. 23 @ 6:00 pm in the Library

Parent input is needed to provide valuable feedback about our school Education Plan.

We will try one more time to elect a School Council Executive at 7:00 pm in the Library on Feb. 23 (after the PAC meeting).

While we await the formation of a School Council executive, please contact Mrs. Hiemstra directly with any questions or concerns that you would like to see on the School Council agenda.

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**Parent Society Highlights - General Annual Meeting Feb 23**

The Parent Society is having our AGM February 23rd in the library at 2:30. The Executive Positions of President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member at Large are all up for nomination. If you'd like more information on a position please contact a Society Member. Parents are also welcome to become a member to receive information at any time and not have a role on the board.

- President: Tara McQueen
- Vice President: Teresa Dekker
- Secretary: Megan Petryshen
- Treasurer: vacant
- Members at Large: Penny Price & Jenni Williams

Little Caesars Pizza Fundraising is back! Unfortunately we will be only doing online orders. The deadline to order is February 13th, delivery will be February 28th, more delivery info will be sent out when we have it.

Group ID: 155408  
Fundraiser ID: 403701

\*\*\*\*\*

**Parent Society Casino Fundraiser**

Looking for 10 volunteers from April 29 -May 1 to work the Casino in Fort McMurray  
**NO** experience is necessary

Volunteers will need to show proof of vaccination or Negative COVID test  
Parent Society will pay for all expenses - Hotel, Travel COVID testing

Our School heavily relies on this Fundraiser taking place every second year. Please consider volunteering for this or talk to family/friends without children in school and ask if they might consider volunteering.

If you need more information about this fundraiser, example: What would I be doing at the casino? Please call Teresa Dekker at 780-584-2422

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**Thank you  
Woodlands County  
for coming in and  
building us such  
awesome snow hills for  
the students to play on at  
recess breaks. As you  
can see from the smiles  
on their faces they LOVE  
them.**



Grade One started their Building Unit in Science. Lots of Green and Golds handed out for having a growth mindset! The challenge was to build a table and chair, the height of their foot or less. We saw lots of tables topple and heard "this is hard" but the kids worked through it and kept trying new ways to find success



## Misty Ridge Ski Hill

We are open from 10 till 4 on February, Thursday the 10th and Friday the 11th for Teachers Convention, Monday the 21st for Family Day with our Annual Card Box Race, And also open Friday, March 4 and Friday the 18th for PD day and over Spring Break if we make it that far.

Also a special evening on March 5<sup>th</sup> we are celebrating our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with night skiing and free supper and fireworks.

The chalet is open to use the washroom and a take out concession. There will be a fire outside and there are lots of picnic tables outside to enjoy lunches or snacks.

There are also 2 warm up shacks around the fire. As far as Covid guidelines - we are the same as the school, mask up when indoors and if you can not social distance in line up at the lift.

Hope to see you at the hill.

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## Hydroponics Update

Our Junior High students have been busy working on their hydroponics project in our hallway. Last spring our junior high students/teachers put together a proposal to Inside Education to build a Hydroponics System for our school. The students had to research, draw plannings and submit their application. Since the beginning of September they have been expanding on their ideas, prepping and preparing the area for their project and finally building their design. We are looking forward to watching and enjoying the plants that they will grow and harvest for the school.

