

Special Interest Articles

Principal's Message - Page 1

Calendar - Page 2

Students Union - Page 3

Trustee's Message - Page 4

School Council/Parent Society - Page 5

School Engage/Skating - Page 6

Pembina Hills Survey - Page 7

This Month's Highlights:

- **Christmas Dinner
December 13**
- **Christmas Concert
December 15**
- **Christmas Break Dec 21 –
Jan 3, 2023**

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



Joy is what happens to us when we allow ourselves to recognize how good things really are.

-Marianne Williamson-

'Tis the Season of Joy

Thank you Parent Society!

Our parent society has been actively looking for ways to support our school. They have recently funded \$13,000 for 26 new touch screen Chromebooks for our Gr. 6-9 students, 4 new iPads with text read-aloud technology, and a new 75" Viewsonic Interactive Board for one of our classrooms. Thank you to our community for supporting their fundraisers. We are excited about the next major project: a covered outdoor structure for outdoor learning.

Christmas Concert Thurs. Dec. 15, 7:00 pm

We are looking forward to having our gym full of family members for the Christmas Concert again. Each class will be singing a couple of songs, our Gr. 6-9 will be playing handbells and performing a short skit that they wrote themselves (we have scaled back our production a bit this year as we are doing a full week of theater production in February).

Turkey Dinner Dec. 13

Thank you to Woodlands County for their continued support donating turkeys for this special meal. We are looking for a few food donations and volunteers to help prepare and serve food. Forms were sent home on Mon. Nov. 28. Please return the form or contact Mrs. Fleming at the office if you are able to help out.

White Elephant Sale Dec. 19-20

Thank you to our School Council for organizing this annual Joy of giving event. We will be accepting donations of gently used or new items, wrapping paper, and gift bags for the sale until Dec. 14. Students can buy for immediate family only. Gifts range from 25 cents to 2 dollars.

Surveys - Calendar & School Satisfaction

Pembina Hills is actively seeking parent input regarding the 2023-24 School calendar. An electronic survey will be sent out on School Messenger within the next week. School Satisfaction surveys will be delayed to the first week of February as we are hoping to get a larger percentage of responses.

Theater Residency Feb. 21-24

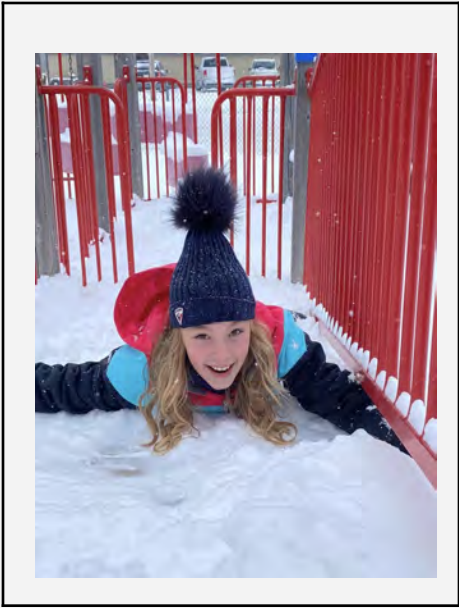
Our school has received an AFA Artists and Education grant that covers 75% of our Trickster Theater residency. We will have a full week with professional actors assisting us in writing our own script to present a play to the community Fri. Feb. 24 at 7 pm.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

On behalf of the Fort Assiniboine School staff we wish you a joyful holiday break! We are back to school on Wed. Jan. 4.

Lorna Hiemstra

Principal



Important Upcoming Days:

Jan 4 Classes Resume
 Jan 13 - Bear Day NO SCHOOL
 Jan 20 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL
 Jan 25 - School Council 7 pm
 Jan 27 - NO SCHOOL
 Jan 30 - PD Day NO SCHOOL
 Feb 8 - Kindergarten Day
 Feb 9 & 10 - Teacher's Convention
 NO SCHOOL
 Feb 17 - NO SCHOOL
 Feb 20 - Family Day NO SCHOOL
 March 3 - NO SCHOOL
 March 10 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL
 March 17 - PD Day NO SCHOOL
 March 24 - Bear Day - NO SCHOOL
 March 27-31 - SPRING BREAK
 - NO SCHOOL
 April 3 - Classes Resume

**Hot Lunch
 December 13
 Christmas Dinner**

**Wear something
 RED or GREEN
 on
 Tuesday December 20**



If you are aware of a family in need, whether it be your own or someone else's, that could use a food hamper or bag of toys please call the FCSS office at 780-674-3341 and ask for an application. You can also call the school and ask to talk to Mrs. Hiemstra. All calls are confidential.

Grade 9 - New Hoodies



Merry Christmas

December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Nov 28 School Council Meeting	Nov 29	Nov 30	1 Elementary Volleyball Tournament @ Westlock Spirit Center	2 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	3
4	5	6	7 Extra Kindergarten Day	8	9 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	10
11	12	13 Christmas Hot Lunch	14	15 Christmas Concert @ 7:00 p.m.	16 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	17
18	19 Ugly Sweater Day	20 Wear Red or Green Day.	21 Christmas Break Begins Dec 21 - Jan 3	22	23	24 
25 	26	27	28	29	30	31 New Years Eve
Jan. 1, 2023 New Years Day 	2	3	4 Classes Resume January 4, 2023	5 Classes Resume for Kindergarten	6 BEAR DAY NO SCHOOL	7



Family Christmas
Dinner on

Tuesday, December 13

Student's Union is looking for donations to help out with our Family Style Christmas Dinner on **December 13, 2022**. We are looking for the following:

- 12 dozen cookies
- 12 boxes of Stove Top stuffing
- 8 dozen buns
- 3 Bags of perogies

If you can bring one of these items please fill out this form and you will be contacted.

Thank you so much for your continued support!

Mrs. Hiemstra & Fort Assiniboine School Student's Union

Please call the school by Tuesday December 6

Classroom Learning



Elementary Volleyball



White Elephant Gift Shop

is requesting donations of new or gently used items for our students (K-9) to gift to their immediate family members. Monetary donations will also be accepted to purchase wrapping supplies.

Items and/or wrapping supplies can be dropped off at the school or library during regular school hours from now until Dec 14. Pickup can also be arranged.

Volunteers are needed to help students pick out gifts and wrap them on Dec 19 & 20.

Please contact Danielle Calahasen at 403-837-2256.

Thursday December 15
7PM-8PM
**FORT ASSINIBOINE
SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS
CONCERT**

6PM-7PM
RAFFLE BASKETS
\$5 for 5 tickets
\$10 for 12 tickets
\$20 for 30 tickets
winners drawn at the end of the night

6PM-7PM
BAKE SALE

**CASH ONLY
please**

****Parent Society appreciates your generous support
in fundraising for the outdoor pavilion/classroom****

Thank you to the Fort Assiniboine Legion Branch 210 for the generous donation to the school at the November 11 Remembrance Service.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.



PHSD Board News

At the board meeting on November 30th, 2022 we were presented with a draft of the Audited Financial Statement. There were no issues indicated.

Pembina Hills has in the past donated a sum of money to the Barrhead Rotary Music Festival for entry fees of any students in our division. We are pleased to be donating again this year.

Trustee Allen was appointed representative for the Public School Board Association of Alberta. Trustee Hanna was appointed the alternate. The board agreed that it would be beneficial for Madam Chair to also attend the meetings when possible.

Pembina Hills application for the Mental Health in Schools- Pilot Program was approved. We have received 542,000 in funding over the next 2 years for this project. The pilot is part of Alberta's comprehensive and layered approach to supporting student mental health.

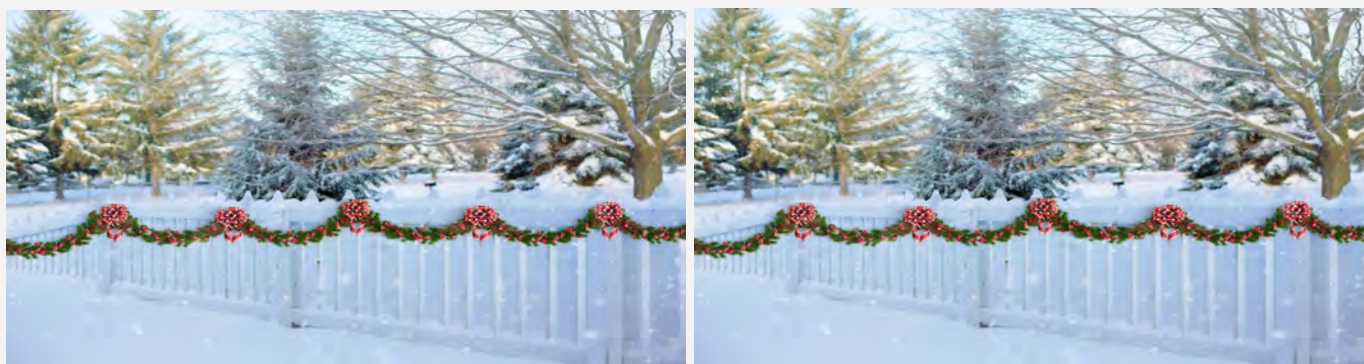
58,927 of Learning Loss Disruption funding was received for Grades 2-4. Learning Loss Funding is intended to provide between 12-16 weeks of targeted programming.

Our last board meeting of 2022 will be held on December 14 at the regional office.

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Trustee Melissa Hanna

Melissa.hanna@pembinahills.ca



SPORTS REPORT

Jr. High Volleyball

Both our boys and girls teams played well and qualified for the playoffs. The boys got bumped in the first round and the girls made it through to the second round.

Thank you to coaches Mrs. Spitzer & Mrs. Hiemstra.

SPORTS REPORT

Elementary Volleyball

The teams are traveling to Westlock for the PHSD divisional tournament on Dec. 1. Please check our FB page for pictures and results.

Jr. High Basketball

Games will begin shortly after Christmas Break. The league schedule is still being finalized, but teams will play one game per week. The Divisional Tournament will be held Monday, February 27th at the Westlock Spirit Center.

Elementary Basketball

Games will begin in February. The league schedule is still being finalized. The Divisional Tournament will be held Thursday, March 9 at Barrhead Elementary School.



Jr. High Bears Volleyball Wind up - Monday, Dec. 5, 2022 7-8 pm

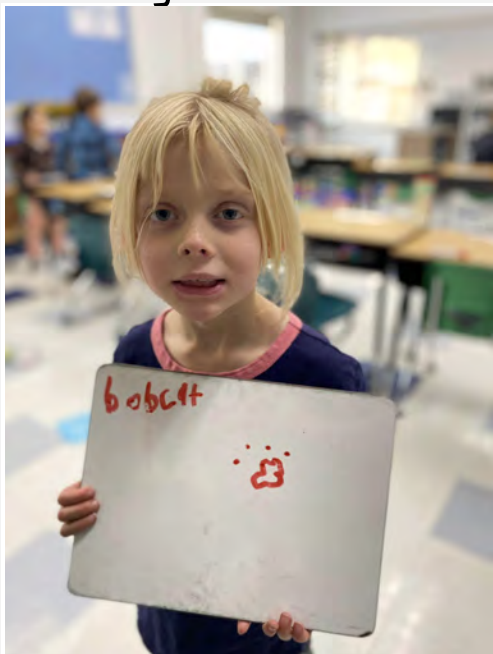
It's time to celebrate our Volleyball season! We showed a lot of improvement and now we can show our parents our skill in 3 hits.

Bring out your parents/grandparents/aunts/uncles for some family fun and we'll have some ice cream after our games.

Buddy Reading



Learning in the classroom



School Council

Chair – Danielle Calahasen

Vice Chair – Jennifer Schulte

Secretary/Treasurer– vacant

Next School Council Meeting is the set for

WEDNESDAY, January 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm in the Library

Minutes from previous meetings avail on the school website: www.fortschool.ca

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Danielle Calahasen
e-mail: FASchoolCouncil@pembinahills.ca

School Council Highlights - submitted by Danielle Calahasen

The Fort Assiniboine Parent Council Meeting was held on November 28th. We briefly outlined the role of the Parent Council, distinguishing it from the Parent Society. The Preschool currently has a raffle and tickets are available through the library or any preschool parent. The Superintendent, Mike Borgford, attended as did our Trustee, Mellissa Hanna. Woodlands County representative, Peter Kuelkin, discussed the upcoming bicentennial celebrations and how it can hopefully tie into future school agricultural programming. Principal Hiemstra discussed where the funds from Parent Society have been going and outlined the arts grant and drama production coming in February. Please view the minutes on the website once they are available.

We elected a new Vice-Chair, welcome and thank you to Jen Schulte! We are still looking for a secretary and thank everyone who temporarily fills in.

A Woodlands Arts and Music Guild representative attended to offer us a unique music opportunity in the spring which was unanimously agreed upon. We greatly appreciate them thinking of our students!

There was an ASCA Engagement Meeting on November 19th. It was discussed that last year's engagement grant can be used in conjunction with this year's grant, giving us up to \$1000 to spend on workshops to increase parent engagement. If anyone has interest, available workshops are posted on the bulletin board in the school. The ASCA conference will be an in-person only this year and will be held in Edmonton April 21-23.

There is an upcoming Council of School Council meeting being held on December 13th.

We are actively seeking volunteers for the upcoming Turkey Dinner and White Elephant sale, in addition to our regular breakfast program. Please see the notices sent home or feel free to contact me.

Watch for surveys coming from Pembina Hills to your emails. There will be a brief one on School Calendar input from parents coming very soon. And then the Annual Satisfaction Surveys will be coming out later in February.

Parent's Society

President - Teresa Dekker

VP - Meghan Koster

Treasurer - Jenny Kuelken

Secretary -Megan Petryshen

Next Parent Society Meeting is the set for

January 12 @ 10:00 a.m. in the library. Everyone Welcome.

**A special thank you to the Littke family for arranging a donation
from Razor Energy Corp. for \$1500.00!**

**Your support will help us build an outdoor covered pavilion for use as a classroom, for
outdoor events and for community events. More information will follow in the next few
months. We would love community involvement!**

REMINDER - 2022 School Vouchers expire on June 15, 2023

Vouchers can be used for reimbursement of school related payments such as

- Field Trips
- Swimming Lessons
- Uniform Rental
- Athlete Fees

Fort Assiniboine Public Library

Upcoming December Events:

Friday December 9th Movie

Afternoon At The Library: The GRINCH

Start Time 1:30.

Friday December 16th Christmas

Crafts and Cookie Decorating:

11:00-3:00.

Monday December 19th Movie

Evening At The Library: The Santa Clause

Start Time 1:30.

The library will be CLOSED for Christmas Break Monday

December 26th, Tuesday December 27th, Wednesday December 28th.

The library will be CLOSED for New Year's Day Monday January 2nd, 2023.

Please watch the Fort Assiniboine Public Library website, Facebook page or call Megan Petryshen at the Library 780-584-2227 for UPDATES



Fort Assiniboine Arena

Open Skating Schedule

Open skating Saturday & Sunday from 2pm - 4pm (unless arena is booked)

Shinny hockey every Friday from 7-9



Our school division is using an online system called SchoolEngage to collect and process student enrolment information, annual demographic updates and permission forms. All families will be required to fill out forms online through your PowerSchool account. This will include the information connected with student registration as well as permission forms for field trips etc. To open SchoolEngage:

- [Sign in to PowerSchool](#) (**EVERYONE should have an account from last year**)
- Click on Registration and Permission Forms in your main menu

When you open SchoolEngage, you will see that you have been assigned the **Student Demographic Update Form** for your child(ren).

- The Student Demographic Update shows all of the information we have in our system. We need you to check that the information we have on file is correct. Please review, make corrections and changes if needed.

This form also collects these annual consents and permissions:

- Student FOIP
- Technology Acceptable Use
- Field Trip Within Walking Distance
- School Physical Activity

Please submit the form (for each child) by December 8th.

Need help?

If you need help creating your PowerSchool account or logging in, please call our PowerSchool administrator Melody Nelson at 780-305-1359 or email studentsupport@pembinahills.ca. If you are unable to complete your form online, please contact your school office to make other arrangements. If you are not sure if you have completed all your forms or not please contact the school 780-584-3751

Thank you for helping us improve the efficiencies of our student information systems.

Pembina Hills School Division

IF YOU HAVEN'T COMPLETED THIS DEMOGRAPHIC UPDATES YET - PLEASE DO SO AS SO AS POSSIBLE



Family Skate with Santa sponsored by the Fort Assiniboine Agricultural Society

**Fort Assiniboine Arena
December 11th, 2022
1pm-4pm**



Join us for crafts, hot chocolate or apple cider. The Fort Assiniboine Public Library i supporting this event with goodie bags

**Please register by calling 780-584-2100
Registration deadline December 7th**

It's Beginning to Look alot like Christmas



Recess Winter Fun



Annual Satisfaction Surveys

In January/February, parents will be invited to participate in the Annual Satisfaction Survey. The link will be provided to take you directly to the survey.

How long will it take?

- We know it takes time to participate in surveys, and time is precious.
- The questions are brief and use rating scales to make them quicker to answer.
- We estimate that it will take 5 to 10 minutes.

Will I be able to comment?

- There are opportunities for you to provide written feedback at the end of the survey.

How do I participate?

- Click or tap the link in the message you receive. It will take you directly to the survey.
- You can respond to the survey using a desktop computer, laptop or mobile device.

Are my responses anonymous?

- Your email address will be collected and connected to your responses.
- Collecting the address eliminates the chance of duplicate responses and enables us to trace issues that might arise in the completion of the survey.
- Comments are reviewed by administration and considered during the planning process.
- No comments are reported publicly.

I have more than one child in this school. Will I get an email like this for each one?

If you have several children in a single school:

- You *should* just get one message.
 - We have tried to minimize duplicates but given the complexity of families, and because we rely on the information that schools have on file, you **might** get more than one message for this school.
 - IF that happens, you only need to respond one time. We apologize in advance for the extra messages.

How do I respond if I have several children in a single school?

- Please respond to the questions while thinking about the overall experiences of your children in that school.

I have children in another school too. Will I get a survey for that school too?

- If you have children in more than one school, you can respond to a survey for each school.
- Each message has a link to the survey connected to that specific school.
- Please respond to the questions while thinking about the children in that specific school.

What if the survey doesn't have questions related to my concerns?

- If you have comments or wish to discuss something that has not appeared in this survey, please contact your school principal directly.

What if I haven't been contacted to do the survey?

- If you haven't received a message by December 15, you can contact Debbie Westman at debbie.westman@pembinahills.ca

What does Pembina Hills do with the surveys?

- Regional office administrative staff, school administrators, teachers and trustees review the survey data.
 - Comments are read by administration only. No comments will be shared publicly.
- School data is reported in the school's education plan.
- The data from all of the schools is combined to create a division summary that will be reported at a public Board meeting. The compiled data is also recorded in the Division Education Plan.





Outdoor Learning



**Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New Year**



December 11 **Call 780.674.283**
10 am - 3 pm **to pre-register**

Barrhead Ag Society
Presents

2nd Annual
**Christmas
Family FUNdraiser**

Spin to Win • 50/50 • raffle table

**SAVE \$5/child if you
pre-register by Dec 7th**

<p>Pictures with Santa \$5/picture</p>	<p>country scene for santa pictures</p> <p>Bablitz Exhibition Hall 4802 57 Ave. Barrhead, AB</p>	<p>Crafts, games & tattoos \$25/child</p>
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2022 SNOW PLOW CONTEST

**Enter our two part contest for a
chance to win great prizes!**

For entry forms, and contest details go to
www.woodlands.ab.ca

**CONTEST 2
CREATE A FACE OR
DESIGN FOR THE
BLADE OF EACH PLOW**

Show off your artistic skills and submit a creative design idea for one of the six plow blades from December 1 - 12.

The six winning designs will be painted on the blades of our snowplows and each design winner will receive a \$250 Visa gift card.

*Contests are eligible to all ages.
You do not have to be a resident of Woodlands County to enter.*

