

**NO SCHOOL - Friday, November 24<sup>th</sup> is a PD Day for the staff.**



**PRINCIPAL'S CORNER** . . . did you know that one of the greatest gifts you could give your children is the gift of reading! Each year during our SPT conferences, our librarian, Ms. Blench, provides a beautiful array of books for all levels of reading and interest. She spends many hours creating an engaging experience where students and parents can explore the world of wonder through a tantalizing display of reading material. Come on out this evening to check out our book fair. If you can't make it be sure to mark your calendars for our next round of SPT conferences and book fairs to get in and get that avid reader in your family something they can enjoy.



### **HOT LUNCH PROGRAM**

Remember to purchase a \$60 Lunch card (\$6 per meal for 10 lunches) through your SchoolCash Account so your child doesn't run out. Lunch card will be recorded /tracked in a google document here at the school which will alleviate any lost cards.

Students will go to the Home Ec. window to pick up their lunch based on which lunch they would like; you do not have to purchase every day. Students will also be told when they have two lunches remaining on their card; they will need to let you know so you can purchase an additional Lunch Card. The following is the menu:

**MONDAY** – Pizza; **TUESDAY** – Hot dog or Grill Cheese & juice box; **WEDNESDAY** – Spaghetti  
**THURSDAY** – Tacos in a Bag; **FRIDAY** – Burgers & Veggie Sticks (Free Friday)

## **Twin Day**



### **TWINS DAY**

Buddy up and dress up like twins – show your school spirit!!



### **FRENCH TRIP FUNDRAISER – HOT DOG SALE**

Tuesday's hot lunch is one of many fundraising opportunities for the French Immersion Trip to Quebec in the Spring of 2025.



### **HONOR ROLL ASSEMBLY**

We will be hosting our Honor Roll Assembly on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. You are more than welcome to join us for the assembly.

Please feel free to visit the school website, <http://www.tanorrismiddle school.ca>, to check for messages from Teachers, Superintendent Messages and other information that may be of interest to you. Also, if you **Like** us on Facebook, you can be notified of special items that may be of immediate interest. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us and we will do our best to answer them or find the answers.



# LITERACY, NUMERACY & LOCAL ACHIEVEMENT RESULTS

The Peace River School Division's Collaborative Response culture is making a difference for our students. This year, in the areas of literacy and numeracy we have seen overall growth in student achievement as measured by our local assessments, PATs and Diplomas, and most importantly end-of-year report card grades.

Collaborative Response requires the use of formative assessment to gauge where a student has strength and where they have a gap in understanding when assessing learning outcomes from the Alberta Program of Studies. Specifically, teachers use the following assessments:

- **WAT:** Writing Assessment Tool
- **RCAT:** Reading Comprehension Assessment Tool
- **EICS PA:** Elk Island Catholic Schools Phonological Awareness Assessment
- **MIPI:** Math Intervention/Programming Instrument for Grades 8 and 9 students
- **EICS MA:** Elk Island Catholic Schools Math Assessment for Grades 1 to 7
- **NCAT:** Numeracy Common Assessment Tool
- **F & P BAS:** Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System 1 and 2

Teachers use these powerful tools to ensure students are continually growing in these two very important areas: literacy and numeracy. This information can be used to provide targeted lessons and useful accommodations to help the student learn important skills. The assessments are done at the beginning of the year and then again later in the year to assess progress. The frequency that these assessments are administered allows teachers and educational assistants to give targeted interventions and accommodations immediately after the assessment is completed.

Through these assessments, the PRSD has been able to address our student's learning loss due to the Pandemic and we are seeing positive results. Since the Pandemic, the government has funded learning loss initiatives. Currently, the PRSD receives the least amount of this type of funding, compared to other school divisions in our zone, because of how successful our students are. Our achievement results indicate that we are turning the corner and can really start to appreciate the impact that formative assessment and the Collaborative Response culture provides to our students.

Parents, we need your help. In the last four years our data has shown us that missing school has a detrimental effect on students' learning. We have tracked the achievement results of students who attend school regularly, and those of students who attend school less regularly. Many days last year we had over 1,000 students away from school due to illness and other explained absences. In 2022-23, we had just 45.2% of students attend 90% of the time. We want to grow this number this year. In order to do that, we need students and families to work with us to improve our student attendance rates.

It really does take a whole community to value the importance of education for our youth. Our ongoing efforts to ensure high-quality education through the implementation of a Collaborative Response culture is yielding positive results.

To further explore the power of local assessments, I encourage you to visit our website, [www.prsd.ab.ca](http://www.prsd.ab.ca), and read the Division's Three-Year Education Plan for 2021-2024. Closer to the end of November we will also publish our Annual Education Results Report. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with all parents in achieving our collective goal of success for all students.

Adam Murray, Superintendent of Schools





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# MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS



A monthly newsletter highlighting Mental Health programs available within the PRSD



## Emergency Links & Phone Numbers

Addictions and  
Mental Health  
Helpline  
(24-hour support)  
1-877-303-2642

Peace River  
Addictions and  
Mental Health  
780-624-6151

Kids Help Phone  
1-800-668-6868

Indigenous  
Support Line  
(North Zone & Area)  
1-844-944-4744

[mykickstand.ca](http://mykickstand.ca)

## Mental Health in Schools

ALBERTA EDUCATION FUNDED PILOT PROJECT



The Mental Health in Schools project is new to the PRSD in this school year and led by **Loro Koski**. The goal of this project is to provide increased access to universal and targeted support in the schools that are not served by project PEACE with Mental Health Capacity Building (MHCB). These are schools that have been identified as rural and have limited access to support.

**Loro works alongside a team of ten student support workers.**

- **Tanya Parkin**, Dixonville School
- **Mandi Rushton**, E.E. Oliver Elementary School
- **Billi McDonald**, Fairview High School
- **Alyssa Morrison**, Hines Creek Composite School
- **Darcy Patterson**, Lloyd Garrison School
- **Cleo Pawlowski**, Manning Elementary School
- **Andrew Hilton**, Menno Simons Community School
- **Kyla Mackinnon**, Nampa Public School
- **Debra Perrier**, Paul Rowe Jr./Sr. High School
- **Justin Dicks**, Red Earth Creek School

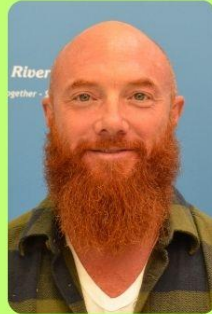
**"A child's mental health is just as important as their physical health and deserves the same quality of support."**

**– Kate Middleton**

## Meet the PRSD Social Workers



Chris Kaip  
Divisional School  
Social Worker



Travis Mitten  
School Social/Emotional  
Behaviour Consultant



Connie Kramer  
School Family  
Liaison Worker



Margaret Buruma  
School Social  
Worker



Lorena Combes  
School Social  
Worker

Social Workers, Family School Liaison Workers, and School Social/Emotional Behavioural Consultants support teachers and other school staff in creating a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environment through collaborative response. Social workers provide short term counselling, facilitate small groups, respond to emergency or crisis situations and collaborate with partners such as Parents, Mental Health and other service providers.

## Mental Health Capacity Building

GOVERNMENT FUNDED THROUGH PROJECT PEACE



Sandra MacKenzie  
Mental Health Capacity Building program coordinator

The Mental Health Capacity Building program is offered in Grimshaw and Peace River schools through success coaches. Our Success Coaches work with children, youth, and staff in schools, and they focus on providing universal and targeted programming in the areas of mental health, addictions and social/emotional learning.

### Who are your Success Coaches?

- **Lauren Lauze**, Glenmary School
- **Carolyn Dickson**, Grimshaw Public School
- **Jade Hargrave-McKen**, Grimshaw Public School
- **Mitchell Cook**, Grimshaw Public School & Springfield Elementary School
- **Frances Berger**, Good Shepherd School
- **Mikailyn Wearden**, Holy Family School
- **Tori Svecla**, Peace River High School
- **Shannon Sutherland**, Springfield Elementary School
- **Shannon Chouinard**, TA Norris Middle School

