

YOU SAID

Students felt the technology requirements in the Virtual Education Program classrooms need to be assessed differently from the technology needs of students in traditional classrooms. Students also mentioned the need to better personalize the Virtual Education Program classrooms to be a more engaging place to learn.

THIS ALIGNS WITH
PRSD GOALS 1 & 2:
ALL STUDENTS ARE
LITERATE AND ALL
STUDENTS ARE
NUMERATE



WE HEARD

With hundreds of high school students utilizing the Virtual Education Program, we must carefully adjust our best practices to ensure responsible spending of provincial funding. We strive to maintain a balance, as funds allocated to technology directly influence staffing levels across our schools. We remain committed to undergoing further consultation with students and staff to identify perceived and actual areas of concern.



YOU SAID

Students from the Fairview & Area Learning Store (FALS) spoke about a lack of physical space within their current facility. For example, students expressed frustration over being unable to attend FALS to complete course work during exam periods because of the lack of space.

**THIS ALIGNS WITH
PRSD GOALS
1, 2 & 3:
ALL STUDENTS ARE
LITERATE,
NUMERATE AND
SUCCESSFUL**

WE HEARD

The Division took steps to ensure the student enrolment at FALS met the criteria of students who needed a flexible learning environment. Additionally, we increased the space by adding a satellite centre in Cleardale with an additional teaching unit on a trial basis.



YOU SAID

Students spoke about a general level of apathy regarding the potential harmful side effects of vaping. They expressed a desire for the Board of Trustees to work with other local public bodies to run an education campaign on the harms of vaping.

THIS ALIGNS WITH
PRSD GOAL 3:
ALL STUDENTS ARE
SUCCESSFUL
THROUGH
INCLUSIONARY
PRACTICES

WE HEARD

The PRSD Board of Trustees have begun to hold meetings with Provincial MLAs to discuss the way vaping products in particular are marketed to youth. They have also initiated an advocacy policy position highlighting their concern with the Alberta School Boards Association.



YOU SAID

In a discussion about the possibility of placing vape detectors in schools, students were generally positive toward the concept. Many students voiced the sentiment that while we cannot always stop someone from vaping, we can prevent them from vaping inside of our schools. Other students indicated vaping was not yet an issue in their schools.

THIS ALIGNS WITH
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THROUGH
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PRACTICES

WE HEARD

The PRSD recognizes the important role vape detectors play in maintaining a welcoming and caring school environment. Furthermore, Principals and school staff continue to monitor all areas within the school and continue to work with students on the health impacts of vaping. Students found vaping inside our schools are receiving appropriate consequences as per Administrative Procedure (AP) 356.



YOU SAID

Regarding cell phone usage in schools, students voiced a strong preference for clear and consistent guidelines within their schools. Some students also felt the guidelines should be different for K-6 students, Grade 7-9 students, and Grade 10-12 students.

THIS ALIGNS WITH
PRSD GOALS 1 & 2:
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LITERATE AND ALL
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NUMERATE

WE HEARD

A ministerial order guiding the use of cell phones and social media in schools come into effect on September 1, 2024.

The PRSD has two administrative procedures that speak specifically to the use of cell phones and other personal-owned devices (PODs), and social media while students are at school. These procedures are AP145 and AP146 and are available on the PRSD website.



YOU SAID

Students said they really enjoy when animals, such as therapy dogs, or even farm animals such as sheep, come into their schools and classrooms. They said being able to interact with an animal helps them to regulate their emotions.

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PRACTICES

WE HEARD

The PRSD does support the appropriate use of therapy dogs in schools.

For more information, reference Administrative Procedure 255: Animals in Schools on the PRSD website.

PRSD THERAPY DOG STAFF



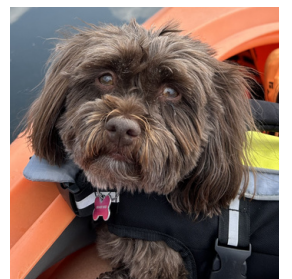
Murphy



Chico



Max



Lilo



YOU SAID

Students voiced a desire for more ways to engage with their classmates and teachers, outside of regular classes and athletics. Students suggested they would like the ability to create more clubs representative of the students' diverse interests.

THIS ALIGNS WITH
PRSD GOALS 3:
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WE HEARD

We want to continue to support school activities such as travel groups, university tours, drama clubs, special interest opportunities like Rotary Club leadership camps, Science Olympics, and intramurals.

Central Operations staff can support individual schools by promoting their clubs and activities, which may in turn inspire other schools to create similar clubs and activities.

YOU SAID

Students spoke about the prevalence of vandalism, student hang outs, and other such behaviours inside washrooms and changerooms at their schools. They also spoke about the need for greater privacy in the washroom stalls to improve student comfort and safety while using the washroom.

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WE HEARD

In most PRSD schools there are security cameras located in the hallways outside of washrooms to monitor how many students are entering a washroom and for what length of time.

We have also renovated washrooms at Peace River High School to improve student comfort and safety. The implementation of similar renovations at more PRSD schools will continue to be a priority.

