

School and Program Viability Review Initiated for Dixonville School

January 17, 2025

(*Grimshaw, Alta*) – The Peace River School Division's Board of Trustees have initiated a School and Program Viability Review, as per <u>Board Policy 15</u>, for Dixonville School.

During the January 16, 2025 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, discussions took place regarding the current and projected enrollment at the K-9 school in Dixonville. During the discussion, Superintendent Dr. Jeff Thompson said preliminary projections indicated the enrollment at Dixonville School will be 26 students for the 2025-2026 school year. While there is still time for this number to change, it remains a concern for the Division.

A School and Program Viability review will consist of meetings between the Superintendent and the entire staff of Dixonville school to answer questions about the policy and procedures, in addition to a meeting including Divisional staff, Ward 3 Trustee Lacey Buchinski and Board Chair Crystal Owens, Dixonville School's Principal and School Council representatives to answer questions.

The Superintendent will then prepare a report inclusive of enrollment history and projections, the Alberta Education Funding Model, operational impacts, student transportation needs, and a comparison of the current situation with proposals for any changes.

"This review allows us to make informed decisions," said Owens. "By completing a School and Program Viability Review in Dixonville, we are doing our due diligence as a Board of Trustees by responding to the information that was presented. But, we also want to hear the parents and students regarding their desires for the future of Dixonville School. The Board of Trustees remains committed to advocating for the resources required to provide the absolute best possible educational opportunities for our students."

The work to complete the viability review will commence immediately, with a tentative completion date of March 13, 2025. At that time the Board will review the viability report and any recommendations contained therein.

For more information:

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