



## Peace River School Division

Monday, March 17, 2025

### Board of Trustees

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Crystal Owens

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Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Jeff Thompson

Deputy Superintendent  
(Acting)  
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### Re: Consideration of school closure or program alteration at Dixonville School

Dear parents and community stakeholders,

On March 13, during the regular board meeting, the Peace River School Division Board of Trustees unanimously voted to proceed with consideration of school closure or program alteration at Dixonville School. This decision by the Board was not made lightly and occurred only after significant consideration of the many factors affecting the viability of Dixonville School. As per [Board Policy 15: School and Program Viability](#), in January the Board passed a motion directing me to do a viability review and to prepare and present a report on the future viability of Dixonville School.

This [Viability Report](#) was presented during the March 13 board meeting and is now public and available on the Peace River School Division's website, [HERE](#). Alternatively, anyone wishing to obtain copies of either Board Policy 15, or the Dixonville School Viability Report, can contact Communications Coordinator Kristin Dyck by email at [dyckkk@prsd.ab.ca](mailto:dyckkk@prsd.ab.ca), or by visiting Central Operations in Grimshaw. She would be happy to assist you in this matter.

### Submitting Feedback to the Board of Trustees

As per Policy 15, Section 4, the Board is now accepting feedback from the community regarding the future of Dixonville School, and has requested that all feedback be submitted in writing to Communications Coordinator Dyck at the above listed email address. She will compile all of the received feedback for the Board's review during the next phase of this process. **The deadline to submit feedback is April 14, 2025.**

Additionally, **The Board of Trustees will host a public meeting for members of the Dixonville Community on April 2 at 6:30 p.m. at the Dixonville School.** This meeting is open to all those interested in engaging in a conversation with the Board of Trustees regarding the future of Dixonville School. In order to help ensure your questions are addressed at the public meeting, please consider submitting them in writing to Communications Coordinator Dyck by March 31. There will also be an opportunity for members of the community to directly ask questions of the Trustees and staff during the April 2 meeting. Following the meeting, individuals may continue to submit feedback to the Board of Trustees through email to Communications Coordinator Dyck until the April 14, 2025 deadline.

### Next Steps

The Board of Trustees have scheduled a **special meeting of the Board to take place on April 28 at 10 a.m. in the boardroom at Central Operations in Grimshaw.** During this meeting, the Board will review all of the feedback received in writing up to the April 14 submission deadline as well as the feedback from the staff and public meetings on April 2.



After deliberation, the Board will then proceed with one of the following options by Board motion, and in accordance with Policy 15, Section 4.6. The Board may decide to:

- Close Dixonville School permanently, effective July 2025, and transfer all students to Grimshaw Public School, commencing September 2025;
- Alter the grade configuration at Dixonville School to offer Kindergarten to Grade 6 programming, effective July 2025, and transfer students in Grades 7 to 9 to Grimshaw Public School, commencing September 2025;
- Alter the grade configuration at Dixonville School to offer only Kindergarten to Grade 3 programming, effective July 2025, and transfer students in Grades 4-9 to Grimshaw Public School, commencing September 2025; or
- Not proceed with any further action, hence continuing to operate Dixonville School as a K-9 facility.

The Peace River School Division Board of Trustees and the Administrative staff involved in this process acknowledge how distressing it can be for parents, students, and other community members. We wish to express to the community that great care is being taken to dedicate considerable thought and discussion to all relevant information before difficult decisions are made.

Thank you in advance for your feedback on this important matter.

Sincerely,



Jeff Thompson, PhD  
Superintendent of Schools