

The Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pembina Hills School Division was held on August 19, 2021 at Regional Office. In attendance were Trustees Jackie Carson, Jackie Comeau, Judy Lefebvre, Wendy Scinski, and Jennifer Tuininga. In attendance by video-conferencing was Trustee Kerry McElroy. Also, in attendance were Superintendent David Garbutt, Assistant Superintendent Mark Thiesen, and Executive Assistant Charlotte Watson.

Due to technical difficulties with the live streaming, the Board Meeting start time was delayed to 9:15 a.m. The Board Meeting was recorded and will be posted on the website.

Call to Order

Chair Tuininga called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

Acknowledgement Statement

Chair Tuininga recited the acknowledgement statement from Administrative Procedure 60-20 Honoring First Nations, Métis and Inuit Culture.

Adopting the Agenda

8092/08/21 Moved by Trustee Scinski that the agenda be adopted as submitted.

ACTION ITEMS

Public Health Management of Respiratory Illness in Schools

Announced by Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) Dr. Deena Hinshaw on Friday, August 13, Alberta will take additional time to implement its plan to bring the province's COVID-19 response in line with other respiratory viruses.

The following measures will remain in place until September 27:

- Mandatory masking orders in publicly accessible transit, taxis and ride-shares.
- Mandatory isolation for 10 days for those with COVID-19 symptoms or a positive test result.
- Testing at assessment centres for any symptomatic individual.

This six-week pause will provide additional time to monitor severe outcomes of COVID-19 and increase immunization rates.

The changes put into place by Alberta Health on July 29 will continue to be in place. These include:

- A recommendation for close contacts to quarantine.
- Contact tracers are no longer notifying close contacts about exposure to COVID-19, but individuals who test positive are asked to tell their close contacts.
- All positive cases will continue to be notified. Case investigators and contact tracers will continue to investigate cases that are in high-risk settings, such as acute and continuing care facilities.

- Outbreak management and identification will focus on high-risk locations, including continuing care and acute care facilities. Community outbreaks with a surge in cases leading to severe outcomes will also be addressed as needed.
- Asymptomatic testing is no longer recommended.

A CMOH Order remains in effect that requires continuous masking in AHS and Covenant facilities provincewide. This masking mandate remains in place at all acute care, continuing care and community sites, as well as in corporate and warehouse-type settings. This masking directive applies to all staff, physicians, volunteers, designated support persons and visitors provincewide.

Alberta Education released guidance for school boards to support students returning to school this fall.

Consistent with the extended timelines for easing COVID-19 measures, students and school staff are to screen daily for symptoms using the [Alberta Health Daily Checklist](#), and **must isolate** if they test positive or have the core COVID-19 symptoms. Masking is not provincially required in school settings for any age group, except on school buses.

Additional resources are now available including [Guidance for Respiratory Illness Prevention and Management in Schools](#), a back-to-school [tool kit](#) for parents and school staff on what to expect when students head to their classrooms, as well as a detailed [2021-22 School Year Plan](#).

Secretary-Treasurer Heather Nanninga joined the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) will support school authorities to provide COVID-19 vaccine in schools. Immunizations will be available through temporary clinics in schools for students in Grades 7 to 12, as well as teachers and staff. Starting on September 7, students, teachers and staff can receive whichever dose they are eligible for in school.

8093/08/21 Moved by Trustee Carson that no health measures which exceed provincial guidance be adopted for the 2021-2022 school year.

Carried

8094/08/21 **Adjournment**
Chair Tuininga declared the meeting adjourned at 9:38 a.m.



Jennifer Tuininga
Board Chair



Charlotte Watson
Executive Assistant









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Final Audit Report

2021-09-13

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