



Prescott Weekend Update



February 11th, 2024

Good Afternoon PLC Families:

When I finally move on from my career in education there are a lot of things I am going to miss, especially the people. However, one thing I will definitely not miss are all of the surveys: both sending them out to people and having to do them myself. That said, with so many people needing to be involved in making important decisions about children and their education, surveys are a fact of life. And in terms of surveys, from a school perspective, few are more important than Alberta Education's Assurance Measure Results Survey. The annual survey is administered throughout the province to grade four, seven, and ten students as well as their families. For Prescott, this means that we will be providing time at school for our grade four and seven students to complete the survey. Their parents and guardians will receive a single-use random access code through the mail in order to complete the survey online.

Why is the survey so important? In many ways, the Assurance Survey is a report card for the school. Part of the survey results comes from quantitative data including Provincial Achievement Test (PATs) results (or Diploma Exams and graduation rates for high school). Now, I am happy to tell you that our PAT results from last spring were some of the best in the school's history. And while there are always areas for improvement, coming out COVID the fact that many of the test results exceeded the province reflects the hard work the students and staff are doing here at the school. Match this up with our pronounced improvement on numeracy and literacy benchmarking results and it is abundantly clear that the school is trending in the right direction. (I will have more on these results in a future memo).

The survey also asks questions related to student engagement, citizenship, education quality, access to supports and services, parental involvement, and even how welcoming, safe, and caring the school is. And this is an area of concern. For starters, while the survey was opened to nearly 200 families last year, only 23 individuals (thank you BTW) completed the survey. Further, despite the incredible improvement in the hard numbers, the PATs and literacy/numeracy benchmarks, the school fared poorly on the questions I just mentioned at the top of this paragraph. Interestingly, decline in our school results were nearly identical to declines witnessed across the school division and across the province. In fact, the graphs nearly overlapped each other. What was also noteworthy about these results was that for the most part, the students rated PLC better in these categories than the adults. I'm left to wonder if our families were making a statement about education in the province in general rather than the school specifically: or maybe not. What I do know is that as much as I'd like to sit down over a coffee and ask each of you for your thoughts and ideas on how to make our school better for your children, that's just not feasible (and Mrs. Shaw may have something to say about how much time this would take).

Instead I need to ask more of you with children in grade four and seven to take a few minutes of your valuable time to complete the survey. The survey is completely anonymous for students and families, and I also need to ask that you be open and honest not only about what you feel we are doing well, but also on what you think we need to work on for improvement. If you have

any questions about the survey or about the school in general, you can always reach out to me at the school. Until then, here's what is happening at the school this week.

Important Dates This Week

Monday: Online Registration Opens
Tuesday: Ski & Snowboard Club - Rabbit Hill @ 2:30 pm
Tuesday: Winter Walk
Wednesday: PLC Fundraising Foundation Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Thursday: Gr. 7-9 Fit for Life Skating Field Trip
Thursday: Kinder Deep Blue Field Trip (Tues-Thurs)
Thursday: New Kinder Open House @ PLC 6:00 pm
Thursday: Gr. 9 Open House @ SGCHS 6:00 pm
Friday: Staff Planning and Development Day (No Students Attend)

Important Dates Next Week

Monday: Family Day (No School)
Wednesday: Gr. 2 Oil Kings Field Trip Roger's Place
Friday: Monday Schedule
Sunday: Choir Performance Roger's Place

Athletics/Basketball Dates This Week*

Monday: Jr A Boys Practice @ 11:41 - 12:41
Jr A Boys Game @ PLC vs Woodhaven - 3:45

Tuesday: Jr B Boys Practice @ 11:41 - 12:41 (SG)
Jr A Girls Practice @ 11:41 - 12:41
Jr B Boys (3:30) Game @ PLC vs Living Waters
Jr B Girls (4:30) Game @ PLC vs Living Waters
Sr Boys Game @ Copperhaven (4:30)
Sr Girls Game @ Graminia (3:45)

Wednesday: Jr B Girls Practice @ 11:41 - 12:41 (SG)
Jr A Boys Practice @ 11:41 - 12:41
Sr Girls Practice @ 3:00 - 5:00
Jr A Boys Game @ Greystone - 4:15
Jr A Girls Game @ St. Thomas Aquinas - 4:00

Thursday: Sr Girls Practice @ 11:41-12:41
Sr Boys Practice @ 3:00 - 5:00

Friday: No School

*These times are subject to change.

Follow our Facebook athletics page "Prescott Learning Centre Athletics" for up-to-date pictures and info. You can also access the athletics calendar on our school website - <https://prescott.psd.ca/programs/athletics> - This should make it easy to filter by your athlete's team and sync to your calendar on your device.

New and Updated Information

Winter Walk - This Tuesday, February 13th, PLC is hosting our 'Winter Walk' for this year courtesy of the kids from The Kindness Project CTF Course. From 10:30-11:30 am students will participate in a walk to Jubilee Park around the path, and back to the school. Once at the park, there will be older students helping build snow(wo)man in the field upon arrival at

Jubilee Park as well as winter games throughout the park area. Upon their return to school, hot chocolate will be provided to all.

But in addition to this, we are asking for your help with winter clothing donations. We will have a bin set up for lightly used (no rips/stains, new is fine too!) mittens, jackets, scarves, toques, snow pants or boots. The weather is looking promising, and it is looking to be a great day.

PLC Fundraising Foundation Meetings- Our monthly fundraising foundation meeting will take place this Wednesday, Feb. 14th at 6:30 in the Collaboration Centre. Virtual invitations will be sent out on Monday the 12th. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Spruce Grove Composite High School Grade Nine Open House Thursday - SGCHS will be hosting its Grade Nine Open House at the Comp on Thursday Feb. 15th. Presentations will begin at 6:00 pm in the main gym with displays throughout the school to follow. There will be an information evening for parents and guardians in the late Spring. Both students and their families are encouraged to attend. For more information, please check the attachment at the end of this memo.

2024 - 2025 School Year Calendar - The calendar for the next school year has been approved. You can have a glance at: <https://www.psd.ca/download/440101>

No Girl Left Behind No Girl Left Behind - No Girl Left Behind No Girl Left Behind is a one day event taking place in Edmonton on Saturday, March 9th 2024, empowers girls ages 8+ and women of all ages. A lot of registrants are mothers and daughters. This is a non profit event with proceeds going back into future events, girls empowerment camps and scholarships for post secondary.

Empowered girls and women are less likely to be involved in abusive relationships/intimate partner violence, they are more likely to have the tools to navigate difficulties and mental health issues, or feel confident enough to ask for help when these issues arrive, they are better communicators, hold better boundaries and have a strong sense of self worth. For more information, go to their website at www.nogirlleftbehindevent.com

Music Notes from Ms. Surrendi/Fleming (!) - Our February 25th performance at the Oil King's game is coming soon! Thank you for your patience as we wait to get the tickets from Roger's Place. They should be in this week, and we will get them to you asap; please check your child's backpack regularly.

*It is important that choir members return the signed form with information about the adult they will be with on game day; if you have not seen this note, please contact me asap. This also has information on when and where to meet at Ford Hall.
See you on the 25th! Mrs. Surrendi (nee Fleming)

Grade Five, Six, and Seven Travel Club Survey - At the end of the January, the families of Grade Five, Six, and Seven students received a survey gauging interest in the formation of a Travel Club here at PLC. If there is enough interest, we would like to start planning our first trip for the 2025-26 school year in order to provide adequate time for fundraising. If you are interested in having your current Grade Five, Six, or Seven child travel within Canada in the 2025-26 school year, please complete the survey by next Sunday, February 18th. If you have any questions, or would like the link to the survey, please contact Mrs. Saysana at sarah.saysana@psd.ca.

Art Club - Art Club is back! Thank you for your patience from the break over winter. Join us Mondays after school in Mrs. Smith's classroom until 4:15pm. Bring your sketchbook!

Ski and Snowboard Club Update - The Ski and Snowboard club is heading back to the hill on Tuesday evening. We can not wait!

A friendly request, if you have alternative transportation arrangements on the evening of the ski club for your child please send a message through Class Dojo. This heads up alleviates us tracking down confirmation from guardians and allows us to leave the hill on time. For more information, please refer to the Previously Shared Information Section of this Memo. Thank you, Nicole Blanchet and Dana Vasileff.

PLC Fundraising Foundation Update - HOTEL CONTACTS NEEDED!... PLCFF is hosting an upcoming production this spring! It will be a very exciting opportunity for all interested students in all grades. (more information to come) But for now, we are looking for anyone that might have a contact we could reach out to for any deals at a local hotel (2 hotel rooms for 1 week) so we can provide accommodations for the artists that will be conducting the production.

If you have any leads for us, please email executive@plcff.com

Hot Lunch: This week's hot lunch vendor is LOVE Pizza on Thursday, Feb. 15th! Orders for February 29th will be closing on Thursday night, if you would like to order please log in to your account here: <https://prescott.hotlunches.net>

February 15 - LOVE Pizza February 21 - Boston Pizza February 29 - The Lunch Lady
March 6 - LOVE Pizza March 14 - Boston Pizza March 20 - The Lunch Lady

BLIZZARD DAYS! - There are 2 Blizzard Days scheduled this spring! So please watch for orders to open up on the hot lunch website. Dates are: Tuesday, March 19th and Monday, April 8th

Spring Dance: We have had a couple parents willing to volunteer at the dance (Thank you!) but no one so far available to help organize the event. With that, PLCFF has decided that we will forgo the Spring Dance and will plan another one for the next school year again!

Previously Shared Information

Ski & Snowboard Club - A reminder to PLC Ski and Snowboard families that if the temperature dips below -20 degrees Celsius, we will look at rescheduling another trip. This will be communicated through our Class Dojo app.

Please send your child to school on these days with all ski/snowboard gear. We will meet your child at the storage room across from the gym and beside the kitchen (same place as last year). We will have this storage room locked for the day. Your child will be dismissed at 2:35 from class to get his/her belongings and get on the bus. Students are welcome to bring their own dinner or money to purchase food and drinks. Please plan to be at the school to pick up your child at 8:00pm.

Once again, here is our schedule for this year:

~~January 23,~~ ~~January 30,~~ February 13, February 27, March 5, March 12.

Just a reminder that the Terrain Park is not available for any students to use while we are at Rabbit Hill. Please have a conversation regarding this policy prior to Tuesday! Thank you, Mrs. Vasileff & Mrs. Blanchet

CTF Fee Update - We apologize for the delay in adding the Term 2 CTF fees to PowerSchool. The fees were added to PowerSchool this past week. Thank you for your patience! Should you have any issues after they have been released, please contact Valerie Bradford in the office for assistance. valerie.bradford@psd.ca

Edmonton Oilers Spirit Night - This year PLC has joined with the Edmonton Oilers to celebrate *School Spirit night* at Rogers place. Let's show our school spirit and our love for the Oilers by cheering them on this season! Win a chance to sit in the penalty box during warm-ups, have a Mascot visit to our school and other prizes! The top selling school will win prizes selected by the Oilers Group!! Check your child's backpack for the flyer that was sent home last week or scan the QR code attached to the flyer attached at the end of this memo to order your tickets. If the flyer did not make it home please reach out to Ms. Bradford (valerie.bradford@psd.ca) at the office. Ticket prices start at \$63 and there are 8 games to choose from. As a result of the demand from PLC, **the Oilers have let us know that they have added a few more games and have made more seats available.**

Final Thoughts - Valentine's Day Dance: Last Wednesday's Valentine's Day dance was, as expected, a great event for all of our kids. For the K-5 students, the balloons were as big a hit as the actual music. Our older grade six through nine students had a great time as well, with the concession stand being as popular as the music in the gym. A big thanks to our wonderful staff for going above and beyond to make it a great day for our kids.

A reminder that while staff will be in the building, there is no school for students this Friday. With Family Day occurring on the 19th, next week's memo will be out on Monday rather than the usual Sunday.

If you have any questions or concerns please reach out to my assistant principals or me at the school by calling 780-571-8079 or emailing us at:
heather.huisman@psd.ca esther.vanbeek@psd.ca chris.shaw@psd.ca.
Enjoy your week, Chris