



**News Release - For immediate release  
June 13, 2022**

## **POWELL RIVER BOARD OF EDUCATION SELECTED TO BECOME A PROVINCIAL ONLINE LEARNING SCHOOL**

*Limited Number of School Districts to deliver online programs across the province as of 2023*

**POWELL RIVER, B.C.** - Powell River Board of Education (School District 47) is pleased to announce that it has been selected by the Ministry of Education and Child Care to become a Provincial Online Learning School (POLS).

As of September 2023, only a selected group of school districts in the province will be able to offer a variety of programs and courses to all students in B.C., no matter where they live. Only Provincial Online Learning Schools will be able to cross enrol or out-of-district enrol students for online learning.

Provincial changes to online learning and the process to become an official POLS have been underway for the past few years and required an official Expression of Interest by school districts which was then followed by an independent panel review.

“We are extremely proud to be chosen as one of the Provincial Online Learning Schools. Our district’s online learning school, Partners in Education (PIE), started in 2003 and has grown to over 1100 students in three different campuses,” said Jay Yule, Superintendent for Powell River Board of Education. “Our record of service supporting personalized online and blended learning for all students, including those with diverse abilities and disabilities has made us an invaluable partner to students for almost two decades and we look forward to continuing to design, develop and deliver innovative programs to promote learner success.”

Next steps in the process include signing a Ministerial agreement in the fall, participating in the governance and operations efforts, as well as the accountability and quality assurance framework.

### **About Powell River Board of Education (School District 47)**

Powell River School District is situated on the northern tip of the Sunshine Coast and serves a student population just over 3000 students. There are six elementary schools (Grades K-7), one secondary school (Grades 8-12), and Partners in Education (PIE) - the online learning school with campuses in Powell River, Comox Valley and Bowen with over 1100 students from K to 12. The District has many programs available that provide choice and alternatives to respond to the diversity of student need.

For more information, contact Allison Burt, Director of Instruction, Curriculum, Assessment & Reporting. Phone: [604.414.5262](tel:604.414.5262) or [allison.burt@sd47.bc.ca](mailto:allison.burt@sd47.bc.ca)

###