

# École Parc Élémentaire

# School Council Meeting

Wednesday November 30, 2022 - School Library.

## Attendees

Amanda Shand - Chair

Amy Archibald - Secretary

Meghan Anderson - Member

Leanna Betchel - Member

Ralph Sorochar - Trustee

Daniel Verhoeff - Principle

Jasmyne Garbe - Member

JJ Dechaine - Member

Shelley Boswell - Vice Principal

## Land Acknowledgments - Shelly Boswell

We appreciate and accept not only our land but also the people that help remind us of the importance of acknowledgment and understanding. Smudging will happen once a month starting next month for our self identified indigenous students. And we are grateful for the people that are sharing their culture with us and allow us to learn alongside them.

## Last Meeting Follow-up

Approval of minutes October 26, 2022

- approved by: Leanna Bechtel Second by: JJ Dechaine

Approval of Agenda, November 30, 2022

- approved by: Jasmine Garbe Second by: Mehgan Anderson

## Additions to Agenda:

Christmas Visit from Santa.

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## Communications Update: - Amanda Shand

- Communication review on the who, what, when, where we communicate to parents so we are not caught in a lack of communication when we are running events or fundraising. As of now we have use of:
  - Gazette
  - Front foyer TV
  - Email through the Gazette
  - Social media (facebook).
- Discussion resolved around streamlining our communication towards helping encourage parents to fully read the gazette and turn them towards that for weekly information first before any other medium.
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- Dan stated that in a survey he did last year results were: 88% email is the division results from a survey.
- Amy and Jen Dechaine will Review the communication plan that is written and revamp necessary changes to keep it up to date. Will be brought back to the group in January.
- Dan will follow up with Sherri to update the school calendar more regularly.
- Pinning the gazette at the top of facebook.

## COSC Update: - Amanda Shand

The \$500 grant available this year. Jennifer Dechaine has asked to help pay for the cost of communication (for example the website) or possibly sending one of our executives for training on communication strategies.

Another option for the grant would be to contribute our share pool the money for a guest speaker like we have done in the past.

## Principals Report: Dan Verhoeff - Principle

1. Christmas Concert Update
  - a. Dan is going to send out a clarifying email about the dates for the concert that will come out next week. We are navigating the numbers for the Christmas Concert. Dec 13 will be KB-2 (NOT Div 1 ). Dec 14 will be KA - 3-6. There will be an afternoon show and evening show for each day to help spread the attendance. Dan will send out a survey in January to see if we need to book a bigger venue for 2023.
    - i. Another venue will be considered: Example: Shell Theatre, or Fort High school gym?

2. Assurance Review plan
  - Thursday morning is coming to do the assurance review which is a review of our school goals and how staff and the school council is supporting it.
    - a. Goal 1: To increase literacy success for all our students, staff will purposely integrate a variety of literacy building strategies and interventions into their language teaching.
      - i. We have seen an increase of our literacy benchmark on average of 5% on our french reading.
      - ii. Staff agrees we are on the right track to increase our resources to increase our reading levels in the school and we want to streamline our processes to focus on the things that are working the best.
    - b. Goal 2: More students will actively use French throughout their school day which leads to increased proficiency and excellence in all subject areas.
      - i. Data from our PAT is an increase in our french reading. 92% of our kids passed the exam last year. We are scoring above the province in most or all of the PAT results.
    - c. Goal 3: Implement a School wide Character Education program to create a strong understanding of what citizenship looks like within our school and our community.
      - i. A survey was done and parents have shown an increase in citizenship within our school.
3. Student & Parent Voice Conference Dec 5th, 2022
  - a. 2 students from grade 5 are going to this conference to report on what they like or don't like about our school. There is an availability for a parent volunteer to go if anyone would like to participate. JJ Dechaine expressed interest in going as well as a parent representative.
4. Lifetouch for 2023-24
  - a. Sherri has booked for next year.
  - b. Feedback from Leanna who volunteered for photo day, is that they were great to work with and she was very impressed with them.
5. PAT results review.
  - a. Results are in and Dan is available to show results from June 2022 results if anyone is interested in reviewing the results.

## Volunteer Sign up Initiative: - JJ Dechaine

We are currently trying to get classroom support by asking teachers what works best for them for volunteers coming in to help in their classroom. We have had 10 volunteers come forward and JJ is working on a schedule with teachers and volunteers. She has kept engaging volunteers to keep them in the loop for opportunities that could come up in the future.

Moving forward, communication will be going out to run some clubs at noon after Christmas.

## Trustee Report: - Ralph Sorochan

Attached to the bottom of this document as a report from the Trustee.

## Christmas Festivities:

Santa visit is planned for Monday December 12, if he could come after the dress rehearsal for the Christmas concert for the kids. Around 2:30pm if he is available .

**Amy will email Ryan Nelson to approve the date.**

## Meeting Time Changes:

Change our meetings to the second Wednesday's of the month for the rest of 2023

**Motioned by JJ Dechaine, second by Amy Archibald approved by members.**

Next Meeting January 11, 2022

## Questions / Comments:

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:14pm

EPE Trustee Report – November 30, 2022

Ralph Sorochan

- 1) APPRECIATION - to everyone for their engagement, this evening.
- 2) AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT/2022-23 FALL BUDGET - The Board approved the Audited Financial Report for the 2021-22 school year. As per the provincial government, effective the 2022-23 school year, EIPS must maintain reserves between 1% and 3.15% of annual expenditures. At August 31, 2022, EIPS had reserves in excess of the 3.15% limit of \$6.9 million. For 2022-23, EIPS has prepared a \$206.21 million operating budget drawing \$8.23 million from operating reserves. Based on the Spring 2022-23 budget, by August 31, 2023 the Division will have reserves below the 3.15% limit by \$0.7 million, compliant with the provincial reserve cap. Documents are available on eips.ca.
- 3) REMINDER - UPCOMING ASSURANCE REVIEWS - At the last COSC meeting Associate Superintendent Sandra Stoddard discussed the EIPS assurance review. Her presentation ([click](#)) outlined EIPS' assurance framework, engagement process, data analysis, Alberta Education assurance measures and included examples from EIPS' assurance review data from the 2020-21 school year. EPE's scheduled assurance review is on December 1 at 9:00 AM.
- 4) 2023-24 DIVISION CALENDARS – now available on EIPS website – [click here](#)
  - August 31: first day of classes
  - November 6-10: November break
  - December 25 to January 5: Christmas break
  - February 1: second semester begins
  - February 8-9: Teachers' Convention
  - March 25-29: spring break
  - June 26: last day of classes
  - June 27: last operational day before the summer break
- 5) BULLYING AWARENESS WEEK - celebrated during the 3rd week in November. It promotes awareness and understanding of bullying and its impacts. Schools throughout the Division engaged in different activities to take part in this important initiative. There are resources and links provided on eips.ca. [click here](#)
- 6) ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION FALL GENERAL MEETING – I attended this conference on November 21 and 22. Trustees from across the province came together to discuss educational issues, set provincial advocacy direction, and receive professional development.
- 7) BOARD RETREAT - took place on November 29 and 30 at Central Office. The retreat focused on setting the priorities for the Board's work, moving forward.
- 8) MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS PILOT PROJECT – EIPS recently received grant application approval, in the amount of 1.92 million dollars, over two years. The money will enhance the over \$850,000 in funds already approved by the Board of Trustees, to support the mental health and well-being of our students to ensure learning readiness.

9) JAMES MOWAT ENGAGEMENT - The Board of Trustees approved (by majority vote) a two-year Random Selection Process Pilot to address the enrolment pressure at James Mowat Elementary, based on the Closed Boundary Priority Scale, effective for the 2023-24 school year. Fort Saskatchewan Elementary was approved as the alternate designated school for the James Mowat Elementary attendance boundary and current enrolled students are grandfathered.

10) CHRISTMAS BREAK - Elk Island Public Schools' Central Services will officially be closed for Christmas Break from December 26 to January 2. The office will open again at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, January 3.

11) ASBA HONOURING SPIRIT: INDIGENOUS STUDENT AWARDS -The ASBA Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards recognize First Nations, Métis and Inuit students who model

strength and commitment in the pursuit of their personal education path and embrace their own gifts, strengths and potential while celebrating the ways of their people. The 2023 nomination deadline is February 3. Nomination package

12) CAREGIVER EDUCATION AND SESSIONS- Alberta Health Services offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Sessions are offered through Zoom. Click here for all the information and access to their monthly newsletter.

13) CAREER EDUCATION PROGRAMMING - The Career Education Task Force is announcing engagement

opportunities for Albertans to provide input on career education programming for students in grades 7 to 12. The task force is listening to Albertans across the province to determine how to innovate and strengthen career education programming for students and employers.

From now until December 9, 2022, the task force would like to hear from students in grades 7 to 12, parents, teachers, career counsellors, post-secondary educators, employers and young adults. Albertans can share ideas at online and in-person engagement sessions in 11 communities across the province. They

are encouraged to participate in their region or they have the flexibility to attend any session that works best for them. During the sessions, participants will be able to provide local insights on career education programming and hear the unique perspectives of others.

There are also online surveys for the public and students in grade 7 to 12 to provide feedback on career education programming. Albertans can register for an engagement session, take the survey and sign up for career education updates at [alberta.ca/career-education-task-force](http://alberta.ca/career-education-task-force).

In addition to engaging with Albertans, the task force will meet with a variety of education stakeholders to hear their viewpoints. They will also conduct a comprehensive review of Alberta's career education programming, with a focus on grades 7 to 12. The insights from the review and engagement feedback will inform their recommendations and provincial framework for career education programming.

See flyer at the end of this report.

14) UPCOMING EIPS PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS – December 15 at 10:00 AM. Board Meetings are live-streamed on You Tube.

Have your say on career education programming

The Career Education Task Force is listening to Albertans across the province to determine how to innovate and strengthen career education programming for students and employers. The task force would like to hear from students in grades 7 to 12, parents, teachers, career counsellors, post-secondary educators, employers and young adults through in-person and online engagement sessions and online surveys.

Register for a session

From November 21 to December 8 2022, in-person engagement sessions will be held in 11 communities:

- Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, Cold Lake, Whitecourt, Edson, Edmonton, Stettler, Red Deer, Calgary, Brooks,

Lethbridge

There will also be five online sessions available to all Albertans. During these sessions, participants will be able to

share local insights on career education programming and hear the unique perspectives of others.

Topics will include:

- Current career education programming
- Opportunities for sustainable careers now and in the future
- How to improve career education in Alberta

You are encouraged to register for sessions in your region or you may take part in any session that works best for

you. The in-person sessions will be three hours and the online sessions will be two hours. Anyone under 18 years

old must participate with a parent or guardian.

To register, visit: [alberta.ca/career-education-task-force](https://alberta.ca/career-education-task-force).

Participate in a survey

Albertans and students in grades 7 to 12 can also complete an online survey to provide feedback on career

education programming until December 9, 2022.

To take the survey, visit: [alberta.ca/career-education-task-force](https://alberta.ca/career-education-task-force).

Next steps

In addition to engaging with Albertans, the task force will meet with a variety of education stakeholders to hear

their viewpoints. They will also conduct a comprehensive review of Alberta's career education programming, with

a focus on grades 7 to 12. The insights from the review and engagement feedback will inform their recommendations and provincial framework for career education programming.