

École Parc Élémentaire School Council Meeting

Wednesday October 10, 2023 - School Library. 7:00pm

Attendees

Amanda Shand - Chair
Rebecca Millburn - Vice- Chair
Danielle Rusk - Secretary
Jasmyne Garbe - Treasurer
Tandy Atchison - Principle
Ralph SoroChan - School Trustee
Jennifer Dechaine - Member
Amy Archibald - Member
Melanie Redfearn - Member

Called To Order: 7:03 PM

Land and People Acknowledgments - Tandy Atchinson

We acknowledge with respect the history and culture of the peoples with whom Treaty 6 was entered into and the land upon which Elk Island Public Schools reside. We also acknowledge the traditional homeland of the Métis Nation. We recognize our responsibility as Treaty members and honour the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples.

Last Meeting Follow-up

Approval of minutes, May 10, 2023
- approved by: Jennifer Dechaine and Jasmyne Garbe
Approval of Agenda, October 10, 2023
- approved by: Jennifer Dechaine

Additions to Agenda:

None

Principals Report: Tandy Atchinson - Principle

1. Movie Night was a huge success estimate over 400 people attended .
2. Read In Week was a success as well, had former teachers, community members and parents come in to read to the classrooms. Lots of reading based activities were being done in the classrooms that week. Launched our reading programs again
 - a. Caught Reading
 - b. Drop Everything & Read
 - c. Buddy Reading
3. Upcoming Events:
 - a. October 31st - Halloween
 - b. November 3rd - Remembrance Day Assembly starting at 10:30AM
 - c. November 16 - 21 - Parent Teacher Interviews
 - d. December 1st - 1st Term Report Cards are released to parents
 - e. December 12th - Division 1 Christmas Concert, Book Themed @ 5:30 PM
 - f. December 13th - Division 2 Christmas Concert, Hallmark Holidays @ 5:30 PM
4. Volunteer hours tracking - want to do this again, is there a parent that would be willing to help. Have simplified the process to make it easier, were having issues with the QR code but it should be working now.
5. Question posed as to why interviews are happening before report cards are released, this is done to hopefully not create any surprises on the report card by allowing the teacher to address any issues with the parents before hand.

COSC Update: - Amanda Shand

1. Nominations and voting took place to elect a new board for this school year
2. Last of the French Immersion survey results will be released on October 16th with a vote by the trustees on October 19th 2023. New superintendent was speaking in past tense about Ardrossan so that might be an insight as to how things are going to go.
3. Funding for Division 1 want to get that back up to speed
4. Dow Grant to fund science kits for the schools
5. Round table discussion about recruiting, seems lots of schools are having difficulties getting members for their school councils, one idea that was suggested is have your AGM during meet the teacher night so people can see what it's about, maybe get interested that way.
6. Next meeting is November 1st but Amanda will be away so Danielle will attend in Amanda's place

Trustee Report - Provided by Ralph Sorochan

Full report attached below.

New Business

1. \$500 grant through ASKA is available again, they aren't pooling it this year. They do have stipulations on what we can use it for however we are going to apply for it. Last year we used it towards the postcards, perhaps do that again this year?

Questions / Comments:

Next Meetings:

- November 29th @ 7PM (will be our Nov/Dec meeting combined)
- January 17th @ 7PM
- February 14th @ 7PM
- March 13th @ 7PM
- April 10th @ 7 PM
- May 8th @ 7 PM
- June 12th @ 7PM

Meeting Adjourned at 7:58 pm

EPE Trustee Report – October 11, 2023
Ralph SoroChan

1) APPRECIATION – Thank you, for being here today, and welcome to a new school year! A big thank you goes out to Tandy, Jade and their team for getting the school ready for students. It's a big job and a lot of work! Kudos to the entire staff!

2) NEW BOARD CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR - The Board held its annual organizational meeting, which included nominations and elections for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Trustee Cathy Allen was elected the Board Chair, and Trustee Susan Miller was elected the Vice-Chair. Both individuals will lead the Board of Trustees throughout the 2023-24 school year.

3) NEW SUPERINTENDENT – Dr. Sandra Stoddard has begun her work as EIPS' new Superintendent of Schools. For the last six years, she's worked as the Division's Associate Superintendent of Supports for Students. In that time, she's earned the respect of trustees, staff, students, families and stakeholders across the Division. Her expertise, abilities, creativity, and commitment will help build the Division and enhance our work to meet the diverse educational needs of the communities we serve.

4) FOUR-YEAR EDUCATION PLAN (YEAR 2) - The Board approved EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26 (Year 2), details the Division's priorities, goals and outcomes over a four-year period. The Division's three key priorities: Priority 1: To promote the growth and success of all students. Priority 2: To enhance high-quality learning and working environments. Priority 3: To enhance public education through effective engagement. The plan also outlines the performance measures and strategies the Division will use to meet each priority, goal, and outcome in the 2023-24 school year.

5) BUDGET 2023-24 - For the 2023-24 school year, EIPS' operating budget is \$208.09 million. Of that, \$204.95 million will come from the Division's annual revenue—mainly made up of funding from Alberta Education. That revenue is based on projected enrolment and specifically targeted grants, such as student supports, school nutrition, transportation and building operations. Other revenue comes from donations, facility rentals and school generated funds—collected on a cost-recovery basis for optional courses, alternative programming, lunch supervision, extracurricular opportunities, and field trips. Meanwhile, the remaining \$3.14 million of the budget comes from operating reserves to support schools and departments, career pathways and the Division's mental health strategic plan.

78% INSTRUCTION (\$9,659 PER STUDENT)

Includes teacher and support staff salaries for schools. School allocations—increasing by 1.5% because of higher standard costs.

11.2% OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

Includes school building maintenance, utilities, insurance, and custodial services. Costs are higher because of rising inflation.

7.6% STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

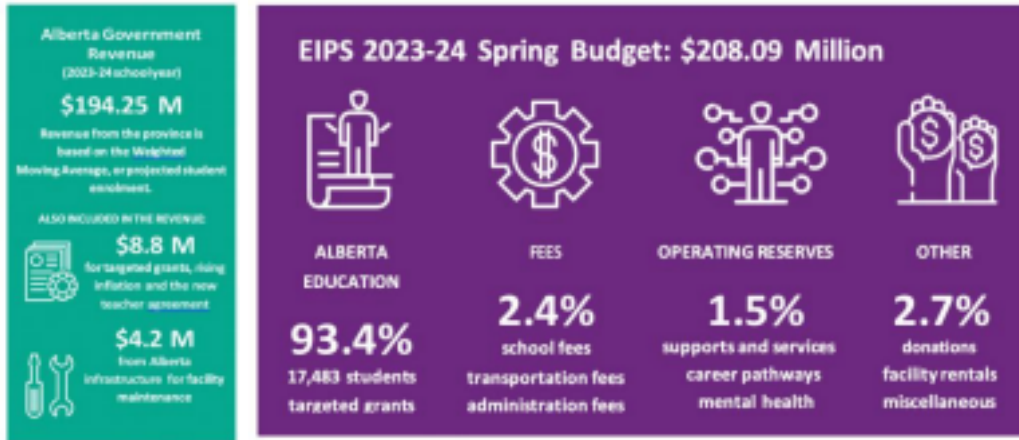
Costs to transport EIPS riders—funding is up from last year, thanks to the new student transportation funding model.

2.2% SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

Includes board costs and central administration costs (central services, IT, legal and financial services). Expenses are below the \$6.19 million grant provided by Alberta Education. Unused funds can go toward other Divisional uses.

1% EXTERNAL SERVICES

Includes contracted services, secondments, facility rentals, and before-and-after school care.



- 6) **THREE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY: FRENCH IMMERSION** – EIPS administration is in the process of writing a recommendation report based on the entirety of the French Immersion consultation process. The Board of Trustees will receive EIPS administration’s “Report for Recommendation” at its board meeting on Thursday, October 19, 2023. The board package, including the report, will be posted publicly on the EIPS website by noon on Monday, October 16. At the October 19 meeting, the Board of Trustees will discuss administration’s recommendation and ask questions. It is anticipated trustees will vote on the recommendation at that time. Once a decision is made, EIPS administration will begin a transition plan—to take effect in the 2026-27 school year. EIPS appreciates the time and thought that parents put into their responses over the course of the consultation.
- 7) **ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT: ELEMENTARY FRENCH IMMERSION** - The Board approved adjustments to the elementary French Immersion attendance boundaries to help balance elementary enrolment. The adjustments include designating elementary French Immersion students living in Cambrian Crossing to Heritage Hills Elementary, effective 2023-24; and expanding Heritage Hills Elementary’s French Immersion attendance boundary so it aligns with its regular English program boundary—phased in starting with kindergarten in 2024-25. Transportation fees apply to all bus riders—as noted on the [EIPS Student Transportation Fee Schedule](#).
- 8) **COSC MEETING DATES** – To kick off the 2023-24 COSC meeting season, Elk Island Public Schools’ (EIPS) Board of Trustees hosted an in-person Meet and Greet on Oct. 4, 2023. Meeting dates: October 4, 2023 - Meet and Greet; November 1, 2023; January 10, 2024; February 7, 2024; March 6, 2024; April 3, 2024; May 1, 2024. All meetings are scheduled to start at 6:00 PM and will be held at Central Office in Sherwood Park (683 Wye Road). You can also join [COSC on Facebook](#) to share information and ask questions with other school councils. Meetings will be hybrid, this year, and can be attended virtually. Check eips.ca for links.
- 9) **MEETING WITH MLAs** – On September 20, the Board of Trustees met with MLA Kyle Kasawski to discuss EIPS’ mission, Four-Your Education Plan, Capital plan and priorities. Advocacy remains a key component in ensuring the best possible outcomes for our students.
- 10) **REMINDER: ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMING FOR FORT SASKATCHEWAN STUDENTS** – The following programs are in place for the 2023-24 school year:
- Transition Program at Ecole Parc (Brand new program for a specific cohort of autistic children transitioning from PALS.)
 - Connections Programs at WFG and Fort Christian
 - CASA Classroom at Fort Elementary (Brand new treatment-oriented program.)
 - Jr. High SEAS program at Lamont Jr./Sr. – accessible to Fort Saskatchewan students
 - Jr. High Honours at Rudolph Hennig
 - Elementary Reading Intervention Pilot Project (Grades 1-3) at all elementary schools in Fort

Saskatchewan (Brand new program)

Existing program descriptions can be found here: <https://www.eips.ca/programs/services/specialized-system-programs>

- 11) **REMINDER: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEES 2023-24** – Implementation of a new funding model for transportation by Alberta Education will take place over the next two years. Increased funding to address the rising costs for fuel, insurance, parts, supplies, training for drivers and the new rider eligibility criteria are factors of the new funding model. The new eligibility criteria are mandated for 2024-2025. School Boards do have the option of implementation for the 2023-24 school year. The new eligibility criteria outlined by Alberta Education is as follows: One kilometer for students in grades 6 or lower

Two kilometers for students in grades 7 or higher

The Board of Trustees approved the proposed transportation fees and new criteria implementation at a Special Public Board Meeting on April 27th. Most parents should see a reduction in their yearly transportation fees. See Fee Schedule below.

Elk Island Public School - 2023-24 Transportation Fee Schedule - Proposed	
Fee Description	Fee
Base Rate* - fee for all students accessing bus service	\$ 75.00
Enhanced Service Menu* - Additional service offered by EIPS not Mandated as per the 2023-24 Funding Manual for School Authorities. <i>Base rate plus each applicable enhanced service fee from the menu below.</i>	
Ineligible - (do not meet Alberta Education distance eligibility requirements)	\$ 150.00
Non-Resident - (are not a resident of EIPS)	\$ 600.00
Additional bus to/from an alternate address	\$ 100.00
School/Program of Choice	\$ 100.00
Administrative Fees	
Replacement Bus Pass	\$ 20.00
Payment Plan	\$ 25.00
Refund	\$ 25.00
<i>*Kindergarten fees are one-half of the applicable fee</i>	

- 12) **READ IN WEEK** - Read In Week 2023—READING REIMAGINED—took place **October 2 to 6**. Inspire, explore, connect and wonder! This year’s Read In Week was aimed at engaging EIPS readers across all grades. See this [poster](#) to access Pocket Reads by the Division’s very own leaders and principals and explore the world through the pages of a book, connect through text and discover the power of...IF! Join in as Reading is Reimagined at EIPS.
- 13) **CELEBRATING WORLD TEACHERS’ DAY** - On October 5, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) encouraged all of its students, parents, caregivers and community members to show their appreciation for their teachers and the positive impact they make on our lives. EIPS extended its heartfelt thank you to all Division teachers for their dedication, hard work and commitment in guiding and educating students through their kindergarten to Grade 12 years.
- 14) **NEXT BOARD MEETING** – The next regular Board meeting takes place on October 19, 2023, at 10 a.m. Board meetings are held in the Elk Island Public School boardroom. EIPS also livestreams public Board meetings on its [YouTube channel](#).