



Meeting Minutes

Central Office Boardroom, Sherwood Park

May 3, 2017

7 p.m.

In Attendance:

COSC Board

Chair: Jacquie Surgenor, Sherwood Heights Junior High & Westboro Elementary

Vice-chair: Annette Hubick, Lakeland Ridge

Secretary: Laura Comfort, F.R. Haythorne Junior High & Salisbury Composite High

Lori Lehman, Woodbridge Farms Elementary
Devon Marshall, Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary

Sally Navis, Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary

Krista Scott, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

School Council Members

Cindy Beasley, Brentwood Elementary & F.R. Haythorne Junior High

Jessica Boyden, Fort Saskatchewan Christian

Lynn Coates, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

Shauna Delainey, Fort Saskatchewan Christian

Elwin Dziwenka, A.L. Horton Elementary

Shanna Eveleigh, Pine Street Elementary

Becky Galbraith, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

JP Grebenc, École Élémentaire Ardrossan Elementary

Pauline Gurnett, Ministik School

Board and EIPS

Board chair: Trina Boymook

Vice-chair: Harvey Stadnick

Trustee: Barb McNeill

Trustee: Jim Seutter

Acting superintendent: Eileen Zimmerman

Associate superintendent: Sandra Stoddard

Director, Inclusive Learning: Tracy Muth

Director, Financial Services: Shirley Hagen

Communications specialist: Corrie Fletcher Naylor

Welcome

Jacquie Surgenor, the COSC chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Additions to the Agenda

Jacquie Surgenor asked if there were any additions to the May 3, 2017 agenda.

Motion: To accept the May 3, 2017 agenda as presented.

Moved: Krista Scott

Seconded: Elwin Dziwenka

Motion Carried

Board Report

Presented by Trina Boymook, Board Chair, EIPS

Board Chair Trina Boymook presented the Board Report. Highlights include:

- On April 19 and April 25, the Division held its third set of information sessions regarding the new attendance boundaries for the northeast quadrant of Sherwood Park. The information shared at the session is posted on the Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) website. In addition, a survey is now open to gather further community feedback—the survey closes on May 5. The Board hopes to be in a position to finalized the new attendance boundaries at the June 15 Board meeting.

- At the April 20 Board meeting:
 - The Board approved fees for the 2017-18 school year. There are no increases to Student Transportation fees. The Learning Resource Fee is being eliminated—a result of Bill 1: An Act to Reduce School Fees.
 - The Board also approved the 2017-18 budget allocations. School councils will receive the information at their next school-based meeting.
 - The Board approved a motion to share the cost of a School Resource Officer in Vegreville and Mundare for three years.
 - Amendments were made to *Policy 7, Board Operations* and *Policy 12, Role of the Superintendent* to strengthen the language and clarity of the policies. *Policy 15, Program Reduction and School Closure* was amended to better align with the requirements of the *School Act* regulation.
- On June 7, the Division is hosting a groundbreaking ceremony to mark the start of construction on the new K-6 school in Sherwood Park.
- On June 12, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High is celebrating its official grand reopening ceremony.
- At the next Board meeting, trustees will work through the 2017-18 draft budget. Another Board meeting is slated for May 29 to approve the upcoming year's budget. School boards are required to submit budgets by May 31.
- Board Chair Boymook thanked COSC members for their ongoing commitment to EIPS. She also hopes members enjoy the many end-of-year celebrations taking place throughout the Division.

For Information

a) Update: **Administrative Procedure 164, Nutrition**. Presented by Tracy Muth, the director of Inclusive Learning

- [Administrative Procedure \(AP\) 164, Nutrition](#) is now finalized.
- When planning hot lunches and fundraising, it suggests trying to choose healthy choices most often.
- When staff and parents host meetings, gatherings or events, try to model healthy eating choices.
- On May 31, at 9 a.m., EIPS is hosting a healthy hot lunch eating event at Trinity Baptist Church.
- Over time, schools will have water-refilling stations.

Discussion and Questions:

- Q: How do you monitor these procedure? A: Principals are responsible for monitoring and enforcing the procedure.
- In two years the language may be modified to be less ambiguous.
- Q: Can we create information to help people make better choices such as choose more often and choose less often stickers? A: Alberta Health Services is writing a handbook for parents. Once complete it will be posted on the EIPS website.
- There are a lot of healthy eating resources available to parents. It would be ideal to have all these compiled in one area of the website for parents to access.

b) ASCA Conference Overview: Presented by Jacquie Surgenor, COSC Chair

- Delegates who attended the conference gave updates and feedback. Here's what they said:
 - It's interesting to hear what parents across the province are dealing with.
 - There's a big push to support First Nations, Métis and Inuit students.
 - Thank you to the Board for supporting parents to go to the conference.
 - The truth and reconciliation session was impactful; networking was great; and the resolution discussions were quick, for the most part.
 - EIPS was well represented, proud about what we do for reconciliation in the Division, the session on how to be a trustee helped in gaining a greater understanding of the trustee role. The Bill 1 session had everyone on edge—towards individuals in government, especially since they

- couldn't answer questions or clarify the wording in Bill 1. The conference's membership fee has increased—EIPS COSC members appreciate the Board funding parents to attend.
- Proud EIPS was well represented at the conference and that many spoke at the AGM debate.
 - Great networking with other attendees and learned about fundraising strategies.
 - Wish there was more networking opportunities. Disappointed government officials weren't better informed. Regarding the technology framework session, people may not know about this framework. Regarding the curriculum redesign session, it's a positive approach, a bit late coming, and the consultative approach they are taking is appreciated. The conference reinforced the uniqueness of our COSC group in that we meet monthly and form relationships with the Board and administration.
 - Upset Minister David Eggen couldn't come and the deputy minister wasn't able to answer questions. Overall, the conference was valuable. Also learned how to harvest a moose. The session on how to run a school council was well done. The curriculum redesign team was knowledgeable, want what's best for students and took the time to answered questions. The fentanyl session was informative.
 - The bullying session was emotional and heartbreaking. The police officer's presentation was informative and interesting.
 - Attended the Blanket Exercise on Friday. Would like parents to come away understanding what they are talking about so we can have this conversation with children. How do we support parents in this? How do we also equip parents with support to have conversations with youth about drugs? Went to the literacy session and had lots of ideas to take home and try.

New Business

- a) Budget Presentation: Presented by Shirley Hagen, the director of Financial Services**
- All funding rates remain the same from last year.
 - Growth is fully funded.
 - Bill 1: An Act to Reduce School Fees includes the elimination of instructional supplies or material fees
 - EIPS' Learning Resource (LR) Fee is being eliminated.
 - Alberta Education has committed to fund EIPS \$1.22M for the loss of revenue
 - Bill 1 also includes the elimination of transportation fees for students who attend their designated school and live greater than 2.4 kilometres—no impact to EIPS.
 - Wye Elementary's replacement school is approved.
 - Credit Enrolment Unit (CEU) funding is how high schools are funded. Right now the per-student credit cap is 60 credits. In 2017-18 it's decreasing to 45 credits. On average, a student in Alberta earns 37 CEUs each year. Extra programs may push them over the 45 funded credit amount. High schools will have to adjust to accommodate the decrease in funding.
 - Students will still be able to take additional courses.
 - Impact is unknown. Some courses may not be offered if there is low enrolment but it's not set yet. Some senior high staff may be reduced for the 2017-18 school year.
 - Q: What are all the factors for High School Redesign? A: To provide senior highs with more flexibility, so instructional time is more flexible to complete a course. It's a student-structured approach. There are positive results in the schools that have done the High School Redesign model. There's been a financial disincentive for switching to redesign in the past. Based on the new funding model, this may no longer be the case. There is information on the Alberta Government website about High School Redesign. Switching won't affect most students. Programming will continue to be the same but certain courses may change. Each school takes a different approach so it's often done a bit differently at each school.
 - Q: What happens if the principal changes, will the High School Redesign change or how its run? A: Once a school has switched to High School Redesign it will stay that way. There are

many factors required for the switch and not just based on the principal's decisions. The High School Redesign model is being encouraged in more schools.

- Q: Government mandated there be no change to programming, but it sounds as though there will be changes if teachers are cut back and option courses aren't offered. A: It's hard to maintain services without the funding so changes will be required to accommodate salaries and other expenses.
- Q: What is the financial loss to the Division having CEUs capped at 45? A: Roughly \$900,000.
- Q: The government's nutrition grant, will it go to a few schools or one school? A: We're not entirely sure yet. It's a total of \$141,000 and we have to look closely at the data to determine where that funding will have the biggest impact.

b) Bill 1 – Brief Overview and Discussion: Presented by Jacquie Surgenor, COSC Chair

- What do you expect to get in exchange for school fees?
 - If it's the core subject, there shouldn't be a cost.
 - If we can see the value of the money then it's worth spending.
 - Option courses can have a cost associated.
 - The lower grades have field trips as part of core subjects, which has a cost associated with it.
 - It's important there's transparency so we know where the money we're paying is going.
 - Some parents don't agree parent money should be used towards technology.
 - Ask parents: "What are they willing to lose if they don't pay school fees?"
 - Parents need to know what the "no school fees" really means, they do still pay some fees.
 - Noon-hour supervision fees aren't part of the Learning Resource Fees.
 - Bill 1 will have a Phase 2. It has yet to be determined what this could include.
 - Have a conversation with your member of the legislative assembly to explain how the decision will affect our children.
 - They may have thought this would be a big win with parents, but parents know that it means they will lose something and this may not be the positive decision they thought it would be.
 - Parents won't stand for having less than what we have today.
 - COSC members should decide where we stand on this issue and make a decision on how we will deal with it.
 - If principals give parents a bottom line of what will change, then more parents will speak up.
 - Will we lose our academic ranking if we cut fees?
 - Continue discussion in the fall when the next phase of Bill 1 is released.
- NOTE:* COSC seems to have a pulse on education. Great information and this involvement has the greatest impact on education.

Becky Galbraith moved to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.

The next COSC meeting:

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017
Board Mix and Mingle begins at 5:30 p.m.
COSC meeting begins at 7 p.m.

Location: Boardroom at Central Office in Sherwood Park