



Meeting Minutes

Central Office Boardroom, Sherwood Park

Oct. 4, 2017

7 p.m.

In Attendance:

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

Vice-chair: Krista Scott, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

Secretary: Lynn Coates, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

School Council Members

Ken Allan, A.L. Horton Elementary

Jackie Anderson, Ardrossan Elementary

Carmen Andruchow, Lamont Elementary

Lyndsay Arndt, Lakeland Ridge

Lesley Bowman, Pine Street Elementary

Jessica Boyden, Fort Saskatchewan Christian

Gabe Chemello, Salisbury Composite High

Tracey Cyca, École Campbelltown

Michelle Dugar, Bev Facey Community High

Becky Galbraith, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

JP Grebenc, Ardrossan Elementary

Krystal Grichen, Pine Street Elementary

Ginger Hassett-Koza, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

Tracey Haubrich, Win Ferguson Elementary

Stacey Leclaire, Mills Haven Elementary

Kelli Littlefair, Strathcona Christian Academy
Secondary

Devon Marshall, Strathcona Christian Academy
Elementary

Board and EIPS

Board chair: Trina Boymook

Vice-chair: Harvey Stadnick

Trustee: Colleen Holowaychuk

Trustee: Jim Seutter

Superintendent: Mark Liguori

Associate superintendent: Sandra Stoddard

President, ATA No. 28: Deneen Zielke

Director, Communications: Laura McNabb

Communications specialist: Corrie Fletcher Naylor

Welcome

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

Elections

Jacquie Surgenor called elections for the positions of chair, vice-chair and secretary for the 2017-18 school year. The following were nominated to the indicated positions.

- Chair: Jacquie Surgenor
- Vice-Chair: Krista Scott
- Secretary: Lynn Coates

Motion: To accept the nominations for the chair, vice-chair and secretary as nominated.

- Moved: **Gabe Chemello**
- Seconded: **Becky Galbraith**
- **Motion Carried**

Additions to the Agenda

Jacquie Surgenor asked if there were any additions to the **Oct. 4, 2017** agenda.

- There were no amendments to the agenda.

Motion: To accept the **Oct. 4, 2017** agenda as presented.

Moved: **Gabe Chemello**
Seconded: **Ginger Hassett-Koza**
Motion Carried

Approval of the April 5, 2017 Minutes

Jacque Surgenor asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the **April 5, 2017** meeting.

- No changes were made.

Motion: To accept the **April 5, 2017** minutes as is.

Moved: **Krista Scott**
Seconded: **Becky Galbraith**
Motion Carried

Approval of the May 3, 2017 Minutes

Jacque Surgenor asked if there were any changes to the minutes from the **May 3, 2017** meeting.

- No changes were made.

Motion: To accept the **May 3, 2017** minutes as is.

Moved: **Devon Marshall**
Seconded: **Lynn Coats**
Motion Carried

Board Report: Presented by Trina Boymook, board chair, EIPS

Trina Boymook presented the Board Report. Highlights include:

- On September 27 and September 28, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) attended a consultation session with Education Minister David Eggen to discuss the *School Act*. The sessions are being held province wide with school board representatives to engage on the following topics: age of access, common age of entry; education services agreement; potential next steps regarding the government's approach to school fee reductions and transportation funding.
- The Division is hosting two drop-in information sessions regarding Wye Elementary's replacement school. The first one was held on September 26. The next one takes place at Brentwood Elementary on October 5 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- At the August 24 Board meeting:
 - The Board approved a motion to standardize school names with French immersion programming. Schools with a single-track French immersion program will include the word "École" in the school name. Meanwhile, schools with dual-track French immersion programming will not include the word "École" in the school name. As a result, École Ardrossan Élémentaire Elementary is being renamed Ardrossan Elementary, effective immediately.
 - The new K-6 school in Sherwood Park was officially named: Davidson Creek Elementary.
 - The Division is now overseeing the Mentors Opening Doors Enriching Lives (M.O.D.E.L.) program, a Mental Health Capacity Building initiative based in Vegreville. The program helps enhance supports and services at schools. The goal: To promote positive mental health, support early intervention and access to services and to increase awareness about services available.
- At the September 14 Board meeting:

- The trustees approved two motions relating to Trustee’s remuneration. For the 2017-18 school year, trustee remuneration category rates remain unchanged from the previous year. For the 2018-19 school year trustee remuneration will be adjusted effective Jan. 1, 2019. The rates will increase so that the after-tax income in 2019 is no less than current after-tax income—in alignment with new federal regulations concerning non-taxable allowances for municipal officers.
- The Board approved the purchasing and installing of mechanical cooling systems in all of the Division’s non-cooled modular units that exceed Alberta Infrastructures design-build standard temperature (27 C). The systems will be purchased and installed in a phased approach, through the utilization of reserve operational funding.
- The grand opening ceremony for SouthPointe School took place on Sept. 23, 2017.
- Fort Saskatchewan Public Library launched a new initiative to put a free library card in each of our student’s hands. Board Chair Boymook and vice-chair Harvey Stadnick were on hand at the event with students from Rudolph Hennig Junior High.
- Coming up this fall, EIPS is releasing a survey to gather feedback to finalize its 2018-19 calendar.

ATA Report: Presented by Deneen Zielke, president, Alberta Teachers’ Association Local No. 28

Deneen Zielke presented the ATA Report. Highlights include:

- Throughout the fall, the Local has welcomed a number of new members to serve various committees and executive positions. The Local is excited to harness their knowledge and enthusiasm.
- The Diversity, Equality and Human Rights Committee is looking forward to collaborating with the Division’s First Nations, Métis and Inuit consultants on the Walking Together project. The goal: to better support teachers, meet the objective of the project and enhance student understanding around the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.
- On September 28-30, Zielke attended the ATA’s Beginning Teachers Conference, an annual event that offers support and resources to teachers who are new to the profession. Zielke was impressed with the variety and calibre of sessions available. Sessions were timely and offered practical strategies teachers can easily implement. In fact, many past attendees say the conference improved their ability to avoid pitfalls and confidence in the classroom.
- On October 27, the ATA is hosting its annual Induction Ceremony at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. This year, the Local is inviting 32 new members to be inducted. Zielke extended an invitation to Chair Boymook and Superintendent Mark Liguori.
- Currently, the ATA is in production with a special edition of its Local’s newspaper, The Bugler. The issue will highlight the upcoming school board elections.

For Information

a) ASCA Update: Presented by Jacquie Surgenor, COSC president

- EIPS’ membership to Alberta School Councils’ Association (ASCA) includes all school councils within the Division, which means all EIPS schools are members and can access all the ASCA resources that are available.
- Sign-up for the [School Engagement Task Force](#).
- ASCA is attending consultations regarding Bill 1.

- The 2018 ASCA Conference and AGM takes place April 20-22, 2018.

b) Strathcona County School Traffic Safety Partnership: Presented by Jacquie Surgenor, COSC chair

- Jacquie Surgenor serves on the Strathcona County School Traffic Safety Partnership committee—founded because of inquiries from the EIPS COSC group. Surgenor would like to have someone else take over her position.
- The committee meets every couple months on either a Tuesday or Thursday morning for about one-and-a-half hours per meeting. The next meeting is Oct. 10, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.
- Lindsay Arndt is interested in being the urban representative for COSC.

New Business

a) COSC Planning for 2017-18: Presented by Jacquie Surgenor, COSC chair

- Jacquie Surgenor asked if everyone is still OK with meeting at central office. There used to be meetings in the Ardrossan Junior Senior High library but it was crowded. The general consensus was to continue meeting at central office for the rest of the year.
- It was decided there would not be a meeting in December 2017 or June 2018.
- Some ideas for future agenda items are:
 - an overview of the school system;
 - model changes to education with the introduction of technology;
 - educational philosophy;
 - feedback from curriculum redesign;
 - innovative things that are occurring throughout the Division;
 - a resource fair, what supports are offered by EIPS;
 - discussion on Bring Your Own Device (BYOD);
 - role of school councils; and
 - the role of rural education and its future within EIPS.

b) Supporting School Chairs: Presented by Jacquie Surgenor, COSC Chair

In what ways can COSC support school chairs and share information with people that are not able to attend the meetings? Jacquie Surgenor will look at developing something from the suggestions.

The suggestions are as follows:

- public Facebook page;
- discussion board;
- personal mailing lists;
- an outline from EIPS for school councils;
- a platform that's not so intimidating for newer people;

c) Bill 1: An Act to Reduce School Fees: Presented by Trina Boymook, Board Chair and Mark Ligouri, Superintendent

- [Policy 17, Student Transportation Services.](#)
- [Policy 23, School and Administrative Fees.](#)

- [Administrative Procedure 505: School and Administrative Fees.](#)
- School fees can vary between school boards.
- There is no new money so there has to be a give and take on what is expected. If promised further reductions, we need to ask at what cost and what is being cut to pay for it.
- The timeline for feedback that was given was too short to have true consultations.
- Bill 1 is the “what” and the administrative procedure is the “how.”
- To develop the regulation, you need to have the policy.
- The minister didn’t share all of his thoughts on what the regulation is supposed to look like.
- June 5, 2017 was when the regulation was received. The deadline to have the policy submitted back to the minister was June 30, 2017.
- The policy needs to be reviewed every year so adjustments can be made, if required, in the review process.
- Feedback is being considered in the review.
- There is a five-month Student Transportation payment option in *Policy 17*.
- There are definitions in *Policy 17* and *AP 505*.
- *Policy 23* covers extracurricular activities as well.

Some of the questions and comments that were being asked by the attendees were as follows:

- There is a general feeling of the government micro-managing. Why are boards being required to submit policies to the minister? And, why does what the teachers submit need to be approved by the minister?
- There are some school boards that don’t follow the rules, so the minister is trying to get them onboard. If this is the case, then why is the minister not just taking it up with those particular boards?
- The minister should be removed from approving fees and extra-curricular activities. This should be within the school board’s control.
- The minister has publicly asked parents to invite him to school council meetings. COSC should look at having a joint meeting setup and invite the minister to attend to answer some of these questions and hear parent feedback.
- The minister asked for feedback in the fall, but will he look at feedback after that date too?
- Add fees to the COSC agenda to discuss the fees as a Division.
- Parents should have an idea of what fees will look like before they sign their children up for a course so they have a better understanding of the potential cost.
- How will this look in our schools?
- Bring information back to school councils and get feedback.
- There is no new money, so what are parents willing to pay or give up?
- Have a conversation about what is too much? are there too many tournaments? too many field trips?

NOTE: School Councils are asked to discuss the following nine questions at the November School Council Meeting:

- What makes up fees?
- Are you in favour of fees?
- What activities would you be willing to pay or give up?

- How many tournaments is enough?
- Should there be a maximum?
- What is the role of schools with teams?
- How many field trips is enough?
- Elementary classes: Should there be a minimum and maximum set?
- Can families afford to pay for all these?

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

The next COSC meeting:

Date: Wednesday, **November 8, 2017**

Time: 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Location: Boardroom at Central Office in Sherwood Park