



# MEETING MINUTES

Elk Island Public Schools, virtual meeting  
Nov. 3, 2021 | 6:30 p.m.

## In Attendance

### SCHOOL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

**Chair:** Lesley Bowman, Pine Street Elementary  
**Vice-Chair:** Devon Marshall, SCA Elementary  
**Secretary:** Michelle Uytterhagen, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Shaheen Alarakhia, École Campbelltown  
Jackie Anderson, Ardrossan Junior Senior High  
Heather Bayne, Ardrossan Junior Senior High  
Aileen Bozic, SCA Secondary  
April Childs, Lakeland Ridge  
Nadine Fricke, James Mowat Elementary  
Lori Lehman, Woodbridge Farms  
Natalie Manuel, Fort Saskatchewan Christian  
Tracey Nielsen, Clover Bar Junior High  
Kimberly Scott, Westboro Elementary  
Krista Scott, Bev Facey Community High, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High  
Sheena Singleton, Sherwood Heights Junior High  
Jacquie Surgenor, Salisbury Composite High & Sherwood Heights Junior High  
Brian Vick, Brentwood Elementary

Sara Witholt, Heritage Hills Elementary & Woodbridge Farms Elementary  
Caitlyn Zabrick, Fort Saskatchewan Elementary  
Deniene Zaseybida, Vegreville Composite High

### ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trina Boymook, Chair  
Colleen Holowaychuk, Vice-Chair  
Cathy Allen, Trustee  
Randy Footz, Trustee  
Don Irwin, Trustee  
Susan Miller, Trustee  
Jim Seutter, Trustee  
Jaqueline Shotbolt, Trustee  
Ralph Sorochan, Trustee

### ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sandra Stoddard, Associate Superintendent  
Deneen Ziekle, ATA Local No. 28 President  
Corrie Fletcher, Communications

### SPECIAL GUESTS

Tom Sutton, Strathcona County  
Dale Kendall, RCMP

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

### AGENDA

COSC Chair Bowman called for additions or deletions to the agenda.

MOTION | The agenda be adopted, as circulated.

*MOTION CARRIED*

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COSC Chair Bowman called for approval of the Oct. 6, 2021 meeting minutes.

MOTION | The minutes be approved, as circulated.

*Motion CARRIED*

# Board Report

Board Chair Trina Boymook presented the Board report.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- On October 28, the new EIPS Board of Trustees was sworn in. For the 2021-22 school year, Trina Boymook was elected the Chair, and Colleen Holowaychuk was elected the Vice-Chair.
- At the October 28 Board meeting:
  - Trustees directed EIPS administration to request funding from Alberta Education to address needed changes to several modular classroom units in the 2022-23 school year. If approved, the Division will: relocate three modular classroom units to SouthPointe School from Fultonvale Elementary Junior High; replace three modular classroom units at James Mowat Elementary with four new modular units; and demolish three modular classroom units at Uncas Elementary. EIPS expects a decision from the province in early 2022.
  - The Board requested \$792,000 from the province's Learning Disruption Fund. The money will provide 12 to 16 weeks of targeted programming for 1,616 identified students in grades 2 and 3 related to literacy and numeracy learning loss during the pandemic—approval's expected in the new year.
- On November 24, the Board will begin its school Assurance Reviews—departments had their reviews in early November. For dates and times, contact your school principal.
- On November 14, Chair Boymook will attend a meeting of Board Chairs to discuss the new kindergarten to Grade 6 curriculum and share feedback from EIPS families, communities and staff.
- On November 15-16, Chair Boymook's attending the Alberta School Boards Association Fall General Meeting.
- On December 6-7, trustees will take part in a Board Retreat, focused on setting priorities for the Board.
- The Board will soon review and approved the Division calendar for the 2022-23 school year.

## COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

**Question:** Has the National Day of Reconciliation, September 30, been added to the calendar for next year?

**Answer:** Yes. It's a school closure day every year going forward.

**Q: What were the costs associated with administering the learning gap analysis tests?**

**A:** EIPS will bring exact figures to the next meetings. But the cost totalled less than \$5,000 and EIPS feels it was well worth the costs.

# ATA Report

ATA Local No. 28 President Deneen Zielke presented the ATA report.

## HIGHLIGHTS

- The ATA and Alberta School Councils' Association have joined forces to launch a new Stand for Education campaign.
- Families and teachers across Alberta are working together and lobbying the province to put children first in the public education system—by making necessary changes to the draft K-6 curriculum and funding manual.
- To learn more visit [standforeducation.ca](http://standforeducation.ca).

# For Information

**TRUSTEE INTRODUCTION** – Trina Boymook, EIPS Board Chair

- Chair Boymook introduced the new EIPS Board of Trustees: Trina Boymook, Chair, Colleen Holowaychuk, Vice-Chair, Cathy Allen, Randy Footz, Don Irwin, Susan Miller, Jim Seutter, Jacqueline Shotbolt, and Ralph Sorochan.

**ASCA UPDATE** – Krista Scott and Jacquie Surgenor, COSC members and ASCA Board directors

- All school councils are members of the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA).
- Jacquie Surgenor discussed the history ASCA had with developing the draft curriculum under the NDP Government.
- Under the current government, ASCA has not been asked by the government to help with parental input.
- ASCA will have a member engagement opportunity in November—circulated through its *School Council eNews* and [website](#).
- [Meeting Mondays](#) and [Webinar Wednesdays](#) are continuing this year and are available to all members. See the [ASCA website](#) for upcoming sessions.

**CAREGIVER SERIES UPDATE** – Lesley Bowman, COSC Chair

- The [November Caregiver Series](#) schedule is now available.
- Offered through Alberta Health Services, the sessions are informative and valuable.
- Bowman encouraged members to review the [November Caregiver Series](#) calendar.

**SHERWOOD HEIGHTS JUNIOR HIGH REPLACEMENT SCHOOL WEBSITE** – Lesley Bowman, COSC Chair, and Jacquie Surgenor, COSC member

- Surgenor provided a brief update on the work being done to help with the initiative for the Sherwood Heights Junior High Replacement website.
- The Board's done a wonderful job advocating to the province, but they can only do so much.
- Surgenor shared a website, an information site for community members.
- All of the information gathered to date is posted on the site.
- COSC members are encouraged to share the information and help support the initiative.
- The website: [replaceshewoodheights.ca](http://replaceshewoodheights.ca).

## New Business

**SCHOOL AND RCMP RELATIONSHIP** – Dale Kendall, Strathcona County RCMP Superintendent, and Tom Sutton, Director of Strathcona County RCMP and Enforcement Services

- Tom Sutton and Dale Kendall, with the Strathcona County RCMP, gave a presentation on the relationship between law enforcement and schools.
- The RCMP just reinstated the School Resource Officer Program.
- Currently, there are five school resource officers working co-operatively with schools.
- Their role is to proactively identify and address school concerns and build relationships between communities, schools and police.
- The officers work closely with the Strathcona County Family and Community Services staff to work with families and students to share supports and resources.
- The school resource officers are active in senior high schools and the feeder schools to those senior highs.
- To date, the feedback is overwhelmingly positive about having the school resource officers back.
- Other support programs and initiatives include:
  - D.A.R.E.
  - Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA)
  - Strathcona County School Traffic Safety Partnership
- Additional information:
  - [Strathcona County](#)
  - [RCMP and Enforcement Services](#)
  - [School Traffic Safety Partnership](#)
  - [D.A.R.E.](#)
  - [VTRA](#)

### **COVID-19 UPDATE** – Sandra Stoddard, EIPS Associate Superintendent

- Sandra Stoddard, the Associated Superintendent, provided an update on the COVID 19 situation.
- The Division now requires staff, visitors and volunteers to provide proof of vaccination to enter an EIPS facility.
- Staff must be fully vaccinated by Dec. 1, 2021. If they aren't fully vaccinated, they have to provide a negative PCR test every 72 hours.
- Also reviewed were some of the Division's COVID 19 protocols, available in the [EIPS Operations Guidelines 2021-22](#).
- The province will so start offering targeted at-home rapid tests to schools in outbreak status. Testing is voluntary and administered at home by a student or adult.
- School-based meetings—for example, school council meetings—are encouraged to take place virtually. Face-to-face meetings can take place at the principal's discretion.
- At the current time, zero schools are in outbreak status.

### COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

**Question:** When will microwaves be available to students again? Can students not hand sanitize before they use a microwave?

**Answer:** Stoddard will followup. The Division will discuss with the Occupational Health and Safety Specialist.

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL GRANT** – Sandra Stoddard, EIPS Associate Superintendent

- Stoddard discussed the \$500 School Council Grant the government's providing each school council to help engage parents.
- All funds will go to EIPS for distribution.
- The concern: not every school council has their own bank account and it's a lot of work to open a bank account for each school council and deposit the money.
- The grant has strict criteria around what the money can be used for.
- School councils can use it for professional learning and engagement activities.
- One idea is to allocate all the money to COSC to collectively work with all the school councils for professional learning and speaker series.
- Lesley Bowman reiterated each school council knows what their school needs. She encourages everyone to take this discussion back to their school council and determine what is important.
- Further discussion will take place at the January COSC meeting.

### COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

**Question:** Do funds have to be used by the end of this school year?

**Answer:** The funds must be used by the end of this school year.

### **EIPS ASSURANCE REVIEW** – Sandra Stoddard, EIPS Associate Superintendent

- The new assurance framework goal is to build public trust in the public education system and confidence it's meeting the needs of students.
- For EIPS, part of the process includes:
  - Annually, submitting an education plan and annual results to Alberta Education.
  - Engaging students, families, staff and community members in the planning process to establish key priorities.
  - Sharing the results, progress and priority strategies with the school community.
- The Assurance Reviews are a key part of demonstrating assurance and accountability.
- Stoddard discussed the reporting process for principals to address progress on each school's three goals—it's the same process for all schools within EIPS to ensure accurate reporting and data.

- To prepare school council chairs for the Assurance Reviews, Stoddard discussed way to read Alberta Education Assurance Measures: Overall Summaries for the Division and schools. She also explained ways to drill further down into the data.
- In addition to the Alberta Education Assurance Measures survey, EIPS conducts a parent and student survey every year. The survey gets more responses than the province's survey. Stoddard encourages school councils to ask their principal to share this survey data as well.
- Additional data to ask for includes the STAR 360 results and MIPI results, which shows data year over year at each grade level, specific to a school.

## **COSC Sharing**

**HOW SCHOOL COUNCILS CAN SUPPORT STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND ADMINISTRATORS** – Lesley Bowman, COSC Chair

- The agenda topic was tabled because of a lack of time.

**HOW-TO TIPS ON BOOSTING SCHOOL COUNCIL** – Lesley Bowman, COSC Chair

- The agenda topic was tabled because of a lack of time.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:40 P.M.

## **Next COSC Meeting**

**DATE:** Jan. 12, 2022

**TIME:** 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Virtual meeting, link available in the January agenda