



Meeting Minutes

Central Office Boardroom, Sherwood Park

Wednesday, October 1, 2014

7:00 p.m.

In Attendance:

Jacquie Surgenor-Westboro Elementary

Chair

Tracey Howell-F.R. Haythorne Junior High/Bev
Facey Community High

Co-Chair

Sally Navis-Strathcona Christian Academy
Secondary

Co-Chair

Lynn Coates-Ministik School

Co-Secretary

Krista Scott-Fultonvale Elementary Junior High

Co-Secretary

Nasreen Banman-Pine Street Elementary

Heather Bashforth-Salisbury Composite High

Natalie Bos-Wye Elementary

Dan Carter-Glen Allan Elementary

Dwight Dibbon-Lakeland Ridge

Becky Galbraith-Fultonvale Elementary Junior
High

Kelly Goudreau-James Mowat Elementary

Kathy Gunderson-Ardrossan Junior Senior High

Annette Hubick-Lakeland Ridge

Tanya Hunter-Sherwood Heights Junior High

Kaya Kasook-École Élémentaire Ardrossan
Elementary

Corry-Lyn O'Hara-Fort Saskatchewan Elementary

Crystal Rieben-Fort Saskatchewan Christian

Trina Boymook-Board Chair

Colleen Holowaychuk-Vice Chair

Barb McNeill-Trustee

Jim Seutter-Trustee

Heather Wall-Trustee

Susan Johnson-Communication Services

Karla Satchwell-Associate Superintendent, Human
Resources

Bill Shields-Alberta Teachers' Association Local
President

Eileen Zimmerman-Associate Superintendent,
Instructional Services

Welcome and Nominations for Executive Committee Members

Susan Johnson called the meeting to order @ 7:05 p.m. and there was a round-table introduction of all attendees. The first order of business was to nominate the executive for COSC for the year.

The only nomination for the Chair position was Jacquie Surgenor and she was acclaimed.

There were two nominations for vice-chair, Tracey Howell and Sally Navis.

Therefore, it was decided to have co-vice chairs. Both were acclaimed.

The position of Secretary was given to Lynn Coates with Krista Scott co-secretary.

The meeting was then handed over to the Chair to lead.

Additions to the Agenda

The Chair asked if there were any additions to the agenda.

There were no additions made.

Motion: To accept the October 1, 2014 agenda as is.

Moved: Corry-Lyn O'Hara

Seconded: Natalie

Motion Carried

Approval of May 7, 2014 minutes

Jacque asked if there were any errors or omissions in the May 7, 2014 minutes. Krista and Tracey were in attendance and they were not on the sheet. The changes were made.

Motion: To accept the May 7, 2014 minutes as amended.

Moved: Krista Scott

Seconded: Kathy Gunderson

Motion Carried

Board Report – Presented by Trina Boymook, Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Board Chair

- On August 28, the Board met and selected Trina Boymook as the Board Chair and Colleen Holowaychuk as the Vice Chair.
- The Board is reviewing and developing their Policies.
- The regulations pertaining to the new *Education Act* were thought to be out in early October but are again delayed. Once they are released, there will be opportunities to provide input.
- The Board has once again paid for all of the school councils in the division to have a membership with Alberta School Councils Association.
- Student Transportation launched a new Kindergarten bus education program called the Little Elk Adventures Program. This was developed to expose first-time Kindergarten children to the buses and safety rules. Due to the success, it will be offered again next year.
- My Stop will be available to parents in late September/early October. This will allow parents to see if their child has scanned on or off the bus.
- The Board thanked all the attendees at the September 28 COSC Mix and Mingle.
- EIPS is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.
- The Board Meeting on November 27 will be an evening meeting and be open to the public. New this meeting is an agenda item for Comments from the Public. Pre-registration is required prior to 6:00 p.m. on November 27 for those wishing to speak during this portion of the meeting. Speakers are advised that they have a maximum of 5 minutes to make their comments.
- The Superintendent has given the Board notice of his intent to retire on January 2, 2015. The Board will be establishing a recruitment process in the next few weeks.

ATA Report – Presented by Bill Shields, President, ATA Local #28

- Bill introduced himself and explained how he came to his position.
- ATA Summer Conference in Banff was a great opportunity for teachers to energize prior to the start of the school year. Unfortunately, a scheduled leadership debate for those individuals running for Premier of Alberta did not take place as only one leadership hopeful was in attendance.

- The Student Learning Assessments (SLAs) are to be launched this year as a pilot project for Grade 3 students. The ATA is concerned about the working conditions with respect to marking for the SLAs. EIPS division did grant an extra day for marking to the teachers to help with this workload.
- Attendees asked what SLAs were and Eileen Zimmerman provided an explanation. Bill also further clarified that said that there is a written (performance) piece of the SLAs that the teacher has to administer and grade and then all of that information needs to be inputted. There are still aspects that need to be looked at, such as how to share the results with the parents.
- Results of these tests should be available to parents after November 24 and the Alberta Education website will also have an information page.
- *Your Future: It's a Matter of Choice* career and post-secondary forum will be presented on October 28. This will be attended by over 45 post-secondary institutions and companies. It will be at the Sherwood Park Holiday Inn Conference Centre behind Millennium Place. All high school parents and students are invited to attend.
- The ATA is looking forward to working with a new Superintendent to bring fresh ideas and perspectives.

For Information

ASCA Resolutions – Susan Johnson

- The Annual General Meeting for the Alberta School Councils' Association will be held in April in Edmonton. The website www.albertaschoolcouncils will have all the resolution submissions which you are invited to review and possibly bring them up for discussion at your school parent councils.

New Business

COSC Review – Susan Johnson, Communications

- The meetings will be held the first Wednesday of every month excluding the one in December and usually June. This can be decided by the COSC group.
- The Agenda is usually in the same general order.
- Susan is looking for some ideas for the Agenda. What does COSC want to discuss?
 - More information on how to support students and where to get his information.
 - Traffic Safety.
 - Inclusive education/special needs students. Where is the correlation?
 - Sharing of what programs are available across the division and what funding is there.
 - How to advocate for your child, what are the resources and paths to follow.
 - Idea sharing (example would be how are other councils and schools handling bullying).
 - Emergency preparedness at a division level.

Communicating Student Learning – Deb Barron, Curriculum Services and Professional Development

- Deb gave a presentation on the work that the committee studying *Communicating Student Learning* has undertaken.
- She shared the survey that the Committee had distributed in spring of 2014. Over 1,000 students and 300 teachers provided their feedback.
- It is important to remember that the Committee is only studying student learning/achievement from grades 1 thru 6.

- They are also studying how communicating back to parents may be done and possibly linked to PowerSchool.
- Percentages will not be used as reporting strategies.
- The things to be communicated will include achievement of learner outcomes, learner attributes (behaviour, social skills), areas of strength or improvement, and ways for parents to help.
- Learner attributes will be a four-point scale which focuses on the support and frequency of the attribute based on competencies. This will include things such as responsibility, participation, and quality of work to name a few.
- Achievement of learner outcomes will include where the child is in relation to grade level expectancy, clear language, and will be observable and measureable descriptors.
- There is a 4-point and a 5-point scale being discussed. The 5-point scale has an addition of an extra level for below grade level.
- Parents are invited to go to Survey Monkey (surveymonkey.com/s/67HGYXJ) and complete a survey. This survey closes October 15.
- Based on the feedback, the recommendations will go to the Superintendent for the final decision to be made.

Calendar Consultations – Karla Satchwell, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources

- There are four options to discuss for the new calendar.
- Of these four options, three consist of a full professional development day to be held either on a Monday, Wednesday, or Friday once a month or the status quo.
- This would create three more professional development days for staff without affecting student hours. Staff meetings will be held on these days as well.
- There was talk of doing half days that was not well received.
- There is a survey that is on the main EIPS website and the survey closes November 15.
- On November 26, the results will be shared with EIPS leadership.
- The committee will then meet on December 2 to analyze the data.
- A decision on which calendar will be adopted will be made at the December 18 Board of Trustees meeting.

The next COSC meeting is Wednesday, November 5, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. The main site will be in the Boardroom at Central Office in Sherwood Park.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Tracey Howell motioned to adjourn.