Let's Talk About

EIPS French Immersion

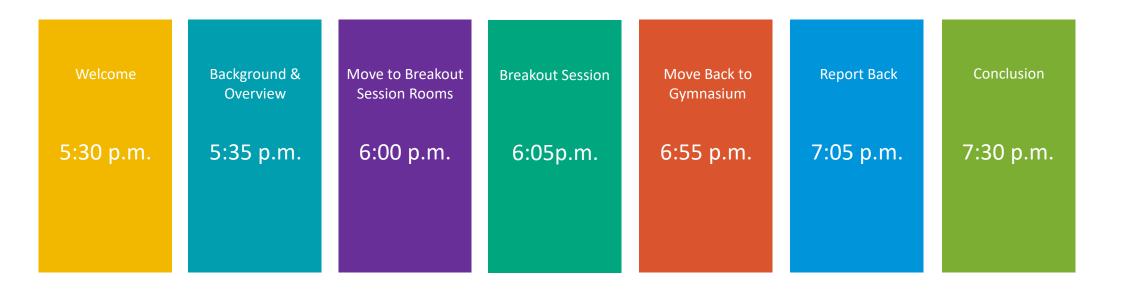
Land & People Acknowledgment

We acknowledge with respect the history and culture of the people 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 people and honour the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples.

We commit to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of collaboration and reconciliation.

Agenda



04/13/23

3

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting

Who We Are

1 EIPS TRUSTEES

2 EIPS ADMINISTRATION

FACILITATORS, RECORDERS AND BREAKOUT ROOMS

Engagement Norms

- We want to hear from you!
- Respect each other
- Listen to learn and understand
- One speaker at a time; don't interrupt
- Everyone has equal chance to speak
- Focus on topic, not on individual person
- All points of view are welcome
- Thoughtful questions and comments encouraged

Background

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting

A Brief History

- ► EIPS' French Immersion program
- ▶ Up until 2020, the French Immersion program was offered at the following EIPS schools:
- Fort Saskatchewan
 - École Parc Élémentaire (K to 6)
- Rural Strathcona County
 - Ardrossan Elementary (K to 6)
 - Ardrossan Junior Senior High (7 to 12)
- Sherwood Park
 - École Campbelltown (K to 6)
 - Sherwood Heights Junior High (7 to 9)

A Brief History

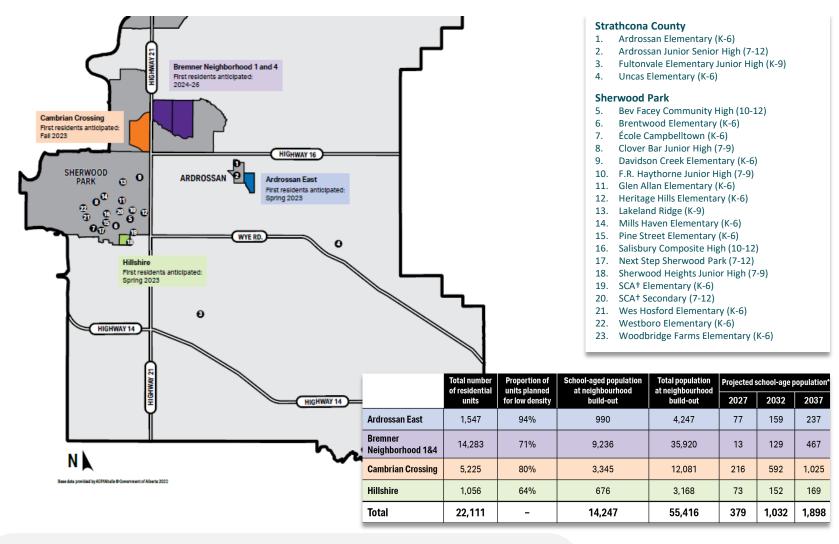
- In 2019, enrolment pressures were identified at École Campbelltown.
- In 2020, attendance boundaries were changed, and students east of Clover Bar Road were designated to Heritage Hills school. Students west of Clover Bar Road were designated to École Campbelltown.
- Currently, Heritage Hills Elementary's French Immersion program is undersubscribed—operating one French Immersion class for each grade of K-3, one Grade 4-5 split class and one Grade 5-6 split class.
- ► The new replacement school will consolidate École Campbelltown and Sherwood Heights Junior High—expected to open in the 2025-26 school year.

Why a Change Now?

Enrolment Pressures

Anticipated enrolment pressures affecting French Immersion programming:

- With several new residential developments underway, the Division expects significant enrolment pressures at Ardrossan schools in the near future.
- ► Two new neighbourhoods within Strathcona County— Cambrian and Hearthstone are developing simultaneously, with residents moving in, in fall 2023.
- Space limitations in Fort Saskatchewan and no room to expand the French Immersion program.
- Attendance boundaries for French Immersion programming for these future residents need to be accommodated through existing school infrastructure.



2022-23 Strathcona County Growth Areas

STRATHCONA COUNTY

Why a Change Now?

Retention

Retention at the secondary level is a concern:

- Fewer students are deciding to stay in the program at the junior high and senior high levels.
- As of Sept. 29, 2022, EIPS has 129 Grade 6 students enrolled in French Immersion. But, in Grade 9, there are only 85 students enrolled in French Immersion.
- ► In Grade 12, only 37 students are enrolled.
- ▶ Based on historical trends, the two grades with the lowest retention rates: Grade 7, 86%, and Grade 10, 69%.
- Such a significant drop in students at the senior high level makes providing robust programming challenging.

11

Is where students reside and where they attend an issue?

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 4/13/23

School	Grade													
	К	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	Total
Ardrossan Elementary	27	26	22	33	26	27	34							195
École Campbelltown	50	42	60	54	57	54	47							364
École Parc Élémentaire	48	40	50	35	40	29	33							275
Heritage Hills Elementary	21	23	25	22	19	16	15							141
Sherwood Heights Junior High								49	49	39				137
Ardrossan Junior Senior High								38	45	46	57	33	37	256
TOTAL	146	131	157	144	142	126	129	87	94	85	57	33	37	1,368

	K	Gr. 1	Gr. 2	Gr. 3	Gr. 4	Gr. 5	Gr. 6	Gr. 7	Gr. 8	Gr. 9	Gr. 10	Gr. 11	Gr. 12	Total
Ardrossan Elementary	27	26	22	33	26	27	34	-	-	-	-	-	1	195
École Campbelltown	50	42	60	54	57	54	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	364
École Parc Élémentaire	48	40	50	35	40	29	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	275
Heritage Hills Elementary	21	23	25	22	19	16	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	141
Sherwood Heights Junior High	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49	49	39	-	-	-	137
Ardrossan Junior Senior High	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	38	45	46	57	33	37	256
Grade total	146	131	157	144	142	126	129	87	94	85	57	33	37	1,368

Student Heat Map

16

32

48

64

Strathcona County

- 1. Ardrossan Elementary (K-6) AEL
- 2. Ardrossan Junior Senior High (7-12) AJS

Sherwood Park

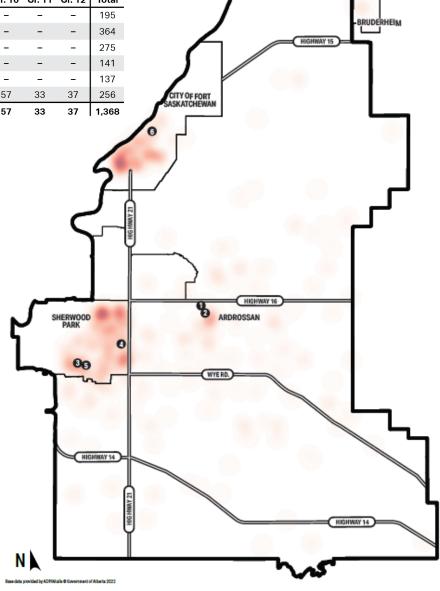
- 3. École Campbelltown (K-6) CBN
- 4. Heritage Hills Elementary (K-6) HHE
- 5. Sherwood Heights Junior High (7-9) SWH

Fort Saskatchewan

6. École Parc Élémentaire (K-6) EPE

2022-23 Resident French Immersion Student Heat Map

STRATHCONA COUNTY



Engagement Efforts:

What we heard

1 ROBUST PROGRAMMING

PROXIMITY

FEWER SCHOOL TRANSITIONS

MORE ACADEMIC SUPPORTS

CLEAR VISION

6

PRESENT A SOLUTION

14

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 04/13/23

Vision & Guiding Principles

EIPS French Immersion Program
Based on feedback from Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the public engagement

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting

Vision

Elk Island Public Schools' French Immersion program offers robust, high-quality, linguistically and culturally rich learning environments where students, K-12, are engaged in becoming highly proficient in Canada's two official languages.

Students who graduate from the program are well-prepared to be active and engaged citizens in today's bilingual and multicultural Canada.

Guiding Principles

- ► To best achieve the program goals, French Immersion students are encouraged to remain in the program until the end of Grade 12.
- Maximizing the amount of French language spoken in the learning environment is essential.
- Robust enrolment—more than one class per grade—enhances teaching quality and student learning.
- Embedded cultural activities and opportunities are essential to the program's effectiveness.
- Reducing the number of transitions to a new school, offering depth and breadth of programming, multiple choices in subject offerings and extracurricular activities is important to retention.
- Families play a key role in promoting immersion programs and supporting their child in achieving the program's goals.
- ► The Division advocates for the program, its accessibility and sustainability.
- The Division develops ongoing strategies to recruit and hire the best possible staff.

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 04/13/23

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 04/13/23

A potential solution must:

- Address growth, balanced enrolment and retention concerns.
- Support the vision and guiding principles.
- Align with what we have heard.
- Be financially sustainable.
- ► Enable growth of the program well into the future.

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 04/13/23

Part AElementary

A.1 Balance elementary French Immersion at Heritage Hills Elementary

Expand Heritage Hills Elementary's attendance boundary.

- Designate French Immersion students living in Cambrian Crossing to Heritage Hills Elementary, K-6, effective 2023-24.
- Expand Heritage Hills Elementary's French Immersion attendance boundary by aligning it with the regular program—phased in starting with kindergarten children in the 2024-25 school year.

How it addresses the criteria

- Supports anticipated growth in elementary French Immersion.
- Allows more elementary students close proximity to the program.
- Two classes per grade enables robust programming and helps facilitate more academic supports.
- Sustainable into the future and reduces further school transitions.

Part AElementary

A.2 Address anticipated enrolment pressures at Ardrossan Elementary

Accommodate students at Ardrossan Elementary through the Division's Modular Classroom Plan.

- Ardrossan Elementary continues to offer a dual-track regular and French Immersion program.
- Ardrossan Elementary's attendance boundaries remain unchanged except students living in Cambrian Crossing are redirected to Heritage Hills Elementary for French Immersion.

How it addresses the criteria

- Supports anticipated growth in elementary French Immersion.
- Allows more elementary students close proximity to the program.
- Two or more classes per grade enables robust programming and helps facilitate more academic supports.
- Sustainable into the future and reduces further school transitions.

Part A Elementary

A.3 Balance elementary French Immersion at the Sherwood Park replacement school

Students designated to École Campbelltown move to the new replacement school in Sherwood Park, expected in 2025-26.

- ► The replacement school's elementary French Immersion program has room to grow.
- ► The replacement school's elementary French Immersion program is contained within the new school and operates as a stand-alone school within a larger building.

How it addresses the criteria

- Supports growth in elementary French Immersion.
- Allows more elementary students close proximity to the program.
- Two or more classes per grade enables robust programming and helps facilitate more academic supports.
- Sustainable into the future and reduces further school transitions.

Part BSecondary

B.1 Address French Immersion retention and anticipated enrolment pressures at Ardrossan Junior Senior High

Relocate all EIPS' secondary French Immersion program, grades 7-12, to Bev Facey Community High—effective at the same time the new K-9 replacement school in Sherwood Park opens, expected in the 2025-26 school year.

- Ardrossan Junior Senior High's French Immersion program relocates to Bev Facey Community High.
- Sherwood Heights Junior High's French Immersion program relocates to Bev Facey Community High.
- Make Bev Facey Community High the designated secondary school, grades 7-12, for Ardrossan Elementary, École Campbelltown, École Parc Élémentaire and Heritage Hills Elementary's French Immersion.

a potential solution:

Part B: Secondary

How it addresses the criteria

- Addresses students going to school closest to where the majority resides.
- Enables robust programming, especially concerning program offerings and extracurricular.
- ► Enhances a culture of French in the school by locating the Bev Facey French Immersion program in a section of the school building.
- Minimizes transitions and increases retention.
- Staff teaching junior high and senior high strengthen continuity in teaching and learning.
- Sustainable into the future.

What are the strengths of the potential solution?

2

3

What challenges do you anticipate with the potential solution?

Your input

How can EIPS enhance the potential solution, or is there an alternative solution?

Any Clarification?

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 04/13/23



27

Break

Help yourself to refreshments and visit your breakout session room

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 04/13/23

Welcome Back: Share your conversation

Elk Island Public Schools | Public Meeting 04/13/23

What's Next?

- Submit feedback through the online survey, April 14-24.
- ► The Board of Trustees will review all feedback, information and reports.
- ► A final decision is expected to take place at the Board meeting on June 15, 2023.

Visit eips.ca for updates and more information.

29

4/13/23

Thankyou for joining us

For more updates and information visit eips.ca

