



JUNE 15, 2023

## Chair's Report

### RECENT EVENTS

Board Chair Trina Boymook highlighted some recent events:

- On May 26, Chair Boymook and senior administration attended the Alberta School Boards Association's (ASBA) Edwin Parr Awards Banquet, an annual celebration that recognizes the work of first-year teachers. Chair Boymook congratulated all this year's nominee recipients.
- On May 31 and June 6, trustees attended both public drop-in information sessions for EIPS' new Sherwood Park replacement school. Hosted by ACI Architecture Inc., the design architect, attendees got to see the school design, virtually tour the inside and ask questions.
- On June 4-6, trustees attended ASBA's spring general meeting. The highlights: discussions related to ASBA's 2023-24 budget, bylaw amendments and emergent resolutions; the professional learning sessions; and the networking opportunities provided with school boards from across the province.
- On June 12, trustees attended a joint meeting with council members from Lamont County. Discussion topics included: EIPS' *Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26*, the Board's strategic focus, achievement results, regional enrolment, and successes and challenges within Lamont County. Meanwhile, the county also shared its short-term and long-term vision, strategic direction, growth opportunities and economic development goals.
- On June 23, Chair Boymook will attend the Alberta Teachers' Association Local No. 28's annual retirement dinner. She's looking forward to going, and to celebrate this year's retirees.

### GRADUATION AND FAREWELL CEREMONIES

It's an exciting time for schools, students and families within EIPS. Senior high schools are busy hosting graduation ceremonies. Meanwhile, elementary and junior high schools are hosting farewell celebrations for students in grades 6 and 9. The trustees have all enjoyed attending and bringing greetings at these. The Board congratulates all EIPS 2023 graduates.

### SCHOOL EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

The Board extended thanks to all schools throughout the Division for inviting trustees to attend school events and performances over the last few weeks. Every year, trustees look forward to attending and participating in these special year-end events.

### TRUSTEE ROUNDTABLE

Trustees shared the following information with the Board:

- *Board Vice-Chair Colleen Holowaychuk*: The Town of Lamont launched a new initiative this year—gifting \$1,000 to Lamont High's 2023 valedictorian.
- *Trustee Don Irwin*: Thanked Communication Services for its work preparing trustee graduation messaging—it was outstanding and much appreciated.

## Superintendent's Report

### RECENT EVENTS

Superintendent Mark Liguori shared with the Board several events he took part in throughout the last month. Highlights include:

- On May 26, Superintendent Liguori joined the Board at the ASBA Zone 2/3 Edwin Parr Awards Banquet. He congratulated EIPS' nominee Rae-Lynn Billingsley, a first-year teacher at A.L. Horton Elementary. He also congratulated all Zone nominees of this year's award.

- On May 31 and June 6, ACI Architecture hosted public drop-in information sessions to share the new Sherwood Park replacement school design. The sessions were well-attended, and provided thoughtful feedback from attendees about the building design and aesthetics.
- On June 4-5, Superintendent Liguori and Associate Superintendent Sandra Stoddard attended ASBA's spring general meeting. As always, the meeting was informative with important discussions about pressing issues school boards are facing—now, and in the upcoming school year.
- On June 12, Superintendent Liguori, Secretary-Treasurer Candace Cole and Associate Superintendent Sandra Stoddard joined trustees at the meeting with council members from Lamont County. Overall, it was a productive meeting and allowed EIPS to share new information with the council about the Division, students and schools within the region.
- Throughout May and June, Superintendent Liguori attended many high school graduation ceremonies. To date, he's brought greetings at the Lamont High, Next Step, Salisbury Composite High and Vegreville Composite High ceremonies. He looks forward to Ardrossan Junior Senior High's ceremony on June 23. Superintendent Liguori extended congratulations to all EIPS 2023 graduates.

## Comments from the Public

### **STRATHCONA CHRISTIAN ACADEMY SOCIETY**

The Board heard a delegation from Strathcona Christian Academy (SCA) Society's Board—presented by Nate Peters, the SCA Society's Board Chair and Steve Mebs, its Vice-Chair. The pair shared an update on SCA Society's vision and mission, enrolment data, engagement efforts, successes and challenges, and recent school missions and retreats. The EIPS Board of Trustees thanked both Peters and Mebs for taking the time to keep them informed, and in the know, about the SCA Society and its Board.

## Association and Employee Group Reports

### **ASBA ZONE 2/3 REPORT**

Trustee Cathy Allen attended the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting on May 26. The meeting focused on possible position statements for the ASBA fall general meeting. Of the many position statements presented, only six were selected to move to the fall general meeting—by way of a vote. One of the six selected was a position statement proposed by EIPS.

### **ATA LOCAL REPORT**

The Board received for information the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) Local No. 28 report from the association's President, Deneen Zielke:

- Throughout 2022-23, the Local put substantial work into preparing for the provincial election and ensuring public education was one of the top election themes.
- This year, the Local also launched a new Women in Leadership Committee, which resulted in several successful events and presentations.
- On June 23, the Local is hosting its annual Retirement Dinner on June 23, which Zielke looks forward to. She also thanked Chair Boymook for accepting the invitation to the event and being there to help celebrate teachers now moving into retirement.

### **EMPLOYEE RELATIONS GROUP REPORT**

The Board received for information the Employee Relations Group (ERG) report from Dulcie Arbuckle-Jarvin, the ERG's Chair:

- 2022-23 was another successful year for the ERG.
- The wellness grant was much appreciated by classified staff—used to host several wellness sessions at the Classified Professional Learning Day on May 5.
- ERG’s newest members took the Crucial Conversations professional learning course—provided by Human Resources. All ERG members have taken the course and find it helps them professionally.
- The ERG continues its work developing safety guidelines for education assistants working in labs for careers and technology foundations and careers and technology studies courses.
- Recently, Human Resources hired a firm to review all job descriptions for classified staff—the ERG is looking forward to the review process.
- Currently, the ERG is looking for a new chair. Arbuckle-Jarvin is stepping down from the role as she’s retiring at the end of June.
- The ERG wishes everyone a relaxing and enjoyable summer.

## New Business

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM IN CAMERA**

The Board approved the following motions:

- “That the Board declare that Andrew School, accompanying lands and identified capital assets are surplus to the Board needs;” and
- “That pursuant to sections 9 and 10 of Alberta Regulation 86/2019, *Education Act*, ‘Disposition of Property Regulation,’ the Board ask the Minister to approve the Board’s declaration and the property and identified capital assets either:
  - be transferred to the municipality, or if the municipality refuses,
  - be disposed of as per the regulation.”

### **AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER**

The Board approved the 2023 financial audit engagement letter, which outlines the services the Division’s auditor provides and related terms. The financial audit letter is for the fiscal year ending Aug. 31, 2023.

### **ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT: ELEMENTARY FRENCH IMMERSION**

The Board approved adjustments to the elementary French Immersion attendance boundaries to help balance elementary enrolment. The adjustments include:

- designating elementary French Immersion students living in Cambrian Crossing to Heritage Hills Elementary, effective 2023-24; and
- expanding Heritage Hills Elementary’s French Immersion attendance boundary so it aligns with its regular English program boundary—phased in starting with kindergarten in 2024-25.

Transportation fees apply to all bus riders—as noted on the [EIPS Student Transportation Fee Schedule](#).

## Committee Report

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Board received for information a report from the Audit Committee meeting held on June 7. The committee discussed the audit service plan, 2023 financial audit engagement letter and internal audit report.

## Reports for Information

### UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT: SEPTEMBER 1 TO MAY 31

The Board received for information the EIPS Unaudited Financial Report for the nine-month period ending May 31, 2023. Overall, expenses exceeded revenues resulting in an operating deficit of \$4.08 million. Revenue for the nine months is \$146.35 million, which represents 76 per cent of the year-to-date budget—an expected percentage at this point in the fiscal year. Meanwhile, total expenses are \$150.43 million, representing 75 per cent of the year-to-date budget. Finally, the system administration expenses are 2.2% of total expenses, which is below the \$6.3-million grant provided by Alberta Education (see pg. 47, “[Unaudited Financial Report](#)”).

### SUMMARY OF FEE CHANGES: 2022-23

The Board received for information a summary of fee changes for the 2022-23 school year—between January and June 2023. In total, the Division received and approved 20 fee change requests (see pg. 67, “[2022-23 Interim School Fee Approval Summary](#)”).

### INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL FIELD TRIPS: 2022-23

The Board received for information the International and National Field Trip report for the 2022-23 school year. Throughout the year, schools participated in the following field trips:

- *National field trips*: 7 trips; and 178 students; and
- *International field trips*: 1 trip; and 12 students.

### LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES

The Board received for information a report about the locally developed courses available to students in 2023-24. At the senior high level, the Division plans to launch four new locally developed courses, renew nine and acquire four—six courses will expire. At the junior high level, EIPS will introduce one new locally developed course and renew four—two courses will expire. Meanwhile, at the elementary level, the Division’s launching two new locally developed courses and renewing one—zero courses will be acquired or expire (see pg. 69, “[Locally Developed Courses: 2022-23](#)”).

### TRUSTEE NOTICES OF MOTIONS AND INFORMATION REQUESTS

The Board extended best wishes to Superintendent Mark Liguori, who is set to retire from EIPS on June 30, 2023. Trustees thanked him for his exemplary leadership, dedication and unwavering commitment to education over the last eight years while with the Division. The Division has thrived under his guidance and mandate to provide the best possible educational opportunities for all students. And, as a result, it is in a better position than ever. His efforts are appreciated, and the Board wishes him all the best in his retirement.

## Board Members

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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