

Jan. 23, 2020



Board Members

Trina Boymook, Chair
Heather Wall, Vice-Chair
Randy Footz
William (Skip) Gordon
Colleen Holowaychuk
Annette Hubick
Don Irwin
Jim Seutter
Harvey Stadnick

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Chair's Report

School Performances and Events

EIPS Bereavement

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Boymook extended condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of an Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) employee. Noreen Bilyk was a highly respected member of the Financial Services department who passed away on Jan. 3, 2020. During her tenure, she was admired for her quality work, and her innate ability to brighten her colleagues' day and bring a smile to their faces. She'll be missed by all.

Association Reports

ASBA Zone 2/3 Meeting

Trustee Colleen Holowaychuk presented highlights from the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting held on January 17:

- The professional learning session was about collective advocacy—presented by Maurice Fritze, a consultant lobbyist who teaches seminars on lobbying, negotiation and resolving conflict.
- The new terms of reference for the Health and Wellness Committee was approved.
 - Zone 2/3 meetings will now feature a Health and Wellness section showcasing a school board's best practices in the area of health and wellness.
- The Honouring Spirit Award nomination deadline is Feb. 1, 2020.
- The Edwin Parr Award nomination deadline is in mid-March 2020.
- The next ASBA Zone 2/3 meeting is Feb. 28, 2020.

ATA Local Report

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

- On December 19, Local executive members met with Nate Glubish, the member of the legislative assembly of Alberta for Strathcona-Sherwood Park. At the meeting, members expressed their concerns about recent cuts made to public education. The overall response was disheartening.
- The ATA is continuing to advocate for a strong public education system. Part of that work includes supporting families and their efforts to lobby the government.

- On March 6-7, Local executive members are attending a seminar on political engagement. The Local's also inviting two EIPS parents to attend and learn from the seminar.

New Business

Business Arising from In Camera

Trustees approved the following motions regarding the Teachers' Collective Agreement:

- "The Board of Trustees ratify the Memorandum of Agreement for the Elk Island Public Schools Teachers' Collective Agreement: Sept. 1, 2018 to Aug. 31, 2020."
- "Trustee representation on the Teacher Board Consultation Committee cease as of Jan. 23, 2020;"
- "The Board of Trustees approve the amendment to Board Policy 8: Board Committees;" and
- "The Board of Trustees approve the amendment to the 2019-20 Board Committee Representatives Schedule."

2020 ASCA Conference and AGM: Registration sponsorship

The Board approved sponsoring the registration fees for school council members to attend the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) Conference and Annual General Meeting on April 24-26. The Board will fund the cost of one registration fee per EIPS school—up to a maximum of 12 registrants.

Policy Amendments

The Board approved amendments to the following EIPS Board policies:

- [Policy 18: Alternative Programs](#) – The revisions better define EIPS alternative programs.
- [Policy 23: School Fees](#) – The revisions clarify how and when fees are reviewed.

Student Transportation Fee Structure

The Board tabled a decision about the 2020-21 Student Transportation Fee Structure to the next Board meeting in February.

School Fee Parameters: 2020-21

The Board approved the school fee parameters for the 2020-21 school year. The parameters are based on two key factors: 1) guidelines laid out within the new *Education Act*, and 2) the Board's mandate school fees are not cost-prohibitive to families. Highlights of the school fee parameters include:

- Optional course fees are charged at a cost-recovery rate.
- Noon supervision fees are charged at a cost-recovery rate.
- Activity fees can increase by five per cent or more, if at cost recovery.
- Extracurricular fees can increase by five per cent or more, if at cost recovery.
- Non-curricular travel can increase by five per cent or more, if at cost recovery.
- Non-curricular goods and services are charged at a cost-recovery rate.

Auditor Appointment

The Board approved the appointment of MNP LLP as the EIPS external auditor for a three-year period, ending August 2022.

Committee Reports

Student Expulsion Committee

The Board received for information the report from the Student Expulsion Committee meeting on January 13.

Policy Committee

The Board received for information the report from the Policy Committee meeting held on January 14. The committee reviewed the following policies: Policy 7, Policy 11, Policy 12 and Policy 18.

Reports for Information

The School Status Report

The Board received for information the School Status Report for the 2018-19 school year. The report identifies enrolment numbers, school utilization rates and per-student costs within the Division. The data is presented by geographic sectors and on a four-year comparative basis to ensure analysis is based on long-term trends and not isolated incidences. Highlights from the report:

- The average cost per EIPS student is \$7,295.
- EIPS currently has 10 schools operating above the \$7,295 average.
- The Division's utilization rate is 73 per cent—down by two per cent from the previous year.

(see the full report, "[School Status Report 2018-19](#)," on pg. 45).

School Fees Interim Report: 2019-20

The Board received for information the School Fees Interim Report for the 2019-20 school year. To date, the Division has received and approved 14 fee change requests (see the full report, "[2019-20 School Fees Interim Report](#)," on pg. 72).

Trustee Reports Roundtable

Trustees shared information and highlighted recent events:

- *Trustee Colleen Holowaychuk* attended school council meetings at her designated schools.
- *Trustee Annette Hubick* attended school council meetings for Davidson Creek Elementary, Mills Haven Elementary and Salisbury Composite High.
- *Trustee Don Irwin* volunteered at Westboro Elementary's pancake breakfast. He also attended school council meetings for Fultonvale Elementary Junior High, Lakeland Ridge and Next Step Sherwood Park.
- *Trustee Jim Seutter* thanked Trustee Irwin, who attended school council meetings on his behalf.
- *Trustee Harvey Stadnick* attended his regular school council meetings and Fort Saskatchewan High's awards ceremony. He thanked the many businesses and service organizations that sponsored and presented awards at the event. He also congratulated Lauren Vrybloed, a recent Fort Saskatchewan High graduate and the winner of the Governor General's Award.