

MAY 28, 2020

Chair's Report

RECENT EVENTS

Board Chair Trina Boymook highlighted recent events:

- On April 28, Chair Boymook and Superintendent Mark Liguori attended an Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) meeting, which focused on school re-entry plans. Education Minister Adriana Lagrange and Deputy Education Minister Andre Corbould guided the conversation, provided an overview of possible scenarios and asked school boards to submit feedback. Since the meeting, EIPS has submitted the Division's perspective on all the re-entry aspects identified.
- On May 12, Chair Boymook and Superintendent Liguori attended another ASBA meeting, which focused on a draft Relaunch Plan. Again, Lagrange and Corbould guided the discussion and invited school boards to provide feedback on the relaunch plan. Again, EIPS submitted its feedback, from a Division perspective. The province expects to announce the re-entry plan for schools on Aug. 1, 2020.
- On May 11 and May 15, Chair Boymook, Superintendent Liguori and Candace Cole, the Secretary-Treasurer, attended meetings with the Alberta School Boards' Insurance Exchange and the Alberta Risk Managed Insurance Consortium to determine the best insurance coverage for the Division.

Superintendent's Report

RECENT EVENTS

Superintendent Mark Liguori highlighted recent events:

- On April 28, Superintendent Liguori joined Chair Boymook at an Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) meeting, which focused on school re-entry plans. The meeting was an opportunity for the Division to provide feedback—specifically challenges and needed supports—to ensure a successful school re-entry.
- On May 12, Superintendent Liguori and Chair Boymook attended an ASBA meeting focused on a Draft Relaunch Plan. Since the meeting, EIPS has submitted feedback about the plan and details about the challenges EIPS may face.

Association/Local Reports

ASBA ZONE 2/3 REPORT

APRIL ZONE 2/3 MEETING

Trustee Harvey Stadnick attended the ASBA Zone 2/3 meeting on April 24, 2020:

- The meeting was held virtually using the platform Zoom. Overall, the virtual meetings are productive. As such, during the winter of 2020-21, three Zone 2/3 meeting will take place virtually, using Zoom. The hope: To reduce the risks associated with road travel in poor weather conditions.
- Discussion topics included: insurance rate increases for 2020-21 and possible providers, the province's Transportation Committee and the bill on the Choice in Education Act.
- In 2020-21, the membership fee for ASBA is decreasing.
- The Edwin Parr Award is postponed to Oct. 23, 2020.

MAY ZONE 2/3 MEETING

Trustee Jim Seutter attended the ASBA Zone 2/3 meeting on May 22, 2020:

- The meeting was held virtually using the platform Zoom—43 people attended.
- Deputy Education Minister Andre Corbould spoke to members about the province's school re-entry plan. The province hopes to announce a finalized re-entry plan on Aug. 1, 2020.
- The professional learning topic focused on Zoom.
- Discussion topics included: the ASBA Spring General Meeting, which is taking place virtually using Zoom; a Calgary Board of Education report; and diploma examinations for the 2019-20 school year.

ATA LOCAL REPORT

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

- The Local, and members, are thankful to how EIPS has responded to the cancellation of in-school classes and recent funding clawback. Despite the many challenges, the Division continues to meet the needs of students, families and staff.
- With the provincial cuts to education, many teachers and support staff are anxious about the road ahead. Some are worried about losing their jobs. Others are concerned about how they will meet the needs of students.
- The Local appreciates the consistent messaging communicated by the Board and Superintendent Liguori. It's clear to move forward, in this new fiscal reality, requires significant teamwork and tempered expectations.
- Zielke thanked the Board and Superintendent Liguori for their ongoing efforts to protect students, families and staff. While the future is uncertain, Zielke hopes everyone continues to work together and weathers the challenges as a team.

New Business

2020-21 BUDGET REPORT

The Board approved the 2020-21 budget based on decisions and discussions put forward by administration and the Board during the [detailed budget presentation](#) on May 25, 2020. The Board approved an operating budget of \$196.11 million for the period of Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2021. Of that, \$191.39 million will come from the Division's annual revenue and \$4.72 million from operating reserves. EIPS will use the operating reserves to support schools and departments, for one-time provisions for students, and for the purchase of supplies and equipment. As well, EIPS is introducing a \$1-million emergent fund to use, with Board approval, to offset any potential negative impacts that arise after the completion of the budget.

Similar to 2019-20, the Division's Unallocated Reserve is below the two per cent target, which means it can't access enough reserves to fund all the revenue shortfalls. As such, the Division has adjusted the programs and services it offers to students to ensure a balanced 2020-21 budget. Strategies the Division will use to deal with the shortfall, include reducing allocation amounts for schools and Central Services departments, restructuring the Supports for Students department, eliminating Continuing Education's non-credit and Home Education programs, and lowering carryforward amounts for schools and departments to one per cent. The impact on students: larger classroom sizes, changes to programming and fewer supports. Overall, however, the EIPS 2020-21 budget supports the mission, values and priorities of EIPS.

The Board also approved the Alberta Education Budget Report for the year ending Aug. 31, 2021. The full budget is available at eips.ca/about-us/financial-information/budget.

POLICY 22: HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Board approved amendments to [Policy 22: Health and Safety](#). The changes better reflect the Board's commitment to ensuring welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning and working environments.

FOUR-YEAR EDUCATION PLAN: 2020-24

The Board approved the Division's [2020-24 Four-Year Education Plan](#), which details EIPS' priorities, goals and outcomes over the next four years. The three key priorities:

- Priority 1: To promote the growth and success of all students.
- Priority 2: To enhance high-quality learning and working environments.
- Priority 3: To enhance public education through effective engagement.

Now approved, EIPS administration, schools and departments will develop and implement plans to further build on these priorities. Ongoing communication with the Board will also continue throughout the school year to ensure the Division's priorities and goals are met.

Reports for Information

2019-20 SUMMER PROJECTS

The Board received for information a report from Facility Services highlighting its projects for summer 2020. In total, 323 projects are planned, which includes more than \$5.95 million in Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funding. The 2020 IMR summer project highlights:

- replacing roof sections at A.L. Horton Elementary, Andrew School, Clover Bar Junior High and James Mowat Elementary;
- repairing parking lots at Ardrossan Junior Senior High and Lamont Elementary;
- replacing air-handling units at Bev Facey Community High, Brentwood Elementary and Rudolph Hennig Junior High;
- upgrading and repairing the front entrances at Bev Facey Community High and Salisbury Composite High;
- upgrading the data cabling to CAT 6 at Glen Allan Elementary and École Campbelltown;
- upgrading the façade at Fort Saskatchewan High; and
- renovating the administration office at Vegreville Composite High.

In addition, Facility Services is project managing Heritage Hills Elementary's replacement school, the abatement and demolition of Wye Elementary, the relocation of a modular unit to SouthPointe School from Wye Elementary, and roof upgrades to 14 modular units at Ardrossan Elementary and SouthPointe School (see pg. 89, "[2019-20 Summer Projects](#)," for the full list of projects planned for summer 2020).

Trustee Reports Roundtable

Trustees shared information and highlighted recent events:

- **Vice-Chair Heather Wall** attended several virtual school council meetings. While not well attended, those who did attend were thankful the meetings are continuing.
- **Trustee Randy Footz** attended virtual school council meetings for A.L. Horton Elementary and Vegreville Composite High. Meetings for both schools were well attended. He's looking forward to attending the June meetings.
- **Trustee Colleen Holowaychuk** attended several virtual school council meetings and looks forward to more in June. She's also excited about Lamont High's graduation celebration, which many families have echoed. The school is encouraging everyone to decorate their cars to show their support and build spirit for the Class of 2020.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- **Trustee Annette Hubick** attended virtual school council meetings for Davidson Creek Elementary and Mills Haven Elementary. The focus: The 2020-21 budget for EIPS and its implications.
- **Trustee Don Irwin** attended virtual school council meetings for Woodbridge Farms Elementary, F.R. Haythorne Junior High, Wes Hosford Elementary and Glen Allan Elementary—all well attended. He also attended the May COSC meeting. He commended Sandra Stoddard, the Associate Superintendent, on both her presentation about assessments and the Alternative Learning Toolkit. He has since passed the information on at each school council meeting.

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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