

SEPT. 24, 2020

Chair's Report

RECENT EVENTS

Board Chair Trina Boymook highlighted recent events:

- On August 31, Chair Boymook attended an Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Board Chairs meeting. The focus: The College of Alberta School Superintendents' (CASS) request for recognition as a professional regulatory body. Education Minister Adriana LaGrange and CASS executive members were also in attendance.
- On September 15-16, trustees took part in a Board Retreat to discuss goals and plans for the 2020-21 school year. The Board's priorities for the 2020-21 school year include the school re-entry, budget and finances, a resolution for the Sherwood Heights Junior High building and public education value.
- On September 17, Chair Boymook attended an ASBA special general meeting, which focused on CASS' request for recognition as a professional regulatory body. Members discussed their support for the request, legislation requirements and the terms of reference.
- On September 21-23, Chair Boymook and trustees Annette Hubick and Don Irwin attended a Sherwood Park Value Scoping Session, organized by the OPNA Architects Inc. The session focused on the Sherwood Height Junior High facility and will help guide the Division's short-term and long-term facility needs in Sherwood Park.

GRAND OPENING: HERITAGE HILLS ELEMENTARY

On September 18, trustees celebrated the grand opening of Heritage Hills Elementary, a new K-6 replacement school in Sherwood Park offering dual-track English and French Immersion programming. The school features state-of-the-art classrooms equipped with the latest technology; a collaborative learning commons; breakout spaces, open-concept music room, and solar-energy technology capable of powering 35 per cent of the school. The school can accommodate 650 students and is expandable to 700, which will serve the community—now, and well into the future.

Chair Boymook also thanked the following people for attending and bringing greetings at the ceremony: Jeremy Albert, an EIPS First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Advisor; Nate Glubish, the Minister of Service Alberta and a Member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for Strathcona-Sherwood Park; Rod Frank, Mayor of Strathcona County; and Bill Schlacht, the Principal of Heritage Hills Elementary.

Superintendent's Report

STARTUP UPDATE

Superintendent Mark Liguori thanked all EIPS staff, students and families for the strong school startup—despite the challenges COVID-19 presents. Staff are adjusting to the new reality and making sure students are safe. It's also great to see students back in school and face to face again. Out-of-school learning is going well, thanks to the hard work by Supports for Students. Superintendent Liguori also thanked the Board of Trustees for allocating additional funds, from the federal government and the Division. The money represents a critical investment in education and offers significant relief to teachers facing challenging conditions.

Association/Local Reports

ATA LOCAL REPORT

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

- Zielke thanked the Board, senior administration and school administration for all the work done to ensure a safe school re-entry—including the additional investment in personal protective equipment.
- The Local's disappointed by the province's lack of funding to prepare for the school re-entry. Teachers have heightened anxiety and are doing their best to cope.
- On September 25-27, the Local is hosting a strategic planning meeting. The focus: key objectives for the 2020-21 school year.
- On September 29, the Local is hosting its Annual General Meeting. The meeting will include the election of the executive's table officers.
- Zielke looks forward to working with the Board over the 2020-21 school year.

New Business

BOARD COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE LIST 2020-21

The Board approved the 2020-21 Board Committee Representative List. The Board assigns trustees to committees for liaison purposes. Trustee interests are considered for the committee placements (see page 14, "[Board Committee Representatives 2020-21](#)").

ACTING CHAIR SCHEDULE: 2020-21

The Board approved the Acting Chair Schedule for 2020-21. The schedule assigns a trustee to serve in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair (see page 16, "[Acting Chair Schedule 2020-21](#)").

BOARD EVALUATION

The Board approved the Board Self-Evaluation Report, which was developed on Sept. 3, 2020. The Board also authorized the Board Chair to monitor the agreed priorities and suggestions and to bring items forward for the Board's consideration as deemed appropriate.

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION: 2020-21

The Board approved the trustee remuneration for the 2020-21 school year. Rates remain unchanged from the previous year.

READ IN WEEK

Associate Superintendent Sandra Stoddard shared with the Board plans for this year's Read In Week, taking place October 5-9. Read In Week is a Divisionwide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, families and community members. This year's theme: "Read Around the World."

Through various activities, students—in-school learners and out-of-school learners—will spend the week learning how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Some of the activities planned include book giveaways, virtual book-club readings, and talking about stories. Chair Boymook read and signed a resolution committing EIPS' support for Read In Week 2020. She encourages all schools and departments to participate by reading to a child, grandchild, student or someone in the community.

WYE SCHOOL: REMOVAL FROM ALBERTA EDUCATION'S SCHOOL AUTHORITY LIST

The Board approved removing Wye School from Alberta Education's School Authority list, effective Sept. 1, 2020. In March 2017, the province approved funding for a replacement building for Wye School. At that time, Wye School was in need of repair and nearing the end of its lifespan. The Division was also facing significant student capacity issues within Sherwood Park—mostly at the elementary level and in the French Immersion program. The replacement school was relocated to the Heritage Hills area of Sherwood Park and renamed Heritage Hills Elementary. With construction complete, Heritage Hills Elementary is now open to students. As such, EIPS will retire the Wye School name.

Trustee Reports Roundtable

Trustees shared information and highlighted recent events:

- **Vice-Chair Colleen Holowaychuk** attended various school council meetings—a common message heard by school staff was the positive difference students make to the building. She also attended ASBA's Zone 2/3 special general meeting and the Heritage Hills Elementary grand opening ceremony.
- **Trustee Randy Footz** attended ASBA's Zone 2/3 special general meeting and the grand opening ceremony for Heritage Hills Elementary. He thanked Facility Services for the excellent job project managing the replacement school, which is a wonderful facility. He also enjoyed the Board Retreat—especially the working sessions—and met with school administration at both A.L. Horton Elementary and Vegreville Composite High.
- **Trustee Annette Hubick** attended the Sherwood Park Value Scoping Sessions and school council meetings for Brentwood Elementary, Davidson Creek Elementary and Mills Haven Elementary. Tonight, she's attending meetings for Clover Bar Junior High and Salisbury Composite High. It's great to reconnect with all the schools.
- **Trustee Don Irwin** attended school council meetings for F.R. Haythorne Junior High, Glen Allan Elementary, Wes Hosford Elementary and Woodbridge Farms Elementary. He also took part in the Heritage Hills Elementary grand opening, the Board Retreat and the Sherwood Park Value Scoping sessions, which were all valuable.
- **Trustee Jim Seutter** attended the Heritage Hills Elementary grand opening. It's great to see the building complete and students in it.
- **Trustee Harvey Stadnick** attended three school council meetings. Overall, parents and administration are positive about the re-entry and feel safe. There was one parent who shared concerns about the out-of-school learning option. Parents also thanked the Division for the extensive communication sent to families throughout the pandemic.

Board Members

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

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