

MARCH 18, 2021

Chair's Report

RECENT EVENTS

Board Chair Trina Boymook highlighted a few recent events and shared information:

- On February 19, Chair Boymook and Trustee Jim Seutter met virtually with Nate Glubish, Alberta's Minister of Service and Member of the Legislative Assembly for Strathcona County-Sherwood Park. The meeting focus: The Sherwood Park Value Scoping Session, the recommendation to combine Sherwood Heights Junior High and École Campbelltown into a new kindergarten to Grade 9 school and plans going forward.
- On February 24, Chair Boymook and Vice-Chair Colleen Holowaychuk took part in a virtual roundtable discussion hosted by Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk, Alberta's Member of the Legislative Assembly for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville. The focus: The impact of COVID-19 on businesses. During the discussions, Chair Boymook raised the issue of connectivity and the need for reliable access provincewide.
- On February 25, Chair Boymook and Superintendent Mark Liguori took part in a budget debrief with Adriana LaGrange, the Minister of Education. The meeting included school board chairs and superintendents from across the province and offered a high-level overview of the province's education budget for the next school year.
- On March 5, Chair Boymook brought greetings at the virtual Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Classified Staff Professional Learning Day event.
- On March 16, Chair Boymook took part in EIPS' Inspirational Math Week by virtually reading to 50 Grades 1 and Grade 2 classrooms. The book she read was about sorting, which elicited a lot of wonderful and exciting reactions from students.

Superintendent's Report

RECENT EVENTS

Superintendent Mark Liguori highlighted a few recent events and shared information:

- On March 9, Superintendent Liguori attended a meeting with the Employee Relations Group to discuss the Division's critical worker benefit.
- On March 15-19, students and staff celebrated numeracy during EIPS' Inspirational Math Week. Divisionwide, schools hosted daily math activities, games and hands-on learning exercises all aimed at building students' mathematical confidence. Superintendent Liguori also took part by reading a book entitled, *Pigeon Math*, to students in grades 1 and 2. He thanked EIPS' consultants for their hard work to make the week possible.

CLASSIFIED STAFF PROFESSIONAL LEARNING DAY

The EIPS Classified Staff Professional Learning Day took place on March 5. Throughout the day, classified staff participated in various virtual professional learning workshops and keynote speaker sessions. Superintendent Liguori and Ryan Marshall, the Director of Instructional Supports for EIPS, took part in a discussion facilitated by Doug Keeley, the CEO of Stories Rule! Overall, it was a fantastic event. Superintendent Liguori thanked Human Resources for organizing the event and making it a success.

Association and Local Reports

ASBA ZONE 2/3 REPORT

Trustee Heather Wall attended a virtual Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting on Feb. 19, 2021. The meeting focused on the Zone's governance review. Overall, it was an excellent meeting. The next meeting takes place on March 19.

ATA LOCAL REPORT

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

- On February 23, Zielke was re-acclaimed the Local No. 28 President, a position she'll serve for two years.
- On March 12, the ATA announced the results of its provincial executive election. Jason Schilling was acclaimed President, Greg Carabine and Jenny Regal were elected Vice-President, and Paul Froese was elected the district representative for the Edmonton region. Each position has a two-year term, which starts on July 1, 2021.
- On April 27, the Local's hosting its annual general meeting, which includes elections for table officers.
- Teachers continue to worry about the education budget and the possibility of cuts to classrooms.

New Business

BOARD POLICY 12: ROLE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

The Board approved amendments to [Board Policy 12: The Role of the Superintendent](#). The changes relate to the EIPS Assurance Cycle and ensuring engagement opportunities with stakeholders that inform the Division's priorities. The Board also approved amendments to Policy 12's [Appendix B: Performance Assessment Guide](#)—again, related to the EIPS Assurance Cycle

BOARD POLICY 20: ASSESSMENT AND REPORTING OF STUDENT LEARNING

The Board approved amendments to [Board Policy 20: Assessment and Reporting of Student Learning](#). The changes made strengthen the clarity and language within the policy.

BOARD POLICY 21: EXPENSE TRANSPARENCY

The Board approved amendments to [Board Policy 21: Expense Transparency](#). The changes simplify information related to professional membership fees.

Reports for Information

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT: SEPTEMBER 2020 TO FEBRUARY 2021

The Board received for information the EIPS Unaudited Financial Report for the six-month period ending Feb. 28, 2021. Overall, revenues exceeded expenses resulting in an operating surplus of \$4.15 million. Revenue for the six months is \$96.28 million, which represents 50 per cent of the year-to-date budget—an expected percentage for the fiscal year midpoint. Meanwhile, total expenses are \$92.13 million, which represents 47 per cent of the year-to-date budget—slightly below what the Division anticipated. (see pg. 43, "[Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2020 to Feb. 28, 2021](#)").

Trustee Reports Roundtable

Trustees shared information and highlighted recent events:

- **Vice-Chair Colleen Holowaychuk** attended a virtual roundtable discussion hosted by Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk, Alberta's Member of the Legislative Assembly for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville, the March Committee of School Councils (COSC) meeting and various school council meetings. She also thanked a family member who spearheaded a significant donation of winter clothing to Lamont County schools, through the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Edmonton.
- **Trustee Randy Footz** attended the March COSC meeting and school council meetings for Vegreville Composite High and A.L. Horton Elementary.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

- **Trustee Skip Gordon** attended the March COSC meeting and various school council meetings.
- **Trustee Annette Hubick** attended the March COSC meeting and four school council meetings—two meetings for Mills Haven Elementary, Salisbury Composite High and Davidson Creek Elementary. The last meeting was dominated by questions about the 2021 provincial budget, announced on February 25. Trustee Hubick also attended a virtual Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) Coffee Conversation. The focus: How boards engage the community and the value of locally elected trustees.
- **Trustee Don Irwin** attended the March COSC meeting and three school council meetings—the Westboro Elementary meeting included a discussion about the 2021 Alberta School Councils' Association Proposed Advocacy Resolutions. Trustee Irwin also attended ASBA's virtual Coffee Conversation.
- **Trustee Jim Seutter** attended four school council meetings and the March COSC meeting, which featured an extensive discussion about a possible technology fee.
- **Trustee Harvey Stadnick** attended three school council meetings. One of the meetings included a long discussion about the Alberta School Councils' Association proposed advocacy resolutions—the bulk of the questions focused on the resolutions proposed by charter schools.
- **Trustee Heather Wall** attended various school council meetings and the ASBA Zone 2/3 meeting.

Board Members

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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