

**JUNE 16, 2022**

## Chair's Report

### RECENT EVENTS

Board Chair Trina Boymook highlighted some recent events:

- On May 27, Chair Boymook attended the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting. As always, the meeting offered valuable networking opportunities and informative discussions—on instruction, curriculum and charter schools.
- On May 27, Chair Boymook also attended the Alberta School Boards Association's (ASBA) Annual Awards Banquet, which included the Friends of Education and Edwin Parr awards. She congratulated Fort Saskatchewan-based Shell Canada-Scotford for taking home the Friends of Education award, and Kristin Davies, a first-year teacher at Sherwood Heights Junior High, who was Elk Island Public Schools' (EIPS) Edwin Parr award nominee.
- On May 31, trustees attended a joint meeting with the Town of Vegreville. Discussion topics included: EIPS' Four-Year Education Plan, key focus areas, achievement results, the Division's post-COVID-19 recovery plan and upcoming public engagement opportunities. The town also shared with trustees its short-term and long-term strategic plan, new growth opportunities and plans to enhance the region's economic development.
- On June 1, Chair Boymook attended The State of the City Address from the Mayor, hosted by the newly formed, and renamed, Fort Saskatchewan and Lamont Regional Chamber of Commerce. Fort Saskatchewan Mayor Gale Katchur spoke about investments planned for the region, economic development, growth areas and new incentives to attract businesses to the downtown core.
- On June 5-7, trustees participated in ASBA's spring general meeting. The meeting highlights: professional learning sessions and guest-speaker sessions—on the political landscape, mental health and post-pandemic recovery strategies; various bylaw amendments; and approval of the 2022-23 ASBA budget. Members also passed two emergent resolutions. One, to advocate the province to reintroduce the Fuel Price Contingency Program, and another to expand the parameters for the province's learning disruption funding.
- On June 13, Chair Boymook brought greetings at EIPS' Treaty 6 and Métis flag-raising. Both flags will fly permanently at the EIPS Central Services Office, alongside the Alberta and Canada flags.
- On June 15, Chair Boymook and Trustee Cathy Allen attended an awards presentation for Salisbury Composite High. The Alberta Council for Environmental Education awarded the school its coveted Platinum Eco-School Award for the 2021-22 school year.

### EIPS PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

In May, the Board approved the EIPS Three-Year Engagement Strategy, which details the Division's engagement efforts over the next three years. The plan entitled, EIPS Three-Year Engagement Strategy, identifies areas the Division can improve operations to best serve students—such as programming and school capacity considerations. In June, EIPS hosted four public engagement sessions: two about ways to improve school attendance boundaries in Sherwood Park, one related to addressing capacity concerns at James Mowat Elementary, and a fourth about how best to manage enrolment within the Logos Christian Program.

### 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—particularly special after a two-year hiatus. So far, Chair Boymook attended graduation ceremonies at Bev Facey Composite High, Next Step and Salisbury Composite High, and Sherwood Heights Junior High's farewell ceremony. The Board congratulates all EIPS 2022 graduates.



# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

## SCHOOL EVENTS AND PERFORMANCES

Chair Boymook attended several school events and performances over the last four weeks. Strathcona Christian Elementary hosted its annual Volunteer Tea, which was lovely to have returned. Students at Bev Facey Community High recently performed in the school production, *Newsies*, which was phenomenal. And, Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary debuted its production of *The Sound of Music*, which again was amazing. Chair Boymook thanked the schools for the invitation, adding it's a pleasure to once again attend live, in-person school events.

## TRUSTEES' SCHOOL TOURS

On May 30, EIPS trustees visited Brentwood Elementary, École Campbelltown, Pine Street Elementary, Salisbury Composite High, and Sherwood Heights Junior High as part of the 2021-22 Trustees' School Tours. The Board extended thanks to all staff and students at each school for hosting the Board and sharing information about the school and programs offered.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Chair Boymook also looks forward to the following upcoming events:

- The grand opening ceremony for the land-based learning space at EIPS Central Services Office on June 21.
- Westboro Elementary's celebrations for National Indigenous Peoples Day on June 21.
- A professional learning session for the Board focused on public engagement on June 28.

Board Chair Boymook wishes everyone a wonderful summer break and looks forward to seeing students, staff and families back on August 30, 2022.

## Superintendent's Report

### RECENT EVENTS

Superintendent Mark Liguori shared with the Board several events throughout May and June. Highlights include:

- On May 30, Superintendent Liguori joined trustees on the Trustees' School Tours, which is wonderful to resume and see the work being done in the schools.
- Throughout May and June, Superintendent Liguori attended many of the Division's high school graduation ceremonies and school celebrations. To date, he's brought greetings at the Lamont High, Next Step and Vegreville Composite High ceremonies. He looks forward to Ardrossan Junior Senior High's ceremony on June 28. Superintendent Liguori extended congratulations to all EIPS 2022 graduates.

### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT: JUNE

Over the last month, EIPS hosted the following public engagement session:

- June 9:* Improving Sherwood Park attendance areas (Meeting 1)
- June 13:* Addressing enrolment in EIPS Logos Christian Program (Meeting 1)
- June 14:* Addressing capacity concerns at James Mowat Elementary (Meeting 1)
- June 20:* Improving Sherwood Park attendance areas (Meeting 2)

### YEAR-END MESSAGE

Superintendent Liguori wishes everyone—staff, students and families—a wonderful summer break and thanks them for their efforts over the last three years. It was an incredible journey for everyone that required tremendous commitment, flexibility and understanding. He also thanked the Board for its support throughout the entire pandemic.

## Association and Local Report

### ASBA ZONE 2/3 REPORT

Trustee Jacqueline Shotbolt attended the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting on May 27. The meeting included committee reports, the financial report, issue sharing, post-position statements for the spring general meeting, and thoughtful generative discussions. She also mentioned the recent ASBA Annual Awards Banquet, which took place on May 27. She congratulated Shell Canada, a Friends of Education Award recipient, and Kristin Davies, EIPS' Edwin Parr award nominee.

### ATA LOCAL REPORT

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

- On June 10, Zielke attended the Local's Retirement Dinner to celebrate three years of retirees, which was held at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. Zielke also thanked Vice-Chair Colleen Holowaychuk for attending.
- With summer just around the corner, it's now time to rest and recharge. Summer-long, the Local will continue to assist members. She wishes everyone—trustees, administration, staff, students and families—a fantastic summer break.

### EMPLOYEE RELATIONS GROUP REPORT

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

- approving changes to classified staff compensation to reflect the recent agreement ratified with the Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association;
- funding for the Division's First Nations, Métis and Inuit Advisor, Jeremy Albert—every day, he offers he shares his wisdom and knowledge with schools, students and staff; and
- funding classified professional learning opportunities and the Classified Professional Learning Day.

## New Business

### HILLSHIRE BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT

The Board approved an adjustment to the school attendance area for a portion of the Hillshire neighbourhood. Any students who enrol in regular program and live in the Hillshire area are now designated to Pine Street Elementary, Sherwood Heights Junior High or Salisbury Composite High, depending on grade level (see [EIPS Attendance Boundary Maps](#)).

### POLICY AMENDMENTS

The Board approved the following amendments:

- [Board Policy 8: Board Committees](#)
- [Board Policy 25: Petitions and Public Notices](#)
- [Board Policy 26: School Dispute Resolution](#)

Several amendments were made to the policies—all to strengthen clarity, language and readability.

### AUDIT ENGAGEMENT LETTER

The Board approved the 2022 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, 2022.

## Committee Report

### STUDENT EXPULSION COMMITTEE

The Board received for information a report from the Student Expulsion Committee meeting held on May 27. The committee reviewed all the submitted information and upheld the recommendations put forward by the school's administration.

### AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Board received for information a report from the Audit Committee meeting held on June 1. The committee discussed the 2022 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, 2022. Overall, expenses exceeded revenues resulting in an operating deficit of \$1.54 million. Revenue for the nine months is \$140.6 million, which represents 75 per cent of the year-to-date budget—an expected percentage at this point in the fiscal year. Meanwhile, total expenses are \$142.14 million, representing 74 per cent of the year-to-date budget—slightly lower than anticipated. Finally, the system administration expenses are 2.1% of total expenses, which is below the \$6.3-million grant provided by Alberta Education (see pg. 48, "[Unaudited Financial Report](#)").

### SUMMARY OF FEE CHANGES: 2021-22

The Board received for information a summary of fee changes for the 2021-22 school year—between January and June 2022. In total, the Division received and approved eight fee change requests (see pg. 66, "[2021-22 Interim School Fee Approval Summary](#)").

### PLAYGROUND SUMMARY REPORT: 2021-22

The Board received for information the 2021-22 Playground Summary Report:

*STRATHCONA COUNTY* – The county is responsible for monthly inspections, maintenance and annual audits. Costs for maintenance and reporting are the responsibility of both Strathcona County (90 per cent) and EIPS (10 per cent). The projects for 2021-22, include re-purposing the outdoor space where the former Ardrossan Elementary used to reside, the planning and costing phase for a playground expansion at Wes Hosford Elementary, and a new playground at Mills Haven Elementary.

*CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN* – The city is responsible for monthly inspections, maintenance and annual audits. All costs for maintenance and reporting are shared equally between EIPS (50 per cent) and the City of Fort Saskatchewan (50 per cent). In 2021-22, no playground projects were started or completed in the Fort Saskatchewan area.

*RURAL AREAS* – Playgrounds are inspected monthly by a certified playground inspection company contracted by EIPS. All costs associated with playground inspections (\$40,320) and playground maintenance (\$26,344) are paid by EIPS Facility Services using the Plant Operations and Maintenance funding. Projects for 2021-22, include a new playground at Bruderheim School and various maintenance upgrades at A.L. Horton Elementary, Lamont Elementary and Mundare School.

## NEW CURRICULUM UPDATE

The Board received for information an update on the Division's work to support the rollout of the new kindergarten to Grade 6 curriculum. The province plans to implement the new curriculum using a phased-in approach.

- Fall 2022, schools provincewide will introduce the new elementary mathematics and English language arts and literature curriculum (kindergarten to Grade 3), and the new physical education and wellness curriculum to students in kindergarten to Grade 6.
- Fall 2023, schools provincewide will introduce the new elementary mathematics and English language arts and literature curriculum (grades 4 to 6); and fine arts, science and French Immersion language arts and literature (kindergarten to Grade 3).
- Fall 2024, schools provincewide will introduce all remaining elementary subjects.

To prepare, the Division has put together a New Curriculum team, made up of seven curriculum and assessment area-expert teachers—thanks to Board-provided funds to ensure the successful implementation divisionwide. Already, the group has organized numerous professional learning opportunities, developed resource materials for staff, assessments, report cards and created the Scope and Sequences for subjects launching in the fall. Throughout the summer and next year, the team will continue expanding this work and ensure capacity-building opportunities and a smooth transition for students.

## LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES

The Board received for information a report about the locally developed courses available to students in 2022-23. At the senior high level, the Division's renewing eight locally developed courses—zero courses were acquired, eight courses expired. Meanwhile, at the junior high level, the Division's renewing two locally developed courses—zero courses were acquired, one course expired (see pg. 74, "[Locally Developed Courses: 2022-23](#)").

## Trustee Reports

Trustees shared information and highlighted recent events:

- **Trustee Cathy Allen** attended several events and meetings, including her regular school council, committee and association meetings. A highlight: Treaty 6 and Métis flag-raising ceremony at the EIPS Central Services Office. It was an emotional and powerful experience, particularly hearing the drumming. She also took part in the Trustees' School Tours and several school-based performances and farewells, which was wonderful to do again. To see the teaching and learning first-hand and feel the joy students exude is incredibly rewarding. She thanked the community for trusting her and allowing her to fulfill the role of trustee.
- **Trustee Randy Footz** attended the Trustees' School Tours, A.L. Horton Elementary's school council meeting, the joint meeting with the Town of Vegreville, graduation ceremonies for Vegreville Composite High and Next Step and ASBA's spring general meeting. He also took part in the Division's Treaty 6 and Métis flag-raising ceremony, in which he was honoured to participate, and he's pleased with the Division's leadership around Indigenous education. Trustee Footz also looks forward to spending time at A.L. Horton for the Grade 6 farewell ceremony. Lastly, he thanked EIPS administration and staff for their work throughout 2021-22. It was a tumultuous year given the pandemic and changing provincial public-health mandates. EIPS masterfully led students and families through it, and, as a result, it was another successful year.
- **Trustee Don Irwin** attended many events and meetings, including his regular school council meetings, a Strathcona County fundraiser for Ukraine, the Trustees' School Tours, the joint meeting with the Town of Vegreville and ASBA's spring general meeting. He also took part in the Logos Christian Program public engagement session and the Treaty 6 and Métis Flag-raising ceremony. Both were excellent and well run. Trustee Irwin's also looking forward to attending Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary's graduation ceremony next week.



- **Trustee Susan Miller** attended her regular school council and committee meetings, the joint meeting with the Town of Vegreville, ABSA's spring general meeting, the Division's engagement sessions and the Trustee's School Tours. She thanked all the schools that trustees visited for their warm welcome and generosity. Trustee Miller's also looking forward to Ardrossan Junior Senior High's upcoming graduation ceremony. She wishes everyone a wonderful summer break.
- **Trustee Jacqueline Shotbolt** attended several meetings and events, including ASBA's Annual Awards Banquet, Zone 2/3 meeting, spring general meeting and professional learning sessions; the Trustees' School Tours; the Division's public engagement sessions; Next Step's graduation ceremony; and the Treaty 6 and Métis flag-raising ceremony at EIPS Central Services Office. She's also looking forward to the grand opening of the land-based learning space, again at the EIPS Central Services Office. Trustee Shotbolt thanked EIPS administration, school administration, EIPS staff and school councils for their exceptional work and compassion over the last year. She also thanked students, families and the community of Fort Saskatchewan for their support since becoming a trustee. Finally, she thanked trustees for their commitment to growth and development, and their support over the last year.
- **Trustee Ralph Sorochan** attended the joint meeting with the Town of Vegreville, the Division's public engagement sessions, ASBA's spring general meeting, and his regular Board and committee meetings—it's a privilege to work with every trustee on the Board. He also participated in his regular school council meetings and thanked all the families who attend and provide ongoing support to the school and staff. The Trustees' School Tours were excellent—the work being done in schools is outstanding. Being part of Next Step's and Fort Saskatchewan High's graduation ceremonies was an honour—some of those graduating he's known since they started kindergarten. The Treaty 6 and Métis flag-raising was incredibly meaningful and is something he'll thoughtfully remember every time he drives into the EIPS Central Services Office. Overall, 2021-22 was a busy, challenging and successful year. That doesn't happen without immense work—by EIPS leadership, employees, students and families. He thanked everyone for their work, commitment and passion for learning over the last few years. Lastly, he thanked the community of Fort Saskatchewan for trusting him to fulfill the role of trustee.

## Board Members

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

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