



# MEETING MINUTES

Elk Island Public Schools, in-person meeting

Oct. 5, 2022 | 6:30 p.m.

Committee of  
School Councils

## In Attendance

### SCHOOL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

**Chair:** Lesley Williams, Sherwood Heights Junior High

**Vice-Chair:** Chelsea Pretzlaw, Ardrossan Elementary

**Secretary:** Ken Allan, A.L. Horton Elementary

Jacque Surgenor, Salisbury Composite High and  
Sherwood Heights Junior High

Nana Thaver, Woodbridge Farms Elementary

Brian Vick, Brentwood Elementary

Lynn Walker, Davidson Creek Elementary

Sarah Witholt, Heritage Hills Elementary

### SCHOOL COUNCIL MEMBERS

Aileen Bozic, SCA Secondary

Meagan Bruce, Woodbridge Farms Elementary

Karli Butler, Davidson Creek Elementary

April Childs, Lakeland Ridge

Jennifer Dechaine, École Parc Élémentaire

Jennifer Fukuyama, Clover Bar Junior High

Lisa Harke, SCA Elementary

Melissa Manolescu, École Campbelltown

Natalie Manuel, Fort Saskatchewan Christian

Kim Birkigt, Ardrossan Junior Senior High

Jennie March, Ardrossan Junior Senior High

Tawnia McQueen, Wes Hosford Elementary

Tracey Nielson, Clover Bar Junior High

Christan Rasmussen, Westboro Elementary

Kendra Roemer, Mills Haven Elementary

Kim Scott, Westboro Elementary

### ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Trina Boymook, Chair

Cathy Allen, Trustee

Randy Footz, Trustee

Don Irwin, Trustee

Susan Miller, Trustee

Jim Seutter, Trustee

Jacqueline Shotbolt, Trustee

Ralph SoroChan, Trustee

### ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Mark Liguori, Superintendent

Candace Cole, Secretary-Treasurer

Sandra Stoddard, Associate Superintendent

Deneen Zielke, ATA Local No. 28 President

Corrie Fletcher, Communications

Emma Small, Communications

## CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

### COSC ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Past COSC Chair Lesley Williams called the election for the position of Chair for the 2022-23 school year. Lesley Williams was acclaimed Chair. COSC Chair Williams then called the election for the position of Vice-Chair and Secretary for the 2022-23 school year. Chelsea Pretzlaw was acclaimed Vice-Chair and Ken Allan acclaimed the secretary.

MOTION | To accept the positions the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary as acclaimed.

*MOTION CARRIED*

## **COSC PLANNING**

Members agreed to:

- Hold COSC meetings on the first Wednesday of the month—October, November, January, February, March, April and May.
- Hold meetings in person—with a virtual option during inclement weather.
- Hold all meetings 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

## **AGENDA**

COSC Chair Williams called for additions or deletions to the agenda.

MOTION | The agenda be adopted, as circulated.

*MOTION CARRIED*

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

COSC Chair Williams called for approval of the May 4, 2022, meeting minutes.

MOTION | The minutes be approved, as circulated.

*MOTION CARRIED*

# **Board Report**

Board Chair Trina Boymook presented the Board Report.

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Over the summer and into September, Board Chair Boymook attended United Conservative Party Leadership events held within EIPS.
- In early August, Board Chair Boymook met with Jordan Walker, a member of the legislative assembly of Alberta for Sherwood Park, to speak on the Sherwood Heights replacement school. He asked to talk about curriculum implementation and respecting diversity. Trustee Cathy Allan and Board Chair Boymook also met with Nate Glubish, technology and innovation minister and member of the legislative assembly of Alberta for Strathcona-Sherwood Park, to speak on the Sherwood Heights replacement school and reserve cap.
- On September 1, the Board held a special meeting to approve making a request to the education minister to access \$1 million from operating reserves and \$1.1 million from capital reserves to offset the cost of replacing the storm water drainage pipes at Salisbury Composite High. The full cost of the project is estimated at \$4.1 million.
- On September 12 and 13, members of the Board attended a value scoping session for Vegreville schools as they consider options for the Board's capital plan requests.
- On September 19, the Board conducted its annual self-evaluation. The outcome of the evaluation will shape the Board's growth and focus for this Board's term.
- On September 20, EIPS administration held an information meeting with Andrew School families to discuss the school building's sprinkler system and roof conditions.
- On September 30, the Board met with the education minister. They used their 30 minutes to speak on capital project process and their concerns relating to Sherwood Heights, modular project requests and reserve cap.
- Board Chair Boymook discussed how trustee remuneration increases match the same percentage increases as classified staff. Refer to [Policy 7: Board Operations](#) for how increases to trustees' remuneration are determined.
- Board Chair Boymook explained how October 5 is World Teachers' Day. The theme for this year's day: The Transformation of Education Begins with Teachers. The theme pays tribute and recognizes the

commitment, professionalism and kindness teachers demonstrated through the unprecedented challenges they experienced for the last two years.

- Board Chair Boymook thanked everyone for supporting Read In Week, which ran from October 3-7.

## ATA Report

ATA Local No. 28 President Deneen Zielke presented the ATA report.

### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Zielke stated it was great to see everyone again and have a normal start up to the school year after a summer recharge for students and staff.
- The Local is disappointed in the province's lack of funding and a poorly designed and implemented curriculum.
- Acting on a resolution made at their Annual Representative Assembly in May, the Local and the Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) have planned a wide-reaching campaign called Stand for Education. The campaign is meant to engage teachers, support staff, families, students, trustees and the public to stand together and make the education of children an issue that must be supported.
- The Stand for Education campaign starts with a one-hour rally at the Legislature at 1 p.m. on Oct. 22, 2022. There will be Park and Ride buses running every 20 minutes from Bethel Transit Station starting at 11:15 a.m. The Local has also arranged for buses to take members from Salisbury Composite High to the rally. Spots on the bus must be registered by October 10 and can be booked using their [sign-up sheet](#). There will be food trucks, music and speeches. No politicians have been invited to speak.
- Zielke offered to answer questions about the campaign and to share bookmarks with school councils and families.
- The Local's Executive Strategic Planning Work Session this fall largely focused on the Stand for Education campaign. The Local is also excited to offer members attendance to several events planned by their Women in Leadership Committee.
- The Local is planning their first teacher induction ceremony in three years to be held Oct. 14, 2022.

## For Information

### ASCA UPDATE – Lesley Williams, COSC Chair

- COSC Chair Williams encouraged school councils to become members of ASCA. This gives councils access to many resources, including engagement taskforce questionnaires and the ability to attend ASCA's provincial [School Councils Conference](#) in conjunction with ASCA's [Annual General Meeting](#) (AGM).
- 27 schools in EIPS have already joined ASCA's membership.
- School councils can contact EIPS [communication services](#) or their school administration to join. The cost to join is covered by EIPS.

### OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES – Lesley Williams, COSC Chair

- The [COSC Operational Procedures](#) are available on the EIPS website and the [COSC Facebook page](#).

### CAREGIVER SERIES UPDATE – Lesley Williams, COSC Chair

- The [October Caregiver Series](#) schedule is now available.
- Offered through Alberta Health Services, the sessions are informative and valuable.
- COSC Chair Williams encouraged members to review the [October Caregiver Series](#) calendar.

### **SCHOOL COUNCIL GRANT – Lesley Williams, COSC Chair**

- As was done last year, Alberta Education is providing \$500 to each school council to engage families and connect with parents.
- School councils interested in accessing funding must meet [Alberta Education’s School Council Engagement Grant Criteria](#). School councils can make their requests through COSC Chair Williams, by filling out and submitting the online [School Council Engagement Grant Request Form](#). All submissions that meet the grant criteria will be approved and announced at the COSC meeting during the “For Information” section, on a monthly basis.
- School councils can also work collaboratively with other school councils to pool funds for added value. Last year, several EIPS schools pooled their money to provide a speaker series that was presented online to all EIPS families.
- Another potential use for the grant would be for schools to engage ASCA professional development.
- One COSC member asked if schools could pool their money once again this year. COSC Chair Williams confirmed that this would be a possibility, potentially led by a committee for this purpose.

## **New Business**

### **EIPS THREE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT PLAN – Superintendent Mark Liguori**

- This plan comprises four projects around identifying areas where operations and capacity can be improved to best serve students and families.
- Information about these projects can currently be found online on the [Public Engagement: Programs, enrolments and boundaries](#) webpage.
- Superintendent Liguori stated that although EIPS has seen a relatively high number of schools built recently, many of the schools in Sherwood Park will soon reach capacity. At the same time, some schools in rural areas are under-utilized, which may require a redistribution of space when new construction is built.
- The goal is to best use schools and resources most equitably for the benefit of all students and families.
- External consultants Y Station and Western Management Consultants have been engaged to ensure transparency in the engagement process.

### **NEW CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT TOOLS – Associate Superintendent Sandra Stoddard**

- In response to concern from EIPS teachers over the new provincial curriculum, the EIPS Board of Trustees provided funding for 40-50 teachers to develop scope and sequencing for the new curriculum.
- The scope and sequencing have put the curriculum into consistent sequence for the entire Division, allowing more flexibility to move content up and down the sequence as needed.
- The EIPS Board of Trustees also provided funding to hire seven teachers to develop resources for the new curriculum.
- Resources for K-3 Language Arts, Math and Physical Education are now available for teachers to use. This includes Readers and Writers Workshop materials, skill competencies, and French-language versions.
- Teachers using PowerSchool will now make clear the outcomes tested in report cards, to ensure clarity to parents during the transition period to the new curriculum.
- COSC Chair Williams and other COSC members thanked EIPS for their efforts to provide additional resources for teachers.

## **COSC Sharing**

**SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETINGS 2022-23: Structure, focus, engagement** – Lesley Williams, COSC Chair  
Topic tabled because of a lack of time.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:36 P.M.

## **Next COSC Meeting**

**DATE:** Nov. 2, 2022

**TIME:** 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

**LOCATION:** EIPS Central Services building, boardroom.