



# BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2023

The regular meeting of the Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, Oct. 19, 2023, in the Boardroom, Central Services, Sherwood Park, Alberta. The Board of Trustees meeting convened with Board Chair Cathy Allen calling the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

## BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

C. Allen, Board Chair  
S. Miller, Board Vice-Chair  
T. Boymook  
R. Footz  
C. Holowaychuk  
D. Irwin  
J. Seutter  
J. Shotbolt  
R. Sorochan

## ADMINISTRATION PRESENT

S. Stoddard, Superintendent  
R. Johnson, Associate Superintendent  
R. Marshall, Associate Superintendent  
C. Cole, Secretary-Treasurer  
W. Gilewich, Director, Information and Security Officer  
B. Billey, Director, Human Resources  
D. Antymniuk, Division Principal  
L. McNabb, Director, Communications Services  
C. Langford-Pickering, Executive Assistant/Recording Secretary

## CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m. with all trustees noted above in attendance.

## IN-CAMERA SESSION

**181/2023** | Trustee Holowaychuk moved: That the Board meet in camera (9:00 a.m.).

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

Trustee Seutter left at 9:35 a.m. and returned at 9:50 a.m.

**182/2023** | Trustee Irwin moved: That the Board revert to regular session (9:57 a.m.).

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*The Board recessed at 9:57 a.m. and reconvened at 10:05 a.m. with all trustees noted above in attendance except for Trustee Seutter.*

Board Chair Allen welcomed all in attendance in person and online.

## **TREATY 6 ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Board Chair Allen called the meeting to order and acknowledged with respect the history, spirituality, and culture and languages of the First Nations people with whom Treaty 6 was entered into, the territory wherein EIPS resides. We acknowledge our responsibility as Treaty members. We also honour the heritage and gifts of the Métis people.

## **AGENDA**

Board Chair Allen called for additions or deletions to the Agenda.

Superintendent Stoddard requested that the *Three-Year Strathcona County French Immersion Programming* recommendation report be removed from the agenda to explore recent information presented to her so that the Board could make the most informed decision possible and consider what is best for the students and families we serve.

183/2023 | Trustee Boymook moved: That the Agenda be adopted, as amended.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

Board Chair Allen noted that the delegations to the Board would proceed as scheduled.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Board Chair Allen called for confirmation of the Sept. 21, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes.

184/2023 | Trustee Irwin moved: That the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of Sept. 21, 2023 Board Meeting, as circulated.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

## **CHAIR REPORT**

Board Chair Allen presented the Chair's report.

185/2023 | Board Chair Allen moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the Chair's report.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

## **SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Superintendent Stoddard presented the Superintendent's report.

186/2023 | Trustee Seutter moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the Superintendent's report.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

## **COMMENTS, PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS AT BOARD MEETINGS**

Secretary-Treasurer Cole noted that there were two delegations regarding the French Immersion programming recommendation.

Board Chair Allen outlined the process for the delegation to the Board as per Board Policy 7: Board Operations, Section 10. Board Chair indicated that the presenters have a maximum time limit of 5 minutes.

Chelsea Pretzlaw presented a report on behalf of the Canadian Parents for French Ardrossan Chapter regarding the proposed plan to move French Immersion grades 7-12 from Ardrossan to Sherwood Park.

Speaker Pretzlaw shared concern regarding lengthy bus rides, student voice, mental health, and equitable access when Strathcona county is so large. Speaker appreciates challenges being addressed but noted there has to be better options.

Board Chair Allen thanked Speaker Pretzlaw for the presentation.

Secretary-Treasurer Cole called upon Melissa Manolescu, École Campbelltown School Council Chair to present her report. The presentation highlighted that the recommendation in support of Option 2 did not represent a clear long-term solution for the development of a robust French immersion Program and is therefore not in the best interest of French Immersion students.

Board Chair Allen thanked the Speaker Manolescu for the presentation.

## Association/Employee Groups

### ASBA ZONE 2/3 REPORT

Board Chair Allen invited the Trustee Shotbolt to present the ASBA Zone 2/3 report.

187/2023 | Trustee Shotbolt moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the report from the representative of the ASBA Zone 2/3.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

### ATA LOCAL REPORT

Board Chair Allen invited the ATA representative D. Zielke to present the Local ATA report.

188/2023 | Trustee Irwin moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the report from the representative of the ATA Local #28.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

### EMPLOYEE RELATIONS GROUP (ERG) REPORT

Board Chair Allen invited the ERG representative M. Miller to present the ERG report to the Board.

189/2023 | Trustee Boymook moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the report from the representative of the Employee Relations Group.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

## Business Arising from Previous Meeting

No business arising from the previous meeting.

## New Business

### BUSINESS ARISING FROM IN CAMERA

No business arising from in camera.

### 2024-25 MODULAR CLASSROOM PLAN

Superintendent Stoddard called on Assistant Director Dragon to present the 2024-25 Modular Classroom Plan for consideration.

190/2023 | Trustee Boymook moved: That the Board of Trustees directs administration to request funding to:

- Add two A-Type modular classrooms from Alberta Education to Ardrossan Elementary;
- Add two new B-Type modular classrooms from Alberta Education to SouthPointe School;
- Demolish two modular classrooms and reclaim the site at Westboro Elementary.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### BOARD EVALUATION 2022-23

Board Chair Allen presented to the Board the Board Evaluation Report developed on August 24, 2023, for approval.

191/2023 | Trustee Boymook moved: That the Board of Trustees approves the Board Evaluation.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Holowaychuk shared gratitude to the Board for their work and shared appreciation for the transparency within the report.

### BOARD POLICY 7: BOARD OPERATIONS

Trustee Footz presented to the Board the proposed amendments to Board Policy 7: Board Operations for approval.

Trustee Boymook noted that there are three categories in which comments and delegations can be made. Section 10.3. Formal Delegations and Presentations to Board is not for current agenda items. Recommendation was made to bring Section 10.3.7, *“Decisions regarding requests made by delegations will be dealt with at the next meeting of the Board or appropriate committee unless the Board will be making a decision on the matter as part of another scheduled item of business on the agenda or it is otherwise agreed to by a majority vote of the members present.”*, to the Policy Committee for future review.

192/2023 | Vice-Chair Miller moved: That the Board of Trustees approves amendments to Board Policy 7: Board Operations, as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

### BOARD POLICY 8: BOARD COMMITTEES

Trustee Footz presented to the Board the proposed amendments to Board Policy 8: Board Committees for approval.

193/2023 | Trustee Sorochan moved: That the Board of Trustees approves amendments to Board Policy 8: Board Committees, as presented.

Trustee Boymook requested clarification and rationale for the wording used *“without voting privileges”*. It was noted that no other trustee should have voting privileges over the committee members.

Trustee Holowaychuk requested an amendment to Board Policy 8: Board Committees, section 1.2 to remove the wording *“without voting privileges”*. To read:

*The Board Chair shall act as an ex-officio member, ~~without voting privileges,~~ of all committees appointed by the Board, with the exception of the Student Expulsion Committee and Teachers’ Collective Agreement Negotiations Committee*

Board Chair Allen opened the floor for discussion on the amendment.

Trustee Sorochan supported leaving “without voting privileges” in the policy because there are rare times committee members need to vote when there is no consensus, in order to know what recommendations will be brought to the Board for consideration.

Trustee Boymook noted that voting privileges fall to the whole board and not Board committee members. Therefore, supports the removal of “without voting privileges”.

**Point of Order** called by Trustee Shotbolt for clarification regarding the amended motion and the new process for reviewing Board policies.

**194/2023** | Trustee Holowaychuk moved: that the Board of Trustees accept the amendment to withdraw the words “without voting privileges” under Guidelines, Section 1 General Requirements, Section 1.2.

To read:

*The Board Chair shall act as an ex-officio member, ~~without voting privileges~~, of all committees appointed by the Board, with the exception of the Student Expulsion Committee and Teachers’ Collective Agreement Negotiations Committee.*

In Favour: Trustee Footz, Trustee Shotbolt, Trustee Seutter, Trustee Boymook, Board Chair Allen, Vice-Chair Miller, and Trustee Holowaychuk

Opposed: Trustee Irwin and Trustee Sorochan

*CARRIED*

#### **VOTE ON MOTION 193/2023:**

In Favour: Trustee Footz, Trustee Shotbolt, Trustee Seutter, Trustee Boymook, Board Chair Allen, Vice-Chair Miller, and Trustee Holowaychuk

Opposed: Trustee Irwin and Trustee Sorochan

*CARRIED*

### **BOARD POLICY 17: STUDENT TRANSPORTATION SERVICES**

Trustee Footz presented to the Board the proposed amendments to Board Policy 17: Student Transportation Services for approval.

**195/2023** | Trustee Irwin moved: That the Board of Trustees approves amendments to Board Policy 17: Student Transportation Services, as presented.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

*The Board recessed at 11:41 a.m. and reconvened at 11.46 a.m. with all trustees noted above in attendance.*

## **Committee Reports**

### **STUDENT EXPULSION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Footz presented a report from the Student Expulsion Committee meetings held on Sept. 26, 2023, for information.

**196/2023** | Trustee Footz moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the report from the Student Expulsion Committee meetings held on Sept. 26, 2023.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

## **POLICY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Footz presented a report from the Policy Committee meeting held on Oct. 4, 2023, for information.

**197/2023** | Trustee Footz moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the report from the Policy Committee meeting held on Oct. 4, 2023.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

## **Reports for Information**

### **UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT FOR SEPT. 1, 2022 TO AUG. 31, 2023**

Director Lewis presented to the Board the Unaudited Financial Report for the period Sept. 1, 2022 to Aug. 31, 2023, for information.

**198/2023** | Trustee Shotbolt moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the Unaudited Financial Report for the period Sept. 1, 2022 to Aug. 31, 2023, for Elk Island Public Schools.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

### **UNAUDITED ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT AUG. 31, 2023**

Director Lewis presented to the Board the Unaudited Accumulated Surplus at Aug. 31, 2023, for information.

**199/2023** | Trustee Shotbolt moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the Unaudited Accumulated Surplus at Aug. 31, 2023.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

### **2023-24 ENROLMENT**

Secretary-Treasurer Cole presented to the Board the Enrolment Report. Total enrolment of 17,760 for the 2023-24 school year.

**200/2023** | Trustee Holowaychuk moved: That the Board of Trustees receives for information the Sept. 29, 2023, Enrolment Report for the 2023-24 school year for Elk Island Public Schools.

*CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY*

## **Trustee Notices of Motion and Requests for Information**

No notices of motion or requests for information were presented.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Allen declared the meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

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Cathy Allen, Board Chair

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Sandra Stoddard, Superintendent