



**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

SPECIAL
MEETING

THURSDAY, MARCH 6, 2025

Board Room
Central Services
Administration Building

AGENDA

Mission Statement: To provide high-quality, student-centred education that builds strong, healthy communities.

TBD **1. CALL TO ORDER** C. Allen

2. LAND AND PEOPLE ACKNOWLEDGMENT

NEW BUSINESS

3. 2025 EDWIN PARR TEACHER AWARD NOMINEE C. Allen
(encl.)

ADJOURNMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS: BOARD OF TRUSTEES MARCH 6, 2025

2. *Land and People Acknowledgment*

New Business

3. That the Board of Trustees approves Elk Island Public Schools' nomination of Janna MacLelland, first-year teacher, Ardrossan Elementary School for the Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 2025 Edwin Parr Teacher Award.



RECOMMENDATION REPORT

Page 1 of 2

DATE: March 6, 2025

TO: Board of Trustees

FROM: Edwin Parr Teacher Award Nominee Selection Ad Hoc Committee

SUBJECT: 2025 Edwin Parr Teacher Award Nominee

ORIGINATOR: Cathy Allen, Board Chair

RESOURCE STAFF: Randy Footz, Trustee
Ralph Sorochan, Trustee
MJ Nam, Director – Human Resources
Carol Langford-Pickering, Executive Assistant

REFERENCE: Board Policy 8: Board Committees
ASBA Edwin Parr Teacher Award Nomination Package

EIPS PRIORITY: Enhance public education through effective engagement.

EIPS GOAL: Engaged and effective governance.

EIPS OUTCOME: The Division is committed to engagement and advocacy to enhance public education.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees approves Elk Island Public Schools' nomination of Janna MacLelland, first-year teacher, Ardrossan Elementary School for the Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 2025 Edwin Parr Teacher Award.

BACKGROUND:

The Edwin Parr Teacher Award - the namesake of past Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) President Edwin Parr - recognizes outstanding first-year teachers who have demonstrated excellence in the [Teaching Quality Standard](#).

For almost 60 years, the Edwin Parr Award has been presented on an annual basis to outstanding first-year teachers across the province. School divisions across the province nominate a deserving teacher and then the ASBA Zones pick from these nominations to put forward their recommendation for the award.

The Board's Edwin Parr Teacher Award Nominee Selection ad hoc committee met on March 28, 2025, to review the nominees shortlisted based on the nominee eligibility criteria provided by ASBA.

Nominees include first-year Kindergarten to Grade 12 teachers who meet the following criteria:

- First-year teaching experience must be completed in an ASBA member school board.



RECOMMENDATION REPORT

- Completion of a minimum of 100 full-time equivalent days of teaching service from the beginning of the current school year and prior to the nomination deadline.
- Must hold an Interim Professional Certificate or equivalent.
- Must have no more than 120 full-time equivalent days of teaching service prior to the current school year.

Following deliberation, the committee is recommending that Janna MacLelland be selected as Elk Island Public Schools' candidate. Janna MacLelland, is a first-year French Immersion Kindergarten teacher at Ardrossan Elementary who demonstrates exemplary teaching practices.

Janna is dedicated to creating an exceptional learning environment for her students. She creates thorough daily lesson plans and long-range plans taking into consideration the needs of her students. Her plans encompass a variety of different activities tailored to her learners' needs including activities with multiple entry points that support all students in her class. Her lessons are thoughtfully laid out and include review of prior learning, using a common language throughout all classes and meeting the kids where they are at. Her well thought out and prepared plans are the foundation for her work with students.

Janna has an innate ability to work with children; her "with it ness" when working with her students stands out from the crowd. Jana seamlessly incorporates French into the classroom by showing her students what she is saying and keeping the language simple along with using LOTS of repetition. This approach helps ensure her young students are understanding and learning French.

Janna spent time at the beginning of the year ensuring strong routines were established. These routines and expectations have been the backbone of the great work she does, and work to maximize student learning. She has created an inclusive learning environment where all students feel safe and welcome. Her kind and bubbly personality ensures students feel at ease with her. She is incredibly mindful about the activities she chooses and goes out of her way to include all of her students. Jana chunks up lessons into bite sized activities, and transitions smoothly between them. She uses visual schedules and has lot of cues in her room to make sure students always know what is expected of them. At the beginning of the day, she greets her students out front and has routines in place to ensure a smooth start to their day.

COMMUNICATION PLAN:

If supported, the recipient submission package will be submitted to ASBA via email awards@asba.ab.ca, along with:

- Completed Nomination Package (provided by the Board)
- Recipient Selection Form (completed by EIPS administration)
- Board motion supporting the nominee

All nominees submitted to EIPS will be recognized at the EIPS Board meeting on April 17 and at the Long Service and Retirement event on May 7, 2025. The recipient will also be recognized at the ASBA Zone 2/3 Awards Banquet on May 23, 2025, in person, at the Chateau Louis Hotel & Conference Centre.

The shortlisted nominees will be recognized at the Division level through the Weekly Wrap-up and a news release.

ATTACHMENT(S):

n/a