



**Fort Saskatchewan Elementary  
Parent Council  
MINUTES – November 30, 2022**

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Attendance: Veronica Barton, Shelby Labrecque (Principal), Ralph Sorochan (School Trustee Liaison), Lauren Taubenheim, Nicole Way, Caitlyn Zabrick, Kim Zapesocki (Assistant Principal)

Call to Order at 5:33 pm – meeting chaired by Caitlyn Zabrick

1. Introductions
2. Motion to approve the Agenda – moved by Lauren, seconded by Nicole, carried
3. Motion to approve the Minutes of October 25, 2022 – moved by Caitlyn, seconded by Lauren, carried
4. Reports
  - a. Admin Report – School Council Report – November 30, 2022 – Welcome & Kudos! I hope everyone had a chance to enjoy the Fall Break and have been able to either get healthy or stay healthy! Thank you to everyone for coming out and taking advantage of the opportunity to collaborate so we can support our students and collectively contribute to their success! Thank you to our Parent Society for planning and organizing a successful Family Dance, as well as the Poinsettia Fundraiser! We appreciate your efforts to support our students, families, and school! 2) Literacy & Numeracy - The government has released details about the learning disruption funding for students in grades 2 to 4 who scored below the 25th percentile according to the June Numeracy Assessment Screener and STAR data. An email went out to families on Thursday, November 24, 2022 from the Division in this regard. The guidelines that we need to follow include that it is targeted small group intervention programming provided by a certificated teacher for approximately 12 to 16 weeks. We are currently in the process of going through this information and will come up with a plan of action shortly. Families affected by this funding will be contacted with more information. We recently purchased a Building Fact Fluency kit for multiplication and division with the intention of using it primarily with our division 2 students. There are cards, dice, and other manipulatives to be used to strengthen fact fluency. 3) Professional Learning - Thanks to our Elk Island Public School (EIPS) Central Office staff and literacy consultants, Heather Balog and Tamara Martin-Spady, for providing multiple professional learning opportunities for all certificated staff to take advantage of with the intention of building upon their skills in literacy. We feel very fortunate to be able to have several sessions offered over the course of this year. As a staff, we have started to learn more about Collaborative

Team Meetings (CTMs) and have begun practicing our skills so that we may work collaboratively together to identify key issues that may be impacting many students and share multiple strategies and supports that could be valuable in our collective 'tool shed'. As with any new strategy, we will be working on becoming experts at using this meeting structure and look forward to the positive impact that this collective efficacy will have on our students' success in the short and long term.

4)A) Other - We had to 'adjust our sails' and have a virtual Remembrance Day Assembly due to having more than 10% of our staff and students out sick. Thank you to our music teacher, Kim Zapesocki, as well as the rest of our staff for being so flexible in changing course without a lot of notice so that we could honour our military and fallen soldiers. Thanks goes out to our families for their continued patience and understanding! Also, thank you to Ralph for attending our virtual assembly! B) Bullying Awareness Week ran from November 14 to 18 and students participated in many activities such as listening to related announcements followed by class discussions around being kind and inclusive, creating a Kindness-gram bulletin board, participating in jersey day to celebrate differences and highlight diversity, and Friendship Friday whereby students brought in items to share with their classmates. C) Our gratitude goes out to the Board of Trustees for their generosity which allowed us to hire a Family School Liaison Worker who will be working with all the Fort Saskatchewan Schools this school year. Her job will be to support families in a variety of ways including but not limited to provide regular sessions with students to support them in achieving set goals, being a liaison with families and school staff to further support students and providing information about community resources. Welcome to Jen Scott who will call FSE her home base this year! D) I am also happy to share we just completed successful soccer intramurals for our division 2 students and have started up a lunch time winter reading club for those students in grades 3 to 6. Students will get an opportunity twice a week to bring a book to the library and read quietly during lunch recess. Thanks to Ms. Frey, Ms. Simpson, Ms. Percy, and Ms. Chaisson for supporting these initiatives by donating their lunch times to supervise! Eight students in grades 3 through 6 have been selected to be part of our new Student Advisory Committee. This committee will meet with me approximately once month to provide feedback in the areas of what students like at FSE and things they might want changed or added. This will help inform decisions I make about events and activities. E) The wooden playground on the division 2 playground is over 30 years old and has had a long-life providing children with many enjoyable hours of play. Plans to remove the structure are scheduled for the summer of 2023. The administration from Fort Saskatchewan Christian School and Fort Saskatchewan Elementary will be working together to coordinate and organize a Volunteer Playground Committee with the intention of having this committee begin the fund raising and grant application process. Our facilities Department has shared that it will cost approximately \$300 000 to build a new play structure to replace the one that is being removed and they will also be involved in supporting us through this process. We would like to ask two of our parents/guardians to sit on this committee. F) To address enrolment pressures at James Mowat Elementary, the Board of Trustees has approved a two-year pilot project, starting next school year, whereby Fort Saskatchewan Elementary will be

the alternate designated school for the James Mowat attendance area. Students currently enrolled at James Mowat will be grandfathered in. G) Looking forward to December: Early dismissal on December 7 for staff meeting, which is also the Kindergarten Christmas Concert at 6 p.m. in the gym. 5) The upcoming Assurance Review is a welcome opportunity for departments and schools to share insights regarding how they have done in terms of achieving their Department/ School Education Plan goals. This is the formal part of a continuous improvement cycle that our division, departments, and schools are committed to with the intention of best serving our stakeholders. The FSE Assurance Review is being held from 9 to 11:30 a.m. in the Central Boardroom on December 1, 2022, along with four other schools. Our School Council Chair has been invited to share their perspective related to the School Education Plan and answer questions from Administration or from Trustees. If our School Council Chair is unavailable, I would like to invite another parent representative to attend. Looking forward to January 2023: January 4 – first day back and early dismissal for staff meeting January 26 – John Dunn, a wilderness explorer, will be coming to share about his adventures in Canada with the entire school January 30 – Professional Learning Day – No school for students

- b. School Trustee Report – 1) APPRECIATION - to everyone for their engagement, this evening. 2) AUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT/2022-23 FALL BUDGET - The Board approved the Audited Financial Report for the 2021-22 school year. As per the provincial government, effective the 2022-23 school year, EIPS must maintain reserves between 1% and 3.15% of annual expenditures. At August 31, 2022, EIPS had reserves in excess of the 3.15% limit of \$6.9 million. For 2022-23, EIPS has prepared a \$206.21 million operating budget drawing \$8.23 million from operating reserves. Based on the Spring 2022-23 budget, by August 31, 2023 the Division will have reserves below the 3.15% limit by \$0.7 million, compliant with the provincial reserve cap. Documents are available on eips.ca. 3) REMINDER - UPCOMING ASSURANCE REVIEWS - At the last COSC meeting Associate Superintendent Sandra Stoddard discussed the EIPS assurance review. Her presentation (click) outlined EIPS' assurance framework, engagement process, data analysis, Alberta Education assurance measures and included examples from EIPS' assurance review data from the 2020-21 school year. FSE's scheduled assurance review is on December 1 at 9:00 AM. 4) 2023-24 DIVISION CALENDARS – now available on EIPS website • August 31: first day of classes • November 6-10: November break • December 25 to January 5: Christmas break • February 1: second semester begins • February 8-9: Teachers' Convention • March 25-29: spring break • June 26: last day of classes • June 27: last operational day before the summer break 5) BULLYING AWARENESS WEEK - celebrated during the 3rd week in November. It promotes awareness and understanding of bullying and its impacts. Schools throughout the Division engaged in different activities to take part in this important initiative. There are resources and links provided on eips.ca. 6) ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION FALL GENERAL MEETING – I attended this conference on November 21 and 22. Trustees from across the province came together to discuss educational issues, set provincial advocacy direction, and receive professional

development. 7) BOARD RETREAT - took place on November 29 and 30 at Central Office. The retreat focused on setting the priorities for the Board's work, moving forward. 8) MENTAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS PILOT PROJECT – EIPS recently received grant application approval, in the amount of 1.92 million dollars, over two years. The money will enhance the over \$850,000 in funds already approved by the Board of Trustees, to support the mental health and well-being of our students to ensure learning readiness. 9) JAMES MOWAT ENGAGEMENT - The Board of Trustees approved (by majority vote) a two-year Random Selection Process Pilot to address the enrolment pressure at James Mowat Elementary, based on the Closed Boundary Priority Scale, effective for the 2023-24 school year. Fort Saskatchewan Elementary was approved as the alternate designated school for the James Mowat Elementary attendance boundary and current enrolled students are grandfathered. 10) CHRISTMAS BREAK - Elk Island Public Schools' Central Services will officially be closed for Christmas Break from December 26 to January 2. The office will open again at 8 a.m. on Tuesday, January 3. 11) ASBA HONOURING SPIRIT: INDIGENOUS STUDENT AWARDS -The ASBA Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards recognize First Nations, Métis and Inuit students who model strength and commitment in the pursuit of their personal education path and embrace their own gifts, strengths and potential while celebrating the ways of their people. The 2023 nomination deadline is February 3. Nomination package 12) CAREGIVER EDUCATION AND SESSIONS- Alberta Health Services offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Sessions are offered through Zoom. 13) CAREER EDUCATION PROGRAMMING - The Career Education Task Force is announcing engagement opportunities for Albertans to provide input on career education programming for students in grades 7 to 12. The task force is listening to Albertans across the province to determine how to innovate and strengthen career education programming for students and employers. From now until December 9, 2022, the task force would like to hear from students in grades 7 to 12, parents, teachers, career counsellors, post-secondary educators, employers and young adults. Albertans can share ideas at online and in-person engagement sessions in 11 communities across the province. They are encouraged to participate in their region or they have the flexibility to attend any session that works best for them. During the sessions, participants will be able to provide local insights on career education programming and hear the unique perspectives of others. There are also online surveys for the public and students in grade 7 to 12 to provide feedback on career education programming. Albertans can register for an engagement session, take the survey and sign up for career education updates at [alberta.ca/career-education-task-force](http://alberta.ca/career-education-task-force). In addition to engaging with Albertans, the task force will meet with a variety of education stakeholders to hear their viewpoints. They will also conduct a comprehensive review of Alberta's career education programming, with a focus on grades 7 to 12. The insights from the review and engagement feedback will inform their recommendations and provincial framework for career education programming. 14) UPCOMING EIPS PUBLIC BOARD MEETINGS – December 15 at 10:00 AM. Board Meetings are live-streamed on YouTube. Have your say on career education programming The Career Education Task Force is listening to Albertans across the province to determine how to innovate and

strengthen career education programming for students and employers. The task force would like to hear from students in grades 7 to 12, parents, teachers, career counsellors, post-secondary educators, employers and young adults through in-person and online engagement sessions and online surveys. Register for a session From November 21 to December 8 2022, in-person engagement sessions will be held in 11 communities: • Fort McMurray, Grande Prairie, Cold Lake, Whitecourt, Edson, Edmonton, Stettler, Red Deer, Calgary, Brooks, and Lethbridge. There will also be five online sessions available to all Albertans. During these sessions, participants will be able to share local insights on career education programming and hear the unique perspectives of others. Topics will include: • Current career education programming • Opportunities for sustainable careers now and in the future • How to improve career education in Alberta. You are encouraged to register for sessions in your region or you may take part in any session that works best for you. The in- person sessions will be three hours and the online sessions will be two hours. Anyone under 18 years old must participate with a parent or guardian. To register, visit: [alberta.ca/career-education-task-force](http://alberta.ca/career-education-task-force). Participate in a survey Albertans and students in grades 7 to 12 can also complete an online survey to provide feedback on career education programming until December 9, 2022. To take the survey, visit: [alberta.ca/career-education-task-force](http://alberta.ca/career-education-task-force). Next steps in addition to engaging with Albertans, the task force will meet with a variety of education stakeholders to hear their viewpoints. They will also conduct a comprehensive review of Alberta's career education programming, with a focus on grades 7 to 12. The insights from the review and engagement feedback will inform their recommendations and provincial framework for career education programming.

- c. COSC (Committee of School Councils Report) – nothing to report as Stephanie Attended meeting but was unable to attend our Parent Council meeting
  - d. Treasurer's Report (Breakfast Program)
    - bank balance – account still inactive, no funds needed
  - e. Breakfast Program Report (fundraising)
5. Business Arising from the Minutes – None
  6. New Business – None
  7. Next Meeting: Wednesday January 25 at 5:30
  8. Meeting Adjourned at 5:59 pm