



**Fort Saskatchewan Elementary
Parent Council
MINUTES – March 9, 2023**

Attendance: Veronica Barton, Charlotte DaCosta (teacher), Shelby Labrecque (Principal), Ralph Sorochan (School Trustee Liaison), Stephanie Stoddard, Lauren Taubenheim, Nicole Way, Kim Zapesocki (Assistant Principal)

Call to Order at 5:31 pm – meeting chaired by Stephanie Stoddard

1. Introductions
2. Motion to approve the Agenda – moved by Lauren, seconded by Nicole, carried
3. Motion to approve the Minutes of January 25, 2023 – moved by Lauren, seconded by Stephanie, carried
4. Reports
 - a. Admin Report – School Council Report March 9, 2023 – 1). Welcome & Kudos! · Thank you to our volunteers for coming out so that we could have our Valentine's Day Carnival! A fun time was had by all! · Thank you to our Parent Society for planning chip day! The students loved having a tasty treat! 2). First Nations, Métis, and Inuit · Our grade five and six classes are participating in Candle Day at Salisbury Composite High School on Thursday, March 23, 2023. This is a day meant to honour the children in residential schools who did not get to celebrate their birthday while there, and to honor the spirit in every child. Elder Wilson Bearhead started work on this prior to the pandemic and so we are very excited to finally get to experience it with our students. 3). Staffing · In February, we hired Rachel Haverkamp as our part time music teacher for the remainder of the school year. · We also welcomed educational assistant Marissa Dykshoorn in our 5S classroom. 4). Professional Learning (PL) · At our recent PL day on March 3, staff had the privilege of attending various professional learning opportunities including a session on optimizing staff resilience and well-being, a blanket exercise put on by our very own Jeremy Albert, Non-violent Crisis Intervention training, just to name a few.

5). Fees · Proposed fee schedule

for 2023-2024

		(A)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)
Category	Fee	Per Student Fee 2023-24	Board Approved Per Student Fee 2022-23	Board Approved Per Student Fee 2021-22	(A - C)/C % Change (between 2022-23 and 2023-24)	(A - C) \$ Change (between 2022-23 and 2023-24)
Activity Fees	Field Trips - ECS	\$ 31.50	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	5%	\$ 1.50
Activity Fees	Field Trips - Gr. 1	\$ 47.25	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	5%	\$ 2.25
Activity Fees	Field Trips - Gr. 2	\$ 47.25	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	5%	\$ 2.25
Activity Fees	Field Trips - Gr. 3	\$ 47.25	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	5%	\$ 2.25
Activity Fees	Field Trips - Gr. 4	\$ 47.25	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	5%	\$ 2.25
Activity Fees	Field Trips - Gr. 5	\$ 47.25	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	5%	\$ 2.25
Activity Fees	Field Trips - Gr. 6	\$ 47.25	\$ 45.00	\$ 45.00	5%	\$ 2.25
Activity Fees	Ski/Snowboard (MAX Cost)	\$ -	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	-100%	\$ (42.00)
Activity Fees	Ski Trip - Lift Ticket/Lesson	\$ -	\$ 30.00	\$ 30.00	-100%	\$ (30.00)
Activity Fees	Ski Trip - Lunch	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	-100%	\$ (10.00)
Activity Fees	Ski Trip - Ski Rental	\$ -	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	-100%	\$ (42.00)
Activity Fees	Ski Trip - Snowboard Rental	\$ -	\$ 42.00	\$ 42.00	-100%	\$ (42.00)
Activity Fees	Swimming	\$ 55.65	\$ 53.00	\$ 53.00	5%	\$ 2.65
Lunch Supervision And Noon Hour Activity Fees	Noon Supervision	\$ 84.00	\$ 80.00	\$ 80.00	5%	\$ 4.00
Lunch Supervision And Noon Hour Activity Fees	Noon Supervision- ECS	\$ 42.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 40.00	5%	\$ 2.00
Extracurricular Fees	Women in Scholarship, Engineering	\$ 44.00				
Extracurricular Fees	Young Authors Conference	\$ 30.00				
Extracurricular Fees	Volleyball Team	\$ 10.00				
Extracurricular Fees	Basketball Team	\$ 10.00				

· Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) must balance between providing high-quality education and operating within the constraints of both our budget and the fiscal realities of EIPS families. We feel the proposed increases assist us in accounting for inflation, while still allowing for families to submit applications to our fee waiver program, if needed.

6). Registration · As mentioned at the last School Council meeting, FSE is the alternative designated school for students in the James Mowat Elementary School boundary. · This means that our timelines are slightly different than most EIPS schools in terms of registration. Specifically, after March 15, FSE will choose the kindergarten calendar/s we will offer and conduct a random draw if needed for registrations received to date. Once this is complete, we will contact all kindergarten registrants and advise which calendar the student will follow and pass along any information we have regarding the Kindergarten Information Night. This communication will occur to FSE families on March 21 and 22.

7). 2022-23 Elk Island Public Schools Annual Parent/Caregiver Survey · The Division has also launched its 2023 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey: For parents and caregivers. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/W8YDBDF>

8). Other · Our basketball season has come to an end with our teams proudly representing FSE at basketball tournaments for our grade 4, 5, and 6 students. Congratulations go out to our boy's team who placed second at the Rudolph Hennig tournament this past weekend! · The Fort Saskatchewan Multi-School and Community Playground Fundraising Committee to help raise funds for our replacement of the wooden play structure on our division 2 playground as been assembled. Veronica Barton has volunteered for the FSE playground committee. We would still very much like to have one additional FSE representative on this committee as many hands make light work. It is anticipated that the wooden play structure will be

removed this Spring break. · Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA) workshops are offered to school councils online, scheduled weekly throughout the year. A variety of foundation-level and enhancement-level workshops are available for school councils, groups of school councils and fundraising associations. The \$500 Alberta School Council Engagement Grant each school council received this year can be used for these workshops to increase capacity for school council members. At present our School Council has not applied. Workshops 2023 | Request a workshop. · In response to the impact the pandemic has had, we recently had the EIPS Mental Health nurse, Mardi Hardt, out to all our classes to speak with students and staff about our upstairs brain and our downstairs brain and how it relates to regulation. Mardi taught strategies including 7 – 11 breathing and horse lips. 7-11 breathing is when you breath in through your nose for 7 seconds and out through your mouth for 11 seconds. Horse lips refers to breathing in through your nose for 3 seconds, hold your breath for 4 seconds, and then breathing out through your mouth, allowing your lips to wiggle like a horse. Our school counsellor, Sarah Pieterse, is continuing this good work by providing classes two new strategies each week, including a visual for each class to post in the classroom as a reference, with the intention of providing common language and giving students a variety of regulating strategies in their toolboxes. Each class is committed to practicing these multiple times throughout each day. 9). Looking forward to March ~ April 2023: * March 13 to 17 ~ Substitute Appreciation Week! & Week of Inspirational Math! * March 17 ~ Report Cards published at 3 p.m.; Hot Lunch * March 22 ~ Crazy Hair Day! (Changed from March 23 because our grade 5 and 6 students are participating in Candle Day.) * March 24 to April 2 ~ Spring Break! * April 3 ~ Classes resume; Wear blue for Autism Awareness Day (April 2) * April 5 ~ Early dismissal; Green Day! * April 7 ~ Good Friday – No School * April 10 ~ Easter Monday – No School * April 21 ~ Hot Lunch o April 23 & 24 ~ Parent Society Casino * April 28 ~ Wear your favorite colour day!

- b. School Trustee Report – FSE Trustee Report – FSE Trustee Report – March 9, 2023 Ralph Sorochan 1) APPRECIATION – Thank you for coming out, this evening! 2) EIPS ANNOUNCES NEW SUPERINTENDENT - Elk Island Public Schools Board of Trustees is pleased to announce the appointment of Sandra Stoddard as the Division's new Superintendent and Chief Executive Officer effective July 1, 2023. Stoddard boasts an impressive career in education that spans nearly 35 years. She's the current Associate Superintendent of Supports for Students at EIPS, a position she's held since 2017. Before joining the Division, she worked in various educational roles, including teaching, consulting, and leadership positions, at Edmonton Public Schools, the International Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, and Alberta Children and Youth Services. 3) ALBERTA EDUCATION ASSURANCE SURVEY: DEADLINE EXTENDED - Alberta Education has extended the deadline of its annual Alberta Education Assurance Survey <https://www.alberta.ca/alberta-education-assurance-survey.aspx> to March 17. The AEA Survey has parents/guardians and students in grades 4, 7 and 10, complete the survey. The teacher survey is administered to all certificated staff in a school. 4) EIPS ANNUAL FEEDBACK SURVEYS - The Division wants to hear from you! All

EIPS families, staff and grades 9 and 12 students will be invited to share their thoughts by completing the 2023 EIPS Annual Feedback Survey, open from March 1-23. The survey gauges the Division's progress toward meeting the priorities, goals and outcomes outlined in the Division's EIPS Four-Year Education Plan and helps guide future decision-making. <https://www.eips.ca/trustees/four-year-education-plan>

5) 2023 ASCA SCHOOL COUNCIL CONFERENCE AND AGM: REGISTRATION SPONSORSHIP – The Board approved sponsoring the registration fee for school council members to take part in the 2023 Alberta School Council's Association (ASCA) School Council Conference and Annual General Meeting on April 21-23, for one member per school council up to a maximum of \$5000. To qualify, members must be part of a school council with an active ASCA membership and apply before the registration deadline, April 6. 6) REMINDER: KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION - for the 2023-24 school year opened February 1. To register for kindergarten in the 2023-24 school year, your child must be five years old on or before Dec. 31, 2023. Find kindergarten and registration details on the EIPS website [HERE](https://www.eips.ca/programs-services/early-learning/kindergarten).

7) FORT SASKATCHEWAN SYSTEM PROGRAMMING – Work is currently being done to ensure system programming in Fort Saskatchewan is meeting the current needs of our student population. Senior administration, in conjunction with Fort Saskatchewan administrators, have been in discussions to determine what is needed for the fall. 8) MEETING WITH MLA JACKIE ARMSTRONG-HOMENIUK - On February 10, Chair Boymook and trustees Jacqueline Shotbolt and Ralph Sorochan met with Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk, the member of the legislative assembly of Alberta for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville. Topics discussed: EIPS' Fort Saskatchewan infrastructure needs and the rising student socio-economic challenges in the city. 9) CAPITAL PLAN – EIPS has recently received word that construction funding has been granted for the construction of the Sherwood Heights/Campbelltown replacement school. This is great news for our division. It will also provide the opportunity for Fort Saskatchewan infrastructure needs to be moved up on the EIPS Capital Plan priority list. Recommendations for the Capital Plan will be made by senior administration for the Board's consideration, at an upcoming public Board meeting. 10) COLLEGIATE SCHOOL STATUS INITIAL PROOF OF CONCEPT APPLICATION TO ALBERTA EDUCATION – EIPS has proposed a collegiate education model for the junior high/senior high replacement school that would include partnerships with Alberta Education, Alberta Continuing Education and local industry organizations, with whom we already have strong working relationships. The concept: providing leading-edge space and programming to better assist students prepare for careers, employment, apprenticeships, and post-secondary education. The proximity to Alberta's Industrial Heartland, and the collaborative partnerships we have already established with groups like Agrium Inc., Dow Chemical, Shell Scotford, and Sherritt International, would help propel students towards careers that would continue benefiting the community and meet the needs of industries that drive the provincial economy. 11) MEETINGS WITH MUNICIPAL LEADERS - Letters were sent to the municipal councils in Bruderheim, Lamont and Fort Saskatchewan to request a meeting. On the agenda: EIPS' Annual Education Results Review, the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, school growth and local topics of concern. A meeting with

the Town of Bruderheim was held in January 2023. Additional meetings are scheduled with the Town of Lamont in March, and with the City of Fort Saskatchewan in April.

12) NEW ELEMENTARY CURRICULUM STILL A FOCUS AREA FOR THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES – Last year, the Board worked hard advocating for the province to back away from launching the new elementary curriculum all at once, in all grades. The Board felt divisions needed more time to build capacity. That effort paid off. Instead of full implementation, elementary schools rolled out the new curriculum in just three subjects, kindergarten to Grade 3, this fall. Next year, schools will roll out the new mathematics and English language arts and literature curriculum in grades 4 to 6. So, now, the Board is working with the Alberta School Boards Association to access provincial data related to the roll-out this year. The hope is to use that information to build further capacity, develop more resources and ensure a smooth transition for students. In addition, the Board of Trustees has sent a letter of advocacy to Education Minister LaGrange making the following recommendations:

- A gradual roll-out of mathematics and English language arts and literature for the remaining elementary grades, with Grade 4 beginning in 2023-24, Grade 5 in 2024-25 and Grade 6 in 2025-26. By taking a phased approach, students currently in kindergarten through Grade 3 will be able to build on understanding and skills attained this school year and move through Division I with greater success.
- Revisit content and developmental suitability of subject matter already introduced, particularly in mathematics. By aligning units with age-appropriate content and capabilities, we are confident students will experience better comprehension of concepts and greater overall academic success as they transition through each grade.
- Rather than administering Provincial Achievement Tests in their usual form, we strongly suggest they be conducted as field testing only and the elementary results be used to evaluate the developmental appropriateness of the curriculum. We have serious concerns with the learning gaps. For example, Grade 6 students in 2023-24 will be expected to multiply and divide fractions; however, they will not yet have been exposed to the new Grade 5 curriculum where they learn to add and subtract fractions. Students will be missing key concepts, have no prior knowledge, and there are still a lack of resources and training for teachers to execute these concepts for their students. The results from field testing the Provincial Achievement Tests should be used to determine further revisions required to learning outcomes.

13) THREE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY: FRENCH IMMERSION - On February 7, the Board attended the second in-person public engagement session about EIPS' French Immersion program. The Board is exploring ways to enhance French Immersion programming, address anticipated enrolment pressures and increase program retention. Trustees will use the input gathered to help inform the next engagement session and future decision-making.

14) MINISTER'S YOUTH COUNCIL <https://www.alberta.ca/student-engagement.aspx> 2023-24 - Applications for the 2023-24 Minister's Youth Council are open now. Approximately 40 junior and senior high school students between the ages of 14 and 19 with diverse interests, identities, backgrounds, and perspectives from across Alberta will be selected for the council. The deadline to apply is March 24. <https://education.alberta.ca/myc/online-application-form?searchMode=3>

15) CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES: March - Alberta Health Services hosts a series

of virtual caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers, and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. Session topics include anxiety, depression and technology, while teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency and more.

Learn more:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/14xjy8baCITB1ykFM6dATGGJ7I32WKNX/view>

- c. COSC (Committee of School Councils Report) – Lauren & Stephanie would like to attend. They will look into if two individuals are permitted to attend.

- 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 –
 - Stephanie messaged Caitlyn to see if she was able to look into \$500 School Engagement grant, likely to be used towards Mental Health
 - Shelby is still looking for parents to join the playground committee, as we only have one individual there (Veronica Barton) to represent our school

- 6. New Business – None

- 7. Next Meeting: Thursday April 13 at 5:30

- 8. Meeting Adjourned at 6:04 pm