

AEL School Council Meeting Minutes:

November 14, 2023

6:30 – 7:30 pm

Ardrossan Elementary School

53131 Range Road 222, Ardrossan, AB

Attendees: Chelsea Pretzlaw, Jami McLaren, Tina Zerebeski, Holly Lefebvre, Layla Pretzlaff, Carla Kokotailo, Tanya Doran, Kari Ludwig

1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:35 by Chelsea.

2. Review Agenda

Jami motions to add ski trip discussion. Layla motions to add topic in Christmas Concert discussion.

Tanya motions to accept the Agenda for November parent Council meeting. Tina seconds that motion. All in favour, no one opposed. Motion carried.

3. Approve Meeting Minutes

Tanya motions to accept the minutes as written for the October School Council meeting. Tina seconds that motion. All in favour, no one opposed. Motion carried.

4. Information Reports

A. AEPSA Report- Vania Lloyd

B. CPF Report - Chelsea Pretzlaw

New board members required. Meeting is next Monday. Will add advertisements in Bison Tails.

C. COSC Report - Chelsea Pretzlaw

Board is focusing on advocacy plan for new programs: 1. Funding for CTF and CTS programs 2. AHS resources for rural schools (Occupational Therapists, Psychologists etc.)

Nov 18 ASCA virtual engagement session regarding parent engagement in school councils and school communities

D. Playground Report - New playground is open and very popular

E. Principles Report Carla Kokotailo & Dan Verhoeff

Curriculum News and Information (Carla)

o We have been busy implementing new curriculum again this year. This year the new curriculum

that is being implemented is:

Science (K–3)

English Language Arts and Literature (Grade 4–6)

Mathematics (Grade 4–6)

French Immersion Language Arts and Literature (K–3)

o The biggest challenge with the new curriculum to this point has been the “Gaps” that have been encountered while implementing the math curriculum, as the curriculum has changed significantly, kids in grades 4-6 are now learning some outcomes that were formerly in the Jr. High curriculum.

While Grades K-3 are learning some material that was previously in the 4-6 curriculum.

o What students/parents/teachers will notice is that some of the material is can be challenging for kids, without being taught the previous year’s content. Especially for our students in grades 4, 5, and 6 who have missed that chunk of material

o Teachers are busy attending professional learning around the new curriculum (K-3 teachers attending Science PL; 4-6 teachers attending Math/ELAL PL)

o Grades 4-6 will implement the new science curriculum next year.

PAT Results Summary (Spring 2023)

o ELA

Excellence 21.1% (EIPS 27.7%, Prov 18.4%)

Acceptable 91.6% (EIPS 91.3%, Prov 76.2%)

o FLA

Excellence 11.8% (EIPS 16.4%, Prov 12.5%)

Acceptable 67.6% (EIPS 86.7%, Prov 77.6%)

o Math

Excellence 29.5% (EIPS 26.5%, Prov 15.9%)

Acceptable 84.2% (EIPS 84.4%, Prov 65.4%)

o Science

Excellence 34.7% (EIPS 34.9%, Prov 21.8%)

Acceptable 81.8% (EIPS 83.8%, Prov 66.7%)

o Social

Excellence 15.8% (EIPS 28.6%, Prov 18.0%)

Acceptable 70.5% (EIPS 79.5%, Prov 66.2%)

*The specific aggregate data will now be shared with the grade 6 team for them to review and share general learnings/trends with remaining grade levels.

Christmas Concert Information

o Our stage has been ordered and is set to arrive early December. (Admin and a staff member were in over the fall break reorganizing the gym storage room to be able to accommodate the staging)

o Our Christmas Concerts will be held on the following dates:

*All dates are on the school website as well as in the weekly “Bison Tales”

December 12, 6:00pm Grade 1-2

December 12, 7:00pm Grade 3-4

December 13, 6:00pm Kindergarten

December 13, 7:00pm Grade 5-6 Concert

o More information will be sent out to families as we finalize the details at the school.

Yearbook News and Feedback

Digital edge will do a memory book for about \$6 per child

Would you like us to continue with the Yearbook that Lisa puts together knowing that it is a significant amount of work and more than twice the cost of memory book

Modular Units have been requested for the school this Spring.

- o At this point it seems unlikely that we will be approved, however, it is good to get in the “cue” in order to improve our chances in following years.
- o Map included below with specifics about where they are planning on adding the units should they be approved.

F. Trustee Report - Susan Miller

As of September 2023, EIPS has a staff of 1540, oversees 42 schools and has 17,760 students registered – an increase of 300 students from fall 2022. Instructional costs were \$9,659 per student for the 22-23 school year.

EIPS FOUR-YEAR EDUCATION PLAN: 2022-26 details the Division’s priorities, goals and outcomes over a four-year period. The Division’s three key priorities:

- Priority 1: To promote the growth and success of all students.
- Priority 2: To enhance high-quality learning and working environments.
- Priority 3: To enhance public education through effective engagement.

We have identified the performance measures and strategies the Division will use to meet each priority, goal and outcome in the 2023-24 school year. Every year, EIPS publishes an Annual Educational Results Report, which outlines the Division’s Four-Year Education Plan, opportunities for growth and how it’s supporting students to achieve the best possible outcomes. This document was developed to meet the requirements of Alberta Education’s Assurance Framework. The AERR is released each fall and reports on results from the previous school year. The Division uses the report to guide its work and ensure we are providing a wide range of supports that enhance learning while making a difference in the lives of students. In the next couple weeks, Trustees will be going to schools in the Division to hear about some of the challenges that they are facing and what strategies will be implemented to overcome those challenges. We will also hear and celebrate the great and exciting work that is happening in our schools.

On October 17, trustees visited École Parc Élémentaire, Fort Saskatchewan Christian, Fort Saskatchewan Elementary, Fort Saskatchewan High and Next Step Fort Saskatchewan as part of its 2023-24 Trustees’ School Tours. We enjoyed learning and hearing about each school and the programs offered.

The French Immersion decision was delayed at the October 19 Board Meeting. According to Superintendent Stoddard, some new information has come to light that Central Services is considering. Depending on the findings of Central Services, the options will be resubmitted in the new year with the possibility of another option. On November 3rd, in person and virtual Remembrance Day Ceremonies were hosted by staff and students throughout Elk Island Public Schools. The events were a reminder that the freedoms we enjoy came with a huge cost.

November 19-21, Trustees will be attending the Alberta School Board Association Fall General Meeting, being held in Edmonton, along with 61 other School Boards in Alberta.

Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week is an annual event celebrated in schools province wide to boost awareness among students, staff and families, and how to prevent incidents of it in schools. From November 13-17, throughout Elk Island public Schools there are a variety of activities to promote kindness and healthy relationships as we strive to foster an environment that is welcoming, caring and respectful.

Alberta Health Services is offering FREE online programming to parents of school-age children, youth and adults. These sessions are offered online through the zoom conferencing application. Anyone who wants to learn more about addiction and mental health topics go to www.cyfcaregivereducation.ca

5. Assurance Review - November 27 in Vegerville

6. Christmas Concert

Cutting down rehearsals to one dress rehearsal per grade.

Tickets will be 3 per student as in years past

Stage will be shipped Nov 21 and should arrive within 1-2 days looking for volunteers to offload the shipment

Concession timing to be discussed in AEPSA

7. Next Meeting January 9, 2024 at 6:30pm.

8. Adjournment

Chelsea motions to adjourn at 7:27. Meeting Adjourned.