



NOT APPROVED  
**F.R. Haythorne Junior High School Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday May 24, 2023**

<b>Attendance:</b>		
Colleen Miller-Helwig	Cecile Palm	Guy Martin
Jessica Smith	Shelley Brewer Semple	Sivanthy Suntharalingam
Mark Wever	Rejeita Kumar	
Cathy Allen		

Regrets: Brendt Sonnenberg, Charmyn Thompson, Melanie Jimmy

- 1) Call to Order/Introductions - 5:30pm
- 2) Approve Minutes from last meeting
  - a. Approve – Rejeita Kumar
  - b. Second – Cecile Palm
- 3) Approve Agenda- additions/deletions
  - a. Approve – Rejeita Kumar
  - b. Second – Cecile Palm
- 4) Chair – Nomination Rejeita Kumar
  - a. Sivanthy Suntharalingam
  - b. Cecile Palm
  - c. Voted in
- 5) Vice Chair – Nomination Sivanthy Suntharalingam
  - a. Cecile
  - b. Rejeita
  - c. Voted in
- 6) Secretary – Charmyn Thompson will stay as secretary
- 7) Trustee Report- Cathy Allen

## Trustee Report – F.R. Haythorne School Council Meeting

May 24, 2023

### ASBA EDWIN PARR AWARD: 2023

The Board approved administration’s nomination for this year’s EIPS Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee, Rae-Lynn Billingsley. Annually, the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) hosts the award to honour and recognize first-year teachers and their pedagogical excellence. Rae-Lynn, a first-year teacher at A.L. Horton Elementary, was selected for her outstanding commitment to education, dedication to capacity building and innate ability to encourage a love of learning in students.

### THREE-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN: 2024-27

The Board approved EIPS’ [2024-27 Three-Year Capital Plan](#). Annually, the Board reviews and updates the plan to prioritize its key capital projects.

*Priority 1:* A replacement school for Rudolph Hennig Junior High and Fort Saskatchewan High (grades 7-12).

*Priority 2:* A replacement school for James Mowat Elementary (grades K-6).

*Priority 3:* A modernization and expansion of Vegreville Composite High to accommodate K-12 programming.

Now approved, the Division will submit the *Three-Year Capital Plan* to the province for funding consideration.

### LOGOS CHRISTIAN PROGRAM

The Board approved the recommendation to amalgamate EIPS’ elementary Logos Christian program at Brentwood Elementary, effective in the 2023-24 school year. Amalgamating the elementary allows for a more viable program, with sustainable student numbers and available student capacity, to hopefully, once again, grow the program in future years.

### ADJUSTED ATTENDANCE BOUNDARY: CAMBRIAN CROSSING

The Board approved the adjusted regular program attendance boundary for the Cambrian Crossing area structure plan, made up of two new neighbourhoods in Strathcona County—Cambrian and Hearthstone. The table below details the adjusted attendance boundaries for regular programming, effective immediately:

NEIGHBOUR HOOD	ELEMENTARY	JUNIOR HIGH	SENIOR HIGH
CAMBRIAN	Westboro Elementary	Clover Bar Junior High	Salisbury Composite High
HEARTHSTONE	Glen Allan Elementary	F.R. Haythorne Junior High	Bev Facey Community High

### PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT – EIPS FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM

On April 13, 2023 a proposed solution was presented to stakeholders at the third public engagement session:

Maintain French Immersion programs at Ardrossan Elementary, Ecole Parc, Ecole Campbelltown (moving to replacement school in 2025-2026) and Heritage Hills

Move all junior high French Immersion students to Bev Facey Community High School

Move all senior high French Immersion students to Bev Facey Community High School

The Board is exploring ways to enhance French Immersion programming by increasing secondary-level retention, addressing anticipated enrolment pressures in Ardrossan and balancing enrolment at the elementary level. Trustees will review all the written feedback and survey data before making decisions. At the June Board meeting, EIPS plans to present a report detailing the French Immersion engagement efforts to date. Changes will not occur until 2024-2025 or 2025-2026.

## **SCHOOL CLOSURE - ANDREW SCHOOL**

At a special board meeting on Thursday May 4, 2023, the EIPS Board of Trustees voted to close Andrew School, effective June 30, 2023. The school continues to experience declining enrollment (40 students) and the building requires \$3.5 million in repairs and maintenance – fire suppression system and replacement of the roof.

## **2023-24 KEY BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS**

The Board approved the key budget assumptions for the 2023-24 school year (see pg. 62, “[2023-24 Key Budget Assumptions](#)”). The assumptions are based on the Board’s mission and belief statements, the Division’s [Four-Year Education Plan](#), Alberta’s Budget 2023 and the provincial *Funding Manual for School Authorities 2023-24 School Year*. EIPS will use the approved assumptions to develop its 2023-24 spring budget, which helps schools and departments plan for the upcoming school year. As with all assumptions, changes such as funding, reserve usage, enrolment numbers and standard costs can significantly affect the budget.

### **ASSUMPTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2023-24**

**General operations** – Focus areas include student learning, student and staff well-being, career pathways, the new curriculum, junior high intervention supports, program equity and Division infrastructure.

**Enrolment** – The Division expects student enrolment to increase by 23 students by fall 2023—to 17,483 students from 17,460 students in fall 2022.

**Funding Grants** – Alberta Education is introducing two new grants—the Teacher Settlement Grant and Class Complexity Grant. It will also continue offering the Student Well-Being Grant and Curriculum Implementation Grant. However, these amounts are still unknown and now require an application process. As well, the province made revisions to the Transportation Grant and System and Administration Grant.

**Other Revenue** – EIPS expects provincial funding to cover its lease agreements for Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary and Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary; the Mental Health Capacity Building Grant; and the Division’s Official Languages in Education Program. The Division will also generate revenue through school-generated funds and school fees. Unlike previous years, the spring budget won’t include funding for the Odyssey Language Program, as it’s unknown if the federal government will continue to support it, and the amount.

**Compensation** – EIPS anticipates the overall certificated standard costs to increase by 2.9% and standard classified costs to increase by 2.3% and 8.5%. The increases are the result of the new collective bargaining agreement and a hike in the employee benefits rate.

**Inflation** – EIPS anticipates non-salary inflationary increases—based on the overall consumer price index. These include higher costs for furnishings, equipment, careers and technology studies supplies, electricity, natural gas and custodial services.

**Carbon Tax** – EIPS anticipates increases in carbon tax costs based on the *2030 Emissions Reduction Plan*, a federal document outlining Canada’s plan to meet its 2030 emissions reduction target. Currently, EIPS pays a \$65 per tonne carbon tax. Annually, that will increase until it reaches the targeted \$170 per tonne, in 2030. As a result, it will continue to impact the Division’s budget, and in term, remove funds from the classroom.

**Reserves** – Alberta Education confirmed EIPS’ operating reserve limit for Aug. 31, 2024—3.2%, or \$6.56 million. The Division must ensure its operating reserves are within 3.2% of its operating expenses. Any reserve money more than that amount must be returned to Alberta Education in December 2025. Administration will ensure operating reserves are below that number.

**Expenses** – The Division anticipates overall capital items purchases to total approximately \$300,000 in 2023-24. Administration also developed a five-year capital projection that lists anticipated capital needs requiring funds into the Capital Reserve over time. The list ensures enough funds in future years.

## **BUDGET ALLOCATIONS AND RESERVES USE: 2023-24**

The Board approved the budget allocations and reserve use for the 2023-24 school year (see pg. 3, “[2023-24 Budget Allocations Including the Use of Reserves](#)”). Overall, EIPS will receive a 4.8%, or \$8.82 million, increase in funding from Alberta Education—\$6.6 million for specifically targeted grants and \$2.2 million for non-targeted grants. Despite the increase, it’s still a tight budget given rising inflation for utilities and employee benefits costs, rules for targeted grants and restrictions on accessing reserves. As such, the Division will develop a conservative spring budget that supports the mission, belief statements and priorities of EIPS.

### **FUNDING CHANGES HIGHLIGHTS: 2023-24**

Changes in funding include:

- a 6% base-funding increase—to offset the decrease in bridge funding.
- a 10% increase to supports and services grants—for specialized learning support; Program Unit Funding; English as an additional language; refugee students; and First Nations, Métis and Inuit education—to offset the decrease in bridge funding.
- a 20% increase to the School Nutrition Grant.
- a 5% increase to the Operations and Maintenance Grant.
- a new Classroom Complexity Grant.
- a new funding model for student transportation that expands rider eligibility and helps absorb rising inflationary costs; and
- the elimination of bridge funding.

### **SCHOOLS AND DEPARTMENTS: 2023-24**

Allocations for schools will increase, by 1.6%, because of higher standard costs. Although, the exact allocations for each school will vary based on enrolment number changes, the weighted-moving-average

funding formula and standard cost adjustments. And, for small rural schools, allocations will align with the funding levels detailed in the province's *Funding Manual for School Authorities 2023-24 School Year*.

Similarly, allocations for central departments will also increase, by 2.3%. However, after factoring out the targeted student transportation funding, department allocations will end up decreasing, by 1.1%. The drop is primarily because of one-time spending projects planned in 2022-23—which were funded by reserves.

### **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEES: 2023-24**

The Board approved Student Transportation fee schedule for the 2023-24 school year. Student Transportation offers an enhanced transportation fee structure. As such, all riders pay a fee for transportation services. It's an equitable structure for riders and allows EIPS to maintain its current level of service. Thanks to a new provincial funding model for student transportation, fees will decrease in 2023-24. Changes made to the funding model include expanding rider distance eligibility, including for riders attending a school or program of choice, and added funding to cover higher fuel and inflationary costs. Student Transportation will also continue to offer a payment-plan option—available to families with fees of \$300 and more—paid over seven months. The approved 2023-24 student fee schedule is available online at [Student Transportation Fees 2023-24](#).

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

Cathy Allen

780-417-8109

[cathy.allen@eips.ca](mailto:cathy.allen@eips.ca)

### 8) Administration Report- Jessica Smith

#### Budget

- Down to 620 students (currently 642)
- Budget is balanced and some staffing changes
- RESET/ Hawk Room will be funded for a Fulltime teacher for one more year

#### Staffing Changes

- Tina Lewis – returning from leave
- Diane Webb- going to Ardrossan Jr. Sr High School
- Siobhan Stewart staying as the GOALS teacher
- Michael Arsenaault staying as the SEAS teacher
- Heather Derksen- going to Lamont Elementary as counsellor
- Leaving us are Mackenzie Moscrip, Mackenzie Patterson, Ania Korzeniewski and Adam Comartin

#### PAT/ Exams

- See the Hawk's View for upcoming exams/schedule
- All exams are written at the same time on the same day
- Students have regular classes until June 22

### Mark Wever- Assistant Principal Report

Cohort request sent to 6/7/8

- Google forms were sent out asking students/parents for 3 suggestions to support their learning
- Administration still has the ability to override requests based on the needs of ALL students

Track and Field

- Huge success
- Overall EIAA winners

Timetable

- In the works currently, difficult to complete until staffing is done

Options- handbook and new

- This has been sent out and shared with families as well as posted on the website
- Options are chosen based on student requests

### Brent Sonnenberg – Assistant Principal Report

Jr High Dance April 28

- Around 180 (ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY!) students attended.
- DJ was mediocre.
- Students had a great time and were very well behaved!

Farewell June 9

- 5:00 – 7:00, parents were sent a GoogleForm to let the school know how many attendees.
- Theme: Sky is the Limit
- Photo backdrops for pictures.
- Light snacks provided for Grade 9s.
- Student of the Year and Heart of Gold awards will be handed out.

Quebec Trip

- Students represented FRH extremely well!
- Thursday – Sunday. Red-eye flight on the way there 😞

- Great weather, great tour guides, very busy, great experience for both students and chaperones.

#### Athletic Awards

- Wednesday, June 7 5:00 – 6:30
- All athletes encouraged to attend.
- Everyone welcome to attend.
- Email will be sent to families next week with more details.
- Team awards and major awards

#### 9) COSC Review-

#### **KEY AGENDA TOPICS**

- ASCA update
- Caregiver Education Series
- School Council Annual Reports: Due June 27
- School Council Engagement Grant Summary
- Draft Spring Budget 2023-24: Highlights
- EIPS Three-Year Engagement Plan update
- Strathcona Foodbank: Boxes Needed

#### **ASCA UPDATE**

The [Alberta School Councils' Association](#) (ASCA) is the provincial organization for families on school council. Below may be of interest to COSC members:

- The [ASCA Resolutions Results](#) are available.
- The [Board Election Results](#) are also available.
- ASCA is offering [School Council Self Directed Learning Modules](#). The modules are self-paced and provide school councils a professional development opportunity that incorporates tasks and deadlines determined by your school council. Councils can choose from one of three methods of learning.

#### **CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES: May and June**

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](#)

#### **SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORTS: Due June 27**

School Council Annual Reports are due June 27. In accordance with Alberta Education, councils must [complete and provide an annual report to their school board](#) summarizing their activities and detailing the receipt, handling and use of any money in the previous school year. ASCA has created a [sample report template](#) for school councils to use; however, COSC Chair Williams stated councils can create their own reports as long as they meet Alberta Education requirements.

#### **SCHOOL COUNCIL ENGAGEMENT GRANT SUMMARY**

Alberta Education provides school councils with a \$500 School Council Engagement Grant for the school year. Those school councils interested in accessing funding must meet specific [grant criteria](#), which essentially means opportunities that help build capacity and strengthen engagement. School councils can refer to the [May COSC meeting package](#) for how much grant money they have—several councils have \$1,000 they can spend this year. The grant money won't be carried over next year, so COSC Chair Williams encourages school councils to use their funds this year for something meaningful to their council.

Once a school council decides what it'd like to do with its grant, it can fill out and submit the online [School Council Engagement Grant Request Form](#). As every school council needs grant approval from the COSC Chair, send an email to [Emma Small](#) once you fill out the form so she can get this process started for you. Once approved, your council can go ahead with its plan for the grant. EIPS will then complete the activity payment on behalf of your school council—simply submit the invoice or receipt to [finance.submissions@eips.ca](mailto:finance.submissions@eips.ca) and cc [Emma Small](#). **Grant approvals remain unchanged from the April COSC follow-up email.** If you're wondering if you have approval, contact [Emma Small](#).

COSC Chair Williams also spoke about the David Irvine presentation, which 12 school councils pooled their funds toward. The content of the presentation was informative and valuable for all those that attended.

### **DRAFT SPRING BUDGET 2023-24: Highlights**

EIPS Superintendent Mark Liguori discussed the draft spring Budget 2023-24. He highlighted revenue, reserves and allocations. He also detailed various grants and explained the effects of inflation on the budget in terms of utilities costs, Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan cost increases and the cost of operations. Though revenue has increased, the rise is not as substantial when considering the amount used for targeted funding and the remaining amount impacted by inflation, growth and other pressures. For more information, see the [May COSC meeting package](#).

### **EIPS THREE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

EIPS Superintendent Liguori also provided an update on the progress of the Three-Year Engagement Plan. There are four projects included in the plan:

- 7) [Three-Year Strathcona County Engagement](#)
- 8) [Enrolment Pressure Engagement](#)
- 9) [LOGOS Program Review](#)
- 10) [Vegreville Value Scoping Session](#)

### **STRATHCONA FOODBANK: Boxes Needed**

Can you help? COSC Chair Williams stated the Strathcona Foodbank needs empty paper boxes with lids. If you have any to donate, contact the [Strathcona Foodbank](#). They're able to pick up boxes if there's a large amount.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES**

May 19	School Closure Day (schools closed to staff and students)
May 22	Victoria Day (schools and Central Services closed)
June 7	Early Dismissal
June 8	Gathering of First Nations, Métis and Inuit Families



June 21 National Indigenous Peoples Day

June 27 Last Day of Classes

*You can also join [COSC on Facebook](#) to share information and ask questions with other school councils.*

Additional information from the May 3, 2023 meeting is available at [www.eips.ca](http://www.eips.ca). The next meeting takes place on Oct. 4, 2023. We look forward to seeing you there.

10) Staff Appreciation – Cecile

- Will be June 7<sup>th</sup> at staff meeting
- Gift Card Drive- email sent out to families
- Gift bags where you don't know what is in it. Couple of other surprises in there.

11) Questions for Administration

- None at this time

12) Motion to close – 6:22

Motion- Rejeita Kumar

Second – Cecile Palm