

**Westboro School Council
Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2019**

Welcome and Introductions:

Called to order 6:31 pm (Kim Scott).

Present:

Karry Biri, Matthew Bissett, Amy Churchill, Bernie Hansen, Crystal Herbert, Don Irwin, Debbie Klita, Mike Lastiwka, Theresa Mackenzie, Kim Scott, Chantel Werner

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda was amended to present the Trustee Report before New Business and for Debbie Klita to present the COSC Report. Amy Churchill moves to accept the agenda, Karry Biri 2nd. All in favour: “Yes”.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Regular Meeting:

Theresa Mackenzie moves to accept the minutes from September 18, 2019, Crystal Herbert 2nd. All in favour: “Yes”.

School Reports:

C.) Trustee Report

Don Irwin shared the following report.

September 30 Enrollment

There are now 17,400 students enrolled in EIPS. This is up from 17,150 last year. We are the 6th largest district in Alberta with 43 schools.

Committee of School Councils

On Wednesday, October 2nd, we had the first COSC meeting of the year. Parents from school councils are welcome to attend this meeting which provides information and resources to school councils and parents. The meeting is held the first Wednesday of the month at the district office (Wye Road and Clover Bar Road) at 7pm. The link is www.eips.ca/parents/committee-of-school-councils-cosc.

Provincial Achievement Testing Results

Students from EIPS have again performed very well – above provincial averages in almost all categories. Please see the Oct. 7, 2019, news release on page 5 for further details.

Full Review of Each Schools Results

Each November, schools report their previous years results including school plans, PAT results and much detailed school information. Trustees and administration spend many days compiling and reviewing the information and then schedule a half day when four schools present their results and learn from each other. All parents from each school council are

invited to attend. The Westboro Elementary School presentation is scheduled for Monday, November 25 at Ecole Campbelltown. The session runs from 9-1130am.

It was asked if parents will be able to provide input into the 2020-2021 EIPS school calendar. Don will check into the process and report back at a future meeting.

New Business:

A.) Logos Report

Theresa Mackenzie presented the following report.

westbororep@elkislandlogos.ca

October Chapel: October 16, 1 pm (Grades 1 and 2 leading). Students are encouraged to bring in food bank items for Chapel.

Field Trip: October 31 (pm)

K-3 All Stars Playland (An invite will be sent home with Kinders as it is not a kindergarten day. No bussing or staff provided for them but parents are welcome to bring and supervise.)

4-6 Emerald Hills Pool

Apple Fundraiser

A total of 285 boxes were sold, 127 of those being sold by Westboro! Thank you to all who ordered and helped with this!

Prayer Box

The prayer box located at the office is a great way to share prayer requests and have the support of the Logos community praying for you, your child, your family, etc.

School Logos Funds/Budget

At this time expense forms are submitted, working on financials and getting a set budget that Westboro can choose how they spend (last year it was \$1200).

Request for music resource being looked into by resource board member.

Request for bussing for singing in community could fall under this budget allowance.

Any further requests for funding please don't hesitate to ask, open to ideas!

Christian Author - Christie Thomas booked to visit both Brentwood and Westboro schools - booked for Westboro November 22.

Bless the Staff - Open to ideas, if there is a specific need or situation that we can help with please let me know.

Student Affirmation Forms - New form is prepared, will be getting grade 4's and any new Gr 5 & 6's to sign very soon. Let me know if questions.

Theresa shared that monthly chapels are held in the Westboro gym and all Westboro families are welcome. As well, the prayer box is open to anyone at our school.

B.) COSC (Committee of School Councils) Report

Debbie Klita presented the report on behalf of Jacquie Surgenor.

The Mix & Mingle event on October 2nd had an excellent turnout followed by 29 parents attending the first monthly COSC meeting. Jacquie was again chosen as Chair (with students at Westboro Elementary, Sherwood Heights Junior High and Salisbury Composite High), Krista Scott is Vice Chair (with students at Fultonvale Elementary Junior High and Strathcona Christian Academy) and Lesley Bowman is secretary (with students at Pine Street Elementary).

Board Chair Trina Boymook shared information about the Blue Ribbon Panel and specifically about 2 recommendations relating to K-12 education. Alberta School Boards Association has put out further information as one of the recommendations is based on misleading information. Trustees will have further information to share with school councils.

Choice in Education and what that meant to parents was discussed with a lot of great input being shared.

Chair Boymook shared some updates and changes that are in effect now that the Education Act has been passed. Two items of concern were addressed:

- Residency will remain with the parent and not the student in terms of boundaries.
- Age of access, how old students can be to access public education, will remain the same (rather than being raised as was originally proposed).

She also mentioned changes with regulations that have been reported in the media:

- School Fees – Ministerial approval is no longer required for school fees, but the Board is working on a policy relating to how school fees will be handled in EIPS. The Board currently approves the fee schedule and they want to ensure there is a process which provides assurance to the Minister and to parents.
- Transportation Fees – Boards can not charge more than it costs to provide transportation. If costs are greater than the funding they receive, then they can charge the difference only.

More information on COSC and their monthly meetings can be found at:

<https://www.eips.ca/parents/committee-of-school-councils-cosc>.

C.) School Council Engagement Task Force: “Choice in Education”

Kim Scott continued the conversation about the September 2019 request for input regarding “Choice in Education”. If you have any questions about this process or want to provide your input, please contact her at

westboroparents@gmail.com. We will be submitting our feedback as a school council to Alberta School Councils Association by November 2nd.

D.) Open Questions

How were fieldtrip fees issued at Westboro this year? A fieldtrip fee was included in each student's fee statement to be paid in full up front (instead of each time a fieldtrip was scheduled as was done last year).

Would it be possible for our students to go to senior centres as a school activity? This outreach concept is already in the preliminary idea stage, to hopefully start in spring 2020.

What are the criteria for bus fees for program of choice? Students who attend a non-designated school will pay for transportation.

What replaces Remind as the communication tool with parents? Each teacher is using their own process so some still use Remind.

Last month, when Pine Street Elementary School experienced a serious incident in a residential home near the school on an early Monday morning, who decided the school was to remain open? The RCMP worked closely with the principal and deemed the area was safe for the community to move through.

School Reports:

A.) Admin Report

Mike Lastiwka showed a video of activities in our school which is available to be shared with the public.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DEmIH49_hAd3WX3fSUASVDBn0TDfvaCR/view

B.) Teachers Report

There was no teachers report.

Next Meeting Date:

Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 6:30 pm

Adjournment:

Crystal Herbert moves to adjourn at 7:34 pm.

Oct. 7, 2019

EIPS STUDENTS CONTINUE TO SHOW TOP RESULTS ON PATS

Sherwood Park, AB. — Students from Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) are celebrating another year of strong results on the 2018-19 Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs). Alberta Education recently released its provincewide PAT results. Within EIPS, students in Grade 6 and Grade 9 who completed the PATs outperformed the provincial averages in all subjects at the Acceptable Standard category and almost all subjects at the Standard of Excellence category.

“We’re absolutely thrilled with the results released by Alberta Education,” says Trina Boymook, the Board Chair at EIPS. “What’s most impressive is how well students are doing in the areas of literacy and numeracy. Both are life skills and developing competency in these areas serves students well, now and throughout their life.”

Overall, Grade 6 students scored exceptionally well in English language arts, French language arts, mathematics, science and social studies at the Acceptable Standard. For the Standard of Excellence category, students also scored high in the same areas—English language arts, French language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Similarly, Grade 9 students exceeded the provincial averages at the Acceptable Standard category in all categories—English language arts, French language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. And, in the Standard of Excellence category, students scored noticeably high in the areas of English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

“The PAT results are a great resource for us because they help us understand student achievement in the respective programs,” says Boymook. “We continually review these results and use the data to inform the Board, administration, schools and staff about the areas we are doing well in, the areas we need to improve on and decisions relating to resource allocations. The goal, of course, is to use the information to then identify areas we need to focus on to ensure students continue to achieve at high levels.”

The PATs are a snapshot of student achievement in various curricula from the Alberta programs of study in Grade 6 English language arts, French language arts, mathematics, science and social studies and in Grade 9 English language arts, French language arts, mathematics, science, social studies and related Knowledge and Employability courses.

RELATED INFORMATION:

[2018-19 Grade 6 Grade 9 PAT: EIPS and provincial results](#)

[2018-19 Diploma Examinations: News Release](#)

[2018-19 Diploma Examinations: EIPS and provincial results](#)

EIPS is one of Alberta’s largest school divisions, serving approximately 17,150 students in 43 schools. We are proud to be an integral part of our communities, including Sherwood Park, Fort Saskatchewan, Vegreville, Strathcona and Lamont counties, and the western portion of the County of Minburn.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Laura McNabb, Director, Communication Services, EIPS 780-417-8204 cell 780-405-4902

WBO School Council Minutes Oct. 16, 2019