

AL Horton School Council Meeting Minutes  
Monday May 30th, 2022

**Attendees:** K.Busenius, R.Lal, R.Footz, P.Mali,. W.Maskal, G.Weleschuk, J.Weleschuk, H.Dinwoodie, R.Miller, K.Allan, C.Zorniak, R.Yackimec, K.Siemers, E.Siemers, R.Weleschuk, K.Pipke, L.Agnamark, T Montemurro, T.Montemurro

- 1. Call To Order:** 6:31 pm Ken Allan
- 2. Review of the Agenda:** All approved
- 3. Approval of the Minutes as Presented:** R.Miller, L.Agnamark
- 4. Principals Report:** Keri Busenius

Greetings and gratitude to all attending in person

- Staff here tonight: Assistant principal Rita Lal, Grade 6 team Posh Mali & William Maskal.

Updates & Events Past

- Vesna Ukrainian Cultural Event on May 18 - about 320 in attendance, huge success.
- Kindergarten Info Night May 17 - about 40 in attendance (adults and children)
- Lunch with Your Child May 25 - approximately 100+ parents in attendance outdoors
- Field trips to Fort Edmonton and to the Telus World of Science last week. Our school represented well.

Enrolment and Classes for 2022-2023

- Late June draft will come out as an ALH Wayfinder newsletter online and via email to families

- Shared Ukrainian Language Program classroom configurations with families of children in Kindergarten to Grade 5 currently:
  - `One Grade 1 English class will include UB students (4)
  - `One Grade 2 English class will include UB students (10)
  - `These two classes will come together AND the English program students in those classes will gather, both making 1/2 combined classes
  - `Grade 3/4 UB homeroom class
  - `Grade 5/6 UB homeroom class
  - `Kindergarten students will continue with Ukrainian Language and Culture 2-3 periods per week on B Schedule days.
    - English Program classes include:
      - Kindergarten A and B Schedules
      - Grade 1 with Ukrainian students
      - Grade 1 English
      - Grade 2 with Ukrainian students
      - Grade 2
      - Grade 3
      - Grade 4
      - Grade 4/5
      - Grade 5
      - Grade 5/6
      - Grade 6
      - LINKS Grades 1-6
      - PALS ages 3-4 years

At this time we had a lengthy parent question and answer around UB class configurations.

### Staffing Updates

- 2022-2023 teacher and program staffing continues this week
- We advertised 5 teaching positions this spring
- *Farewell to Mrs. Hankirk who will be leaving the school at the end of June*

### Value Scoping

- EIPS Facilities project managers, tradespeople, planners, and an architect toured the school a few weeks ago, noting areas of difficulty and history.
- Email sent home to families

### Celebrations & Upcoming Events

See school newsletter; out of time for sharing after class configuration Q & A re: Ukrainian

Mrs. Mali, our grade six teacher shared that her grade six PATs went very well. Their first field trip was in May and it was a great success and they represented our school well. Their in class public speaking is taking place this week as well. The grade six team is in the works of finalizing grade six grad planning.

Mr. Maskal shared with us that Vesna was a wonderful turn out this year. He shared how our school welcomed two boys from the Ukraine last week. Mr.Maskal speaks Ukrainian to the boys ( one who is in his class) and this has really sparked some further interest in their language. He is happy to see this moving in that direction for their language and culture.

Rita Lal also shared with us that over this last week our teachers and students have been given the opportunity to meet with our metis consultants. They have helped us to understand, engage and embed first nations culture with their support. We encourage you to ask your children about their session with their teachers, classmates and consultants. Grade five also has the opportunity to participate in a blanket ceremony this week.

### **5. Trustee Report: Randy Footz**

The 2022-23 budget was approved at the May 25, 2022, Board Meeting.

Focus will be on increased student-learning opportunities, new curriculum work, a new mental health strategic plan, technology upgrades and public-health best practices.

Budgetary highlights will include or be based on the following:

Alberta Education plans to introduce three new grants: the Student Well-Being Grant, Curriculum Implementation Grant, and Dual Credit and Enhancements for Career and Technology Studies.

For the 2022-23 school year, the Division expects slightly lower student registration numbers than in fall 2021—decreasing to 16,942 students from 17,124 students. This will result in a slight decrease in the money EIPS receives from Alberta Ed based on the per pupil grant.

EIPS anticipates overall employee compensation to remain flat. Benefit expenses will increase.

New in 2022-23, the province defined the Operating Reserve Limit parameters. School boards must keep operating reserves within a certain percentage of the operating expenses. Administration will ensure operating reserves are below 3.15%, or an estimated \$6.07 million to prevent Alberta Ed. from recovering and money in excess of that amount.

For the 2022-23 school year, funding from Alberta Education is relatively the same as the current school year. Although, there are some new funding items, including:

- a 1% increase to base funding for kindergarten and grades 1 to 12;
- a 1% increase to Operations and Maintenance;
- a 4.6% increase for Student Transportation;
- various adjustments between grant categories;
- the introduction of the student well-being grant, curriculum funding and new school grant.

EIPS anticipates significant increases in non-salary inflationary costs based on the overall consumer price index—furnishings, equipment, supplies for Careers and Technology Studies. Schools and departments will cover all added inflationary expenses.

The Division anticipates overall expenses to increase—mostly because of rising fuel, inflation, insurance and Federal Carbon Tax costs. These increases mainly affect Student Transportation budgets, school fees and utility costs.

The Board approved the EIPS Four Year Education Plan: 2022-26 which includes a new Mission Statement, Belief Statements and the overall education plan for the start of the 2022-23 school year. The document will be available online on May 31, 2022.

#### **6. Outstanding Business:**

- a) Ukrainian bilingual program representative- Tabled until next year.

#### **7. New Business**

- a) Mental health survey link. This was sent out last week by ASCA
- b) Meeting format for next year- Hybrid vs. In person. It was discussed that we may do both. Many families have to travel long distances to attend and we want to see as many families attend as possible. The hope is to meet the needs of all families.

**8. Next meeting-** Monday September 19 2022 (one week earlier than usual)

**9. Adjourned-** By Ken Allan at 7:49pm