

AL Horton School Council Meeting Minutes
Monday March 20, 2023

Attendees: R.Lal, K.Busenius, R.Footz, H.Dinwoodie, D.Gara, S.Golka, W. Maskal, M.Larsen, C.Semeniul, K.Allan, C.Geibelhaus, I Masolov, N.Keel, O Newton, M.Dyck

1. **Call to order:** 6:31 pm by Ken Allan

2. **Review of the agenda**

3. **Approval of the minutes, as presented**

a) February 2023: Ken Allan and seconded by Denise Gara

4. **Presentation-** “P is for Privilege”- Overture with the art of OWTA presented by Omari Newton. Omari talked for a length of time on how privilege is so very complicated. Omari went into great detail on the many types of privilege. Below is a list of several of the types he discussed at our presentation.

- ` Generational wealth
- ` Economic class
- ` Male/ female class
- ` Religious privilege
- ` white privilege
- ` Abled bodied privilege

Omari also took the time to have an open discussion about equality versus equity in our society. Omari used visuals, video clips, slam poetry, humor, and stories to define privilege - the unfair disadvantages and unfair blessings, we all have based on who we are. The presentation ended with thoughts around allyship - leveraging one's own privilege to make life easier for those with less privilege.

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

The province has released the final curriculum for K-6 French First Language and Literature, French Immersion Language Arts and Literature and Science which will be implemented in September of the 2023-24 school year.

March 5-7, trustees attended the Alberta Rural Education Symposium, a conference which focuses on rural school boards. Keynote speaker Michael Ungar, a Canada Research Chair and Professor in the Dalhousie University's Social Work at Dalhousie

University spoke about building resilience in schools; and keynote speaker Clark Banack, the Director of the Alberta Centre for Sustainable Rural Communities at University of Alberta's Augustana Campus spoke about what resilience looks like in rural Alberta.

March 16 Board Meeting

The Board approved the administration's nomination for this year's EIPS Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee, Rae-Lynn Billingsley. Annually, the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) sponsors and hosts the award to honor and recognize first-year teachers and their pedagogical excellence. Ms. Billingsley, 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. Last year, the top priority was obtaining construction funding to replace Sherwood Heights Junior High and École Campbelltown, kindergarten to Grade 9. Now granted, the Divisions new top three capital priorities are:

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. The elementary Logos program has experienced a significant drop in enrollment (30%) at Brentwood and at Woodbridge farms over the last decade—making fulsome programming challenging. 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 neighborhoods in Strathcona County—Cambrian and Hearthstone. The table below details the adjusted attendance boundaries for the regular program, effective immediately. Students from Cambrian Crossing will attend Westboro Elementary, Clover Bar Jr. High and Salisbury Composite High School. Students from Hearthstone will attend Glen Allan Elementary, F.R. Haythorne Jr. High and Bev Facey Community High School.

FINANCIAL PROJECTIONS: 2022-23

The Board received for information a report regarding the Division's financial projection for the 2022-23 school year. Overall, there are no areas of concern, deficits or excessive surpluses. EIPS projects its accumulated surplus to drop by \$15.8 million from its audited balance on Aug. 31, 2022.. Other factors include operating reserves decreasing by \$2.9 million, capital reserves falling by \$800,000 and tangible capital assets increasing by \$2.6 million.

UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT: SEPTEMBER 2022 TO FEBRUARY 2023

The Board received for information the EIPS Unaudited Financial Report for the six-month period ending Feb. 28, 2023. Overall, revenues exceed expenses resulting in an operating surplus of \$207,000. Revenue for the six months is \$97.5 million, which represents 51 per cent of the year-to-date budget—an expected percentage for the fiscal year midpoint. Meanwhile, total expenses are \$97.7 million, representing 49 per cent of the year-to-date budget—one per cent below what the Division anticipated.

The Board sent condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of the two Edmonton police officers who were killed in the line of duty earlier on March 16.

TRUSTEES' SCHOOL TOURS

On March 16, after the Board meeting, Trustees plan to visit Heritage Hills Elementary as part of its 2022-23 Trustees' School Tours. The Board will be touring Schools in the Vegreville area on April 25.

6. Principal Report By Keri Busenius

highlights:

- Morgana and William to highlight classrooms/ULC program
- safety shelter in place and fire drills taking place these last couple of weeks
- Report cards out on Friday; 15-20% read in first weekend

- PAT analysis - on the right track in Grade 6 for student success
- Kindergarten Info Night is April 18 at 5:30 PM
- Jump Rope for Heart coming in April
- Young Authors' Conference - 10 students attending from grades 4-6 on April 15
- Wendy Brook Festival - many student performances; Community concert March 21 in evening; lodge visits to highlight performances
- Vesna Spring Concert coming May 3

2023-2024

- enrolment 330 for fall; currently 361

Morganna Larsen, our Links 2 teacher attended this meeting and shared with us her class celebration of winning an award at the Wendy Brook festival. Morganna is so proud of her class and their hard work and dedication working toward achieving that. Morganna and several of her students attended the wendy brook concert last Tuesday night to accept their award.

William Maskal, one of our grade six teachers also attended this month's meeting and shared how wonderful it was to be a part of the Wendy Brook festival again this year. He also shared that many of our students attend the local lodges to present their performances. Stay tuned for more information from William on Ukrainian Easter baking and easter egg writing.

7. Next Meeting: Monday April 24th at 6:30 pm

8. Meeting Adjourned: 7:39 pm by Ken Allan