

A L Horton School
5037 48 Avenue, Vegreville, AB
School Council Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2023 6:30-7:15 PM, Library, A L Horton School

Attendees: K.Busenius, A.Rice, T.Footz, H.Dinwoodie, E.Robert, W.Maskal, N.Keel, T.Bergley, K.Daurie, Bonnie D.

1. Call to order @ 6:36 pm By: Keri Busenius
2. Review of the agenda
3. Approval of the Minutes
 - a. September 2023 Approved by: Erin Robert and seconded by: Tenile Bergley
4. Old Business – continued from previous meeting
 - a. Officer Elections (Chair, Vice-Chair) Still available
 - b. Meeting Schedule -Last Tuesday of each month
5. Trustee Report: Randy Footz

Thank you to the administration and staff of ALH for inviting me to participate in Read-In Week during the first week of October. I had an opportunity to read to Ms. Giebelhaus's Kindergarten class and to Ms. Billingsley's Grade 5 class and enjoyed both groups very much.

Each year the Superintendent and Board make a point of visiting schools within the division. On October 17, trustees visited École Parc Élémentaire, Fort Saskatchewan Christian, Fort Saskatchewan Elementary, Fort Saskatchewan High and Next Step Fort Saskatchewan.

The Division has requested funding from Alberta Education to add two new modular classrooms to Ardrossan Elementary; add two new modular classrooms to South Pointe School; and to demolish and remove two ageing modular classrooms and reclaim the affected area of the schoolyard at Westboro Elementary in preparation for the 2024-25 school year.

We are hopeful that a decision from the province will come before the end of the 2023-24 school year.

The Division Unallocated Reserve, which EIPS maintains to cover emergent issues, manage price fluctuations and stabilize funding in the future currently sits at \$3.63 million.

Enrollment at EIPS schools has increased. As of Sept 30, 17,760 students are registered within EIPS—an increase of 300 students from fall 2022.

On October 19 Board Chair Cathy Allen and I attended the Vegreville and District Chamber Of Commerce meeting we discussed the 10 Year division plan with regards to the possible amalgamation of AL Horton and the Composite Jr/Sr High Schools.

6. Principals Report: Keri Busenius

Lunch with Your Child Day #1 on October 11 was well attended, with families in classrooms, halls, outdoors, and in the gym.

Photo Days went well at our school. E had a further discussion about price increase and possible opportunity for a local photographer in next years.

Bus evacuations went well with all classes Kinder to Grade 6.

First Nations, Metis, and Inuit teachings in October included Secret Path week - a synthesis of songs from Gord Downie and the story of Chanie Wenjack who ran away from residential school to go home but never made it home due to exposure to the elements.

The Book Fair started out well this week. Many choices of reading materials by topic, genre of book, reading level, etc.

Superintendent Sandra Stoddard visited in the past couple weeks, joining classes Kindergarten A and LINKS 1 to speak with and interact with students and staff at work.

Teacher collaborative response team meetings took place October 4. K-3, Gr 3-4, and Gr 5-6 teams spoke about common trends related to striving learners in the math classroom. Together teachers shared effective strategies and practices that could help in the classroom.

Thank you to CALS and the last of their hot lunch grant which will pay for our whole school pizza lunch on October 31.

The Halloween parade is at 10:30 AM in the gym. Parents and caregivers are welcome.

Sharing some results from last springs' Alberta Assurance Survey (Grade 4 students, parents, and all staff) and the EIPS Survey (all parents and staff).

Citizenship at our school is rated very high on the Alberta Assurance Survey:

Overall, 88% of parents (grade 4), students (grade 4), and teachers agree that students at our school model characteristics of active citizenship.

Education quality is rated very high on the Alberta Assurance Survey:

Overall, 93.8% of parents, students, and teachers are satisfied with the overall quality of basic education.

On the Alberta Assurance Survey, the percentage of teachers and parents satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education is low:

66% of parents satisfied.

79.8% of teachers satisfied.

On the EIPS Survey, a similar percentage of parents indicate satisfaction with opportunities to be involved in their child's education: 80.7%

AMA has started this week with our volunteering grade five students. THANK YOU for your work to keep us safe.

Thank you to Ms. Rice, Mrs. Kuhn, Miss. Billingsley and Mr. Miller for your efforts in our grade 5/6 volleyball tea this year. The kids are all really enjoying it.

Next, we had our grade 6 teacher William Maskal present grade six celebrations so far this year. The grade six classes have been working hard on their new math/English curriculum. The Ukrainian classes will be making borscht. All Ukrainian classes will be participating. There has been a calendar change in the Ukrainian calendar this year and Ukrainian Christmas is going to be celebrated in the school all at the same time.

7. New business – This was tabled at the meeting as chair and vice chair positions were not filled

8. Next Meeting: Tuesday November 28, 2023

9. Adjourn @ 7:16pm By: Keri Busenius