

AEL School Council Meeting Minutes:

March 20, 2023 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Microsoft Teams and Ardrossan Elementary School 53131 Range Road 222, Ardrossan, AB

Attendees: Lana Lastiwka, Tandy Atchison, Katharina Staub, Layla Pretzlaff, Darren Wright, Jill Herbert, Tina Zerebeski, Jami McLaren, Kari Ludwig, Cheryl Popik, Vania Lloyd, Val Ulliac

1. Meeting Called to Order at 6:33 by Tanya Doran

Land Acknowledgement Lead by Lana Lastiwka

2. Edge Imaging Presentation – Martin Darroch

Feedback provided to presenter on why parents are interested in a new photography company for individual school photos.

Quality of photo is based on relationship with child. Quick outfit and hair touchups ahead of image being taken. This company shoots on green screen. Can shoot outdoors if this is what is preferred. Canadian owned and operated photography company.

“Mini yearbook” option as well with basic order. Very cost-effective additional option. No work to the school. Family deal is available.

The group will discuss having a “prep” committee who helps prepare the child before their photo. Will investigate pricing to make a more accurate comparison.

3. Review Agenda

Jill motions to accept the Agenda for March parent Council meeting. Vania seconds that motion. All in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

4. Approve Meeting Minutes

Jill motions to accept the minutes as written for the February School Council meeting. Vania seconds that motion. All in favor, no one opposed. Motion carried.

5. Information Reports

A. AEPSA Report- Vania Lloyd

Playground update in the next meeting

Teacher Bison Bravo’s

Jerky fundraiser ongoing

One last bottle drive for the year

B. CPF Report – Jill Herbert

Meeting was last week. Funds are very low. Cobs fundraiser happening April-June through hotlunch on varying Fridays. Feedback from carnival was very positive. Quebec meeting for 33 families upcoming.

C. COSC Report - unavailable

D. Principles Report Lana Lastiwka

1. We raised \$4040 for Jump Rope for Heart (with a goal of \$2000).
2. Saffron Online Safety Presentations - Saffron will present to our Div 2 classes on the importance of Online Safety on Monday, April 3
3. Returning Student Registration is now complete. In the next few months we will be looking at class configurations.

4. Week of Inspirational Math was March 13 - 17

EIPS has created an Interactive Slide Deck for staff with links to:

- Virtual guest readers every morning from 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m
- Engaging activities to begin each day

5. Carnaval and Rendez-vous de la Francophonie - Thank you!

6. Staffing Change - we welcomed back Erin Belcourt to KB and KC and wish Jaylin Starko the best.

7. Evergreening - 2023 - 72 chromebooks needed replacing as they are no longer able to be updated, which we purchased at a cost of almost \$30 000. In 2024 - about 150 chromebooks will be needed to be replaced, currently these are \$389.80 plus GST each.

8. iPad help! \$419.80 each, not including protective cases. Kindergarten to grade 2 have 10 per class to support literacy and numeracy.

- 10 - \$4198.00 - tax and cases

9. Volunteer Info - Volunteer Tea will be held April 21, following our grade 4 assembly. Invitations will be going out. Would it be possible to send us a list of your volunteers throughout the year? By March 23??

10. Does anyone know who fills the water reservoir?

11. EIPS has set a date for the next French Immersion public engagement on April 13. Over the next couple of weeks, the Division will send more information about the public engagement session, as details become available. Briefly, the engagement will include a short presentation, breakout sessions to discuss a potential solution and a quick report back. Communications will send an invitation out to families on March 23.

E. Trustee Report - Susan Miller via Tandy Atchison

At the February 23rd Board Meeting, the Board approved up to \$5,000 to sponsor the registration fees for school council members to attend the ASCA School Councils Conference and Annual General Meeting on April 21-23 – one member per school. To qualify, members must be part of a school council with an active ASCA membership and apply before the registration deadline of April 6.

March 5-7 th , the Board attended the Alberta Rural Education Symposium held in Edmonton. Trustees from all over the province came together to discuss issues with Education in a rural setting. The themes were resilience, reconciliation and rejoicing. A few schools shared the challenges they have faced these past few years and some creative solutions they have implemented. Speakers at the event shared various ways to support students and families.

The recent provincial budget was good news for education, with significant increases in areas that school boards have been advocating for. This includes almost \$2 billion of increased funding over three years to hire more teachers and aides, increase support for students who need more help, and funding to address the transportation issues.

Transportation could look a little different soon! The province has proposed boosting next year's school transportation funding by 24 per cent, and requiring schools to offer busing to students who live closer to their schools. Education Minister Adriana LaGrange said school boards, parents, teachers, and students have said the current limit of 2.4 kilometers was too far for children to walk. The distance will be lowered to 1 kilometer for students in Graded 1-6 and 2 kilometers for Grades 7-12, beginning September 2024.

Also, as part of the province's 2023 budget, the government announced that they are proceeding with the construction of a new school in Sherwood Park to replace Sherwood Heights and Ecole Campbelltown. The last budget covered the design phase and we were waiting to receive news of commitment for actual construction of the building. Sherwood Heights has been on Elk Island's capital project list for more than 10 years. Once the designs are finalized, we will be moving into the construction phase.

Nominations for the Strathcona County Awards of Excellence are open now! These awards recognize residents of the county for their outstanding contributions and achievements. The deadline to submit nominations is March 27. The awards ceremony takes place at Festival Place on June 1. Type "Strathcona County Awards Of Excellence" into the search bar.

Encore Music Foundation is a non-for-profit organization that provides free music programming for students facing financial barriers. Programs are taught by highly educated, experienced individuals who share in the organization's passion for music enrichment and overall growth of youth in need. Encore is currently accepting applications from

youth ages 11-15 throughout EIPS and the Edmonton region. Students who enroll in their free music programs remain completely anonymous. If you are aware of families in who could benefit from this opportunity, please encourage them to visit encoremusicfoundation.com, or call 780-702-6980.

6. Fee Discussion – Lana Lastiwka

Approximately 50 responses to the fee survey

Fee outline includes:

Young Authors conference

Field Trips

All grades pay per trip apart from kindergarten. Will move kindergarten to pay per trip next year

Ski trip. Rewording the fee structure based on student's needs (ie, lessons, rental, passes)

Noon supervision

Extracurricular and sport club fees

7. Next Meeting April 17, 2023

8. Adjournment

Tanya motions to adjourn at 7:53. Meeting Adjourned.