



Cherishing and Challenging Every Child

**Glen Allan School Council
Thursday October 14, 2021, 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Virtual Meeting - Minutes**

In Attendance:

Jen Ference, Dustine Vivic, Christy Ravndahl-George, Stacey Robinson, Erin Barrett, Don Irwin, Kersten Morris, Jenn Campbell, Jody Turpin, Sherry Waldner

Regrets: Ryan Fukala

1. Call to order 6:30 p.m.

2. Welcome and introductions

Christy welcomed everyone to the meeting with round table introductions.

Land Acknowledgement: We acknowledge with respect the history and culture of the First peoples with whom Treaty 6 was signed and the land upon which Glen Allan School resides. We also acknowledge the traditional homeland of the Métis Nation. We recognize our responsibility as Treaty members and honor the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples. We commit to moving forward in partnership and working together with Indigenous communities.

3. Virtual Meeting Etiquette

Reviewed etiquette. Please stay muted and raise hand with any comments or questions.

4. Approval of September 16, 2021 Minutes

Motion to approve meeting minutes as amended (with corrected date), made by Erin B. and seconded by Jenn C.

5. EIPS Trustee Report – Don Irwin

Thanks to the excellent efforts of students, parents, and staff, schools are operating in person and close to normal for the first month and a half of the school year. We appreciate everyone's extra effort to make school operate and be successful for student learning.

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This year, we are working on eliminating student learning gaps and providing students with a safe and healthy return to school. To this end the board has funded \$1 million over two years for learning gap funding and \$500,000 that schools can apply for this year to assist with social emotional health while returning to school.

The National Day of Truth & Reconciliation [September 30](#) and school events leading up to it was a good start on the road to reconciliation.

Budget - One of the key roles of the Board of Trustees is to plan and monitor our approximately \$200 million budget. We receive quarterly updates and are alerted of variations. One area we needed to deal with this month was a decreased bus ridership due to COVID 4th wave having more parents driving students and less ridership revenue. We were able to cover this out of our reserves without a fee increase or less buses and longer ride times.

Our enrolment this fall is 16,836 down from the 16,902 that we budgeted in the spring. We have 42 students on home education and 241 students in outreach.

We have continued to give the Ministry of Education feedback on the proposed new curriculum in terms of the content and the timing of it's introduction. The report that we had done in the spring and the work done by teachers over the summer indicates that the curriculum needs much revision and delay before being implemented.

Please feel free to ask questions about anything in this report or related to the board of trustees either at the meetings or by contacting me directly.

My cell phone is 587-986-3900 and my email address is don.irwin@eips.ca.

Continuing to work with you for student and family success.

*Yours truly
Don Irwin
Trustee Sherwood Park*

- Question: re: scheduled implementation of new curriculum as September of 2022.

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6. Principal's Report – Jen Ference & Dustine Vivic

[Click here](#) to read report.

7. Teacher Report – Stacey Robinson

- Terry Fox run was a success.
- Orange shirt day provided some great learnings.
- Remembrance Day ceremony will also be attended by the student body online.
- Art cards are coming along and just about ready for order.
- Reading week went very well – some classes had virtual readers and other special guests.
- Spirit Day is this Friday. Students voted and can choose between tie dye and/or crazy hair day if they so choose to participate.
- October 20-21 will be phone call parent/teacher interviews. Students will be able to attend the book fair in person. Families can visit and purchase books online.

8. School Council Updates

- *Programs Vice-Chair Updates – Sheila Connolly*
 - Hot Lunches and T-Shirt Sales - Discussion and vote
 - Hot lunches could occur, but they need to be individually packaged and then coordinated for safe and controlled distribution
 - Pink shirt t-shirt contest will be paused.
 - Orange shirt day contest idea to be held in the spring in preparation for the fall is being considered. Circle back to this idea in the new year.
 - Sherry is coordinating the yearbook and the events at the school
- *Fund Development Committee Chair Updates – Jenn Campbell*
 - Book fair: Jodi is the new coordinator. Will be held October 20-21 and kids will be viewing the bookfair during library time. Parents can send money with students to shop for fun stuff and can create a wish list for books.
 - Suggestion for sharing the teacher wish list with the parents.
 - Art Cards: scanning has started and going well.
 - Timing for Spell-a-thon and/or Math-a-thon: will be scheduled for spring break

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- **Budget Vice-Chair Updates – Erin Barrett**
 - Vote on final 2020/21 budget
 - Motion to approve the 2020/21 budget as presented, made by Sherry W. and seconded by Jody T.
 - Vote on proposed 2021/22 budget
 - Motion to approve the 2021/22 budget as presented, made by Jenn C. and seconded by Jody T.
 - Jenn requires a \$200 float
 - Motion to write a \$200 float check, made by Erin B. and seconded by Jenn C.

- **Chair Updates – Christy Ravndahl-George**
 - Update 21/22 Reporting: Annual Report will be submitted now as approved, Society Annual Return Christy to confirm form has changed and submit
 - 2021 Family Dance Update is being planned with caution in case covid protocols change. Drop dead date is set for 30 days out from the dance.

ACTION: Sheila to connect with DJ to discuss cancelation policy.

- October 6 COSC meeting update:

Below is a brief overview of what took place at the last COSC meeting on Oct. 6, 2021.

KEY AGENDA TOPICS

- *Election of chair, vice-chair and secretary*
- *COSC Planning for 2021-22*
- *ASCA Update*
- *COVID-19 Update*
- *EIPS Operations Guidelines*
- *Draft K-6 Curriculum*

ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE-CHAIR AND SECRETARY

The meeting started with the election of the COSC Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary for the 2021-22 school year. The positions are as follows:

- *Chair: Lesley Bowman, Pine Street Elementary*
- *Vice-Chair: Devon Marshall, Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary*
- *Secretary: Michelle Uytterhagen, Fultonvale Elementary Junior High*

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2021-22 COSC MEETINGS: Dates and time

Until the state of public-health emergency lifts, all COSC meetings will take place virtually using Zoom.

- Meeting Dates:
 - Nov. 3, 2021
 - Jan. 5, 2022
 - Feb. 2, 2022
 - [March 2, 2022](#)
 - [April 6, 2022](#)
 - [May 4, 2022](#)
- Meeting times: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

ALBERTA SCHOOL COUNCILS' ASSOCIATION

[Alberta School Councils' Association](#) (ASCA) is the provincial organization for families on school council—all EIPS schools are members. Below may be of interest to COSC members:

- The ASCA website offers various resources for school council members designed to enhance school council effectiveness and parent engagement.
- Particularly useful is the recently updated, "[School Council Resource Guide](#)," which steps members through the purpose and role of a school council.
- All EIPS school councils are members of ASCA. As such, they can access exclusive resources specific to school councils, webinars and capacity-building opportunities.

[Access ASCA's members-only site](#)

- Back by popular demand:
 - Meeting Mondays – An open agenda that parents can join, ask questions and get school council support.
 - Webinar [Wednesday](#) – Webinars that feature abbreviated versions of ASCA's regular workshops. The next webinar: Chair Basics, on [October 20](#).

CAREGIVER EDUCATION SERIES: October

Alberta Health Services is hosting a series of virtual caregiver information sessions focused on ways to support students' mental health. The sessions are free and geared toward parents, caregivers, teachers and community members who want to learn more about challenges impacting children and adolescents. Session topics include anxiety, ADHD, depression, self-harm, technology, teens and teaching leadership skills, communication, resiliency, and more. [Learn more](#)

SAFFRON CYBER SECOND: October issue

The latest issue of the Saffron Cyber Second is now available. Read it to learn tips, tools and strategies aimed at helping children develop skills for healthy and safe online experiences. [Saffron Cyber Second October 2021](#)

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EIPS OPERATIONS GUIDELINES: 2021-22

Superintendent Mark Liguori discussed the Division's operations plan for the 2021-22 school year. The discussion outlined how schools are operating, public-health measures in place and expectations throughout 2021-22. The goal: To ensure operations occur in the safest way possible, the risk of transmission is low, and everyone continues to learn and work in a safe environment. [EIPS Operations Guidelines: 2021-22](#)

COSC ENGAGEMENT: New draft K-6 curriculum

Chair Trina Boymook and Ryan Marshall, the Director of Instructional Supports, asked COSC members for feedback on the new draft K-6 curriculum. Two questions were asked:

1. What would you like to see in the new draft curriculum?
2. What are your hopes the new curriculum will provide for your child?

Members were given a few minutes to think about each question. They then shared their answers with the whole COSC group. All input was recorded, which the Board will review and share with Alberta Education. School council chairs are also asked to have the conversation with their school councils and share the responses with EIPS. To submit your school council's feedback, simply send the recorded answers in a Microsoft Word or Google document and email it to corrie.fletcher@eips.ca. The deadline is Nov. 1, 2021.

Related information:

- [Draft Curriculum](#)
- Presentation – [COSC Engagement: New Draft K-6 curriculum](#)
- [Alberta's Draft K-6 Curriculum Survey](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

<i>October 24</i>	<i>United Nations Day</i>
<i>November 3</i>	<i>Early Dismissal</i>
<i>November 7</i>	<i>Daylight time ends</i>
<i>November 8-12</i>	<i>November break (schools are closed)</i>

You can also join COSC on Facebook to share information and ask questions with other school councils. To join the group, visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/471089089934102/>.

Additional information from the Oct. 6, 2021 meeting is available at www.eips.ca. The next meeting takes place on Nov. 3, 2021. We look forward to seeing you there.

ACTION: Christy to send Kersten insert [Meetings, Agendas, & Minutes | Elk Island Public Schools | EIPS](#)

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- Discussion regarding use of parent portal for online hot lunch payments: because hot lunch is run through the school council rather than admin, it likely isn't possible to utilize the parent portal. Jen is waiting to hear back from finance to confirm.
- We may need to renew the hot lunch website to facilitate payment for art cards, hot lunch, and year books.

ACTION: Ryan to lead the renew the hot lunch website ASAP.

ACTION: Kersten to review all the minutes posted on the website to ensure all minutes are in final copy. Also, to cross reference the google drive. Ideally 7 years of history should be documented.

ACTION: Erin and Ryan to ensure Christy replaces Jessica on the signing authority list at the bank.

- Sherry shared her first drafts and ideas for next year's yearbook cover.

9. Parent feedback/suggestions

- Question regarding what the grade 6 year-end event will be.

ACTION: Jen F. to consult the teachers and bring back to next meeting.

10. Next meeting (November 18, 2021) and Adjournment at 7:59pm

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