

WIN FERGUSON SCHOOL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Meeting Date: April 29th, 2024

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Attendees:

Bill Korec	Liz Ream	Lainie Gratrix	Jen Shea	Trish Kuhn	Tami Richert
Shelley Romanyshyn	Mandy Spiess	Leah Kenchington		Ryan Frostad	

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
1	Call to Order
	Meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm Introduction of attendees. Shelley did the reading of the Treaty Acknowledgement
2	Review of Agenda
	Motioned by Trish seconded by Ryan -carried
3	Approval of minutes from last meeting
	Approval of previous minutes motioned by Lainie seconded by Jen -carried
4	Administration Report
	See attached report provided by Bill Korec. Additional notes on the report points: 1. Report cards went out, please visit Power School to view them if you have not done so already. Final report cards coming out in June. 3 .Ski trip went very well! The school has booked in for next year as well. 4. Silver carnival raised just under \$250 for the food bank, the kids had a great time, thank you to all who participated! 6. Ms. Vibe was instrumental in supporting the Read-a-thon, thank you so much! 7. Treat Sales and hot lunches are continuing to go well. 8. Rocks and Rings went very well, thank you to the Council for supporting this! 10. Floor map exercise and Seven Sacred Teaching Assembly – the floor map has the different language identifiers , treaty boundaries and timeline of different indigenous peoples around the edges. Tami held a lesson and it was well received. 11. Booking for Elk Island Park – there was a small charge to book this but Bill had this accounted for in the budget. 12. Immunizations (last round) is completed– this was for Grade 6 only 13 Budget update – budget came at the end of Feb, the binders of how they can be spent were provide end of March, Bill is waiting on the final copy of the budget but he and Tami have created some tentative plans in preparation for the potential outcomes of the budget once received.
5	Trustee Report
	Please see the attached report provided by Jacqueline. Jacqueline can be reached via email at jacqueline.shotbolt@eips.ca for any questions or concerns. Jacqueline was unable to attend this meeting.
6	Standing Business
	Teacher's Wishlist -Bee bot class bundle - 6 pack is \$779.99 – Sarah is asking for 2 sets if possible
7	New Business

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
	<p><u>Kindergarten Open House</u> -Thursday May 23 (Lainine will revise the info sheet, Shelley to confirm if we still have the poster board) - 4:30-6:30 pm – Trish, Leah, and Mandy can volunteer for this</p> <p><u>ASCA Workshop</u> -Have allocated unused funds from the past two years, plus this year. Total of \$1500 to use towards ASCA learnings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Council Purpose – May 13 @ 6:30pm - \$200 • Fundraising Assoc. Partnership Purpose – May 7 @ 7:00pm - \$200 • Effective Engagement in the school community – May 16 @ 7:00pm -\$300 • Tools for effective school councils – May 1 @ 6:30 - \$200 – Will not be able to book in time • The work of a school council – June 17 @ 6:30pm - \$200 • Managing School Council Meetings – June 20 @ 7:00 pm -\$300 <p>Shelley will book all of the other above courses aside from “Tools for effective school councils”.</p> <p><u>Babysitting at meetings</u> -Is this service needed still at meetings? Council suggested that we watch this going forward and post about this a week ahead of time so that this can be pre-arranged as needed.</p> <p><u>Meet Dates for 2024/25</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set date for September meeting, there we can finalize the dates for 2024/25 • Sept 23 AGM, Oct 28, Nov 25, Jan 27, Feb 24, Apr 28, May 26 • NOTE: Council must post notice of AGM Meeting at least 30 days prior to the meeting taking place.
8	Adjournment
	Meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm. Next Meeting to be held May 27, 2024

**WIN FERGUSON PTA
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Meeting Date: April 29, 2024

Meeting Time: 6:30PM

Attendees:

Bill Korec Liz Ream Lainie Gratrix Jen Shea Trish Kuhn Tami Richert
Shelley Romanyshyn Mandy Spiess Leah Kenchington Ryan Frostad

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
1	Call to Order Meeting was called to order at 6:51 PM
2	Review of Agenda Agenda was motioned by Shelley, seconded by Jen -carried
3	Approval of minutes from last meeting Previous minutes were motioned by Shelley, seconded by Lainie- carried
4	Treasurer's Report Current online banking administrator is Liz Ream. Liz presented the report. Month end Financials as of April 29, 2024 General Account: \$18,893.54 Casino Account: \$5,212.95 Our available balance as of today is: General Account: \$7,323.29 after standing motions and expenses. Casino Account: \$3,712.95 after the \$1500.00 standing motion for expected casino expenses. Additional Notes: - Combined Available Funds: \$11036.24 -Bottle Revenue \$1427.10 (Went towards \$1600 Teacher Funds) -Treat Sale Revenue \$42.13 -Hot Lunch Revenue \$1744.38 (To be used for Agendas) -Read-a-Thon Transferred \$17,571.26 from paypal to General account It will take 3-5 days. • Total Donations Collected: \$27,455.10; We will receive \$21,964.08 (80%). Remainder will be transferred to our Paypal account approximately 2 weeks after the read-a-thon closes. Liz motioned to order more cheques -\$150 to cover the purchase at least 100 more cheques. Trish and Shelley second, passed.
5	Old Business 5.0 Membership Forms/Signed release forms 5.1. Required for attendance at meetings. Membership Forms can be found under "Forms" on the parents tab of the school website. (https://www.winferguson.ca/parent-council) - This needs to be filled out annually (for new and returning members). - Forms can be submitted to winfergusonpta@outlook.com
6	New Business 6.1 Spring Read-a-thon -Leah to provide update on the event. Any event feedback from parents/staff/students? -A little overwhelming on the initial setup but the platform was fantastic. -There is some remaining money in the budget from what was originally approved. Leah would like for that excess to be considered to go towards a thank you. This will be revisited next meeting. 283 kids signed up, 266 kids logged minutes, for 78,098 minutes read overall! -Teachers have provided a wishlist for potential candidates for the money to go towards. -Lainie is compiling a poster for a thank you for the sponsors, and Leah will provide something for Bill to post in the newsletter. -The remainder of the prizes will be handed out over this and next week. 6.2 Elk Island Park -Confirmed May 31, 2024 -8:45 am departure to go and leave late afternoon. -Bill will provide a scraper, foil and disposable roasters -Still make up bags with chips, and juice boxes, condiments can be the bulk ones from Costco – 3 or 4 maybe? -Bill will set up a meeting with Jen, Lainie & Trish to confirm what is required.
7	Committee Reports

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
	<p>7.1 Hot Lunch – Paige – Next hot lunch is May 24, 2024 Boston Pizza.</p> <p>7.2 Fundraising – Jared/Lainie – Wilhauks to start May 9 – 24, pickup is June 14th from the school gym.</p> <p>7.3 Milk program – Lacey – nothing new to report</p> <p>7.4 Treat Sales – Heather – May 10, 2024. (mix of treats)</p> <p>7.5 Recycling program – Shelley – going well still, Shelley estimates this has raised approximately \$2000 by the end of the year.</p> <p>7.6 Casino – Shelley – June 7th & 8th 2024, the license has already been received.</p>
	Date for Next meeting
	Next meeting to be held May 27, 2024
8.	Adjournment
	Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM

Principal's Report – April 2023

1. Report cards went out!
2. Pi Day and Week of Inspirational Math
3. Ski trip
4. Silver Carnival
5. Visit of Ragan Johnston – Associate Superintendent HR
6. Ms. Vibe visits and promotes Readathon!
7. Treat sales (2) and Hot Lunch (2)
8. Rocks and Rings
9. Green day/ Dress as your favorite character/ Twins Day/ Career Day
10. Floor map exercise and Seven Sacred Teaching Assembly
11. Booking for Elk Island Park
12. Immunizations (last round)
13. Budget update

we didn't
REALIZE
♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦♦ *we were making*
MEMORIES
WE JUST KNEW WE WERE
HAVING FUN

Trustee Report – April 17, 2024



Your Future in MIND

NEW

- 1. THREE-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN: 2025-28** - The Board approved EIPS' 2025-28 Three-Year Capital Plan. Annually, the Board reviews and updates the plan to prioritize its key capital projects. The Division's top five 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 new school for the Cambrian Crossing neighbourhood (grades K-9).
 - Priority 4:** A modernization and expansion of Vegreville Composite High to accommodate K-12 Programming
 - Priority 5:** A modernization of Win Ferguson Elementary (grades K-6)

Now approved, the Division will submit the Three-Year Capital Plan to the province for funding consideration.
- 2. ALBERTA RURAL SYMPOSIUM** - On March 3-5, the Board attended the Alberta Rural Symposium, held in Edmonton.
The theme this year was cultivating relationships, nurturing connections and harvesting success. This year's program and keynote speakers were focused and relevant to rural schools. Since Elk Island is an urban-rural school division, trustees attend this conference annually.
- 3. ASBA EDWIN PARR TEACHER AWARD - 2024** The Board approved EIPS' nomination for this year's Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee, Alexis Kotronis. Annually, the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 hosts the award to honour and recognize first-year teachers and their pedagogical excellence. Kotronis, a first-year teacher at Davidson Creek Elementary, was selected for her outstanding commitment to education, proactive approach and innate ability to create inclusive learning environments for students.
- 4. REALLOCATION OF SURPLUS FUNDS** - The Board approved changes to the allocation of funds for the 2023-24 school year. The reallocation allows the Division to use any net surplus funds and ensures its operating reserves remain below the provincially mandated 3.2 percent reserve limit. In total, the Division will use the surplus of \$1.1 million for Windows computer evergreening (\$694,058), for Chromebook evergreening (\$325,000) and to construct a new entrance for Next Step Sherwood Park (\$80,000).
- 5. APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICERS** - The Board appointed Karen Baranec as the Returning Officer and Laura McNabb as the Substitute Returning Officer for the EIPS trustee election in 2025.

6. **THREE-YEAR ENGAGEMENT PLAN: ATTENDANCE AREA** - The Board received for information, an update on one of the last remaining projects listed in the Division's Three-Year Engagement Plan – the junior high attendance area cleanup. Throughout the spring and fall of 2022, the Division consulted stakeholders to explore possible changes to the junior high attendance boundaries in Sherwood Park. After analyzing the feedback, EIPS administration chose to keep the boundaries unchanged.
7. **COSC MEETING DATES** – Doors open at 5:15 PM All meetings are scheduled to start at 6:00 PM and will be held at the Central Office in Sherwood Park (683 Wye Road). **Meeting date; May 1, 2024.** *You can also join [COSC on Facebook](#)* to share information and ask questions with other school councils.
8. **NEXT BOARD MEETING** – The next regular Board meeting takes place on **April 18, 2024, at 10 a.m.** Board meetings are held in the Elk Island Public Schools boardroom at 683 Wye Rd. in Sherwood Park. EIPS also livestreams public Board meetings on its [YouTube channel](#).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

9. Global News - April 1, 2024

Ottawa unveils \$1B for national school food program

The Liberal government is pledging \$1 billion over the next five years for a national school food program in the upcoming budget, as Canadian families struggle to afford the rising cost of groceries. Deputy Prime Minister Freeland made the announcement in Toronto on Easter Monday, saying it will “mean peace of mind” for parents across the country. The goal is to feed an additional 400,000 children a year, by expanding programs offered by provinces and school boards.

More than 400 young authors are tapping into inspiration and finding their voices at the 33rd annual Young Authors' Conference on April 13. “This year's theme is 'Finding my Story.' The Young Authors' Conference is a long-standing collaborative event that welcomes students from both EIPS and Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) for a fun-filled day of storytelling. Throughout the day, students hone their skills in writing fluency, idea generation, illustration, expression and communication. Participants are grouped into grades 4-6 and grades 7-9.

Students will also be able to attend virtual sessions on the conference day itself to watch and learn from home.

ADVOCACY

10. Advocacy Plan 2023/24

The EIPS Board of Trustees is committed to developing an annual advocacy plan which is to be reviewed periodically and renewed on an annual basis. It is the responsibility of the Advocacy Committee to lead the process of drafting and presenting the Board advocacy plan for the coming year and updating the Board regularly on progress. The Board is also accountable to EIPS families and other key stakeholders for these activities and provides information on its work by way of the Division's Annual Education Results Report, as well as through its Advocacy in Action and quarterly Board Update e-newsletters. The Board

identified areas for advocacy efforts which align with the focus areas of the Strategic Plan. Advocacy in these areas occurs as a matter of course in interactions with others and when opportunities present.

1. Funding
2. The value of public education
3. Autonomous school boards
4. Capital investment

SHARED CROSS MINISTRY

11. Alberta Health Services Addiction and Mental Health Newsletter

The May edition of the Alberta Health Services Addiction and Mental Health Newsletter focuses on Mental Health Week, which takes place **May 6-12**. [Newsletter](#)

Themes include:

[Mental Health Week](#)

[Practice mindfulness](#)

[Move your body](#)

[Fuel your body](#)

[Expand your mind](#)

[Build assets](#)

12. FAMILY & COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES City of Fort Saskatchewan

The FCSS has many programs developed which are intended to help individuals of Fort Saskatchewan to adopt a healthy lifestyle, thereby improving the quality of life and building the capacity to prevent and/or deal with crisis situations should they arise. Counselling Programs are free to residents who reside in our community. To find out more information how they can help you or someone you know, please contact them directly. 780-992-6267 | FCSSinfo@fortsask.ca

UPCOMING EVENTS AND IMPORTANT DATES

April 8 & 9 Board Retreat

April 11 Fort Saskatchewan School Tours

April 13 Young Authors' Conference [Young Authors' Conference](#)

April 14-20 [National Volunteer Week](#)

April 15-19 [Education Week](#)

April 22: Earth Day

April 23: World Book Day

April 24: Administrative Professionals' Day

APRIL 18, 2024

Chair's Report

RECENT EVENTS

Board Chair Cathy Allen highlighted recent trustee events:

- On April 5, trustees attended the Fort Saskatchewan and District Chamber of Commerce State of the City Luncheon, with Mayor Gale Katchur. Topic highlights: Fort Saskatchewan's strategic plans, economic development opportunities and revitalization efforts for the downtown.
- On April 8-9, trustees took part in a Board Retreat to discuss the Board's direction, priorities and work plan for the upcoming school year.
- On April 12, Vice-Chair Susan Miller and Trustee Jacqueline Shotbolt attended the 2024 Great Canadian Trade Fair and Sale opening ceremony, hosted by the Sherwood Park and District Chamber of Commerce. The event was well attended and offered an opportunity to meet and network with local decision-makers.
- Chair Allen met with Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk, the Parliamentary Secretary for Settlement Services and Ukrainian Evacuees and Alberta's member of the legislative assembly for Fort Saskatchewan-Vegreville. Overall, it was a productive meeting focused on shared concerns and advocacy priorities.
- On April 17, trustees attended the Sherwood Park and District Chamber of Commerce State of the County address, with Mayor Rod Frank. Topic highlights: The outlook for the region, focus areas, economic growth and development plans—overall, a positive forecast.

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

National Volunteer Week takes place this week, from April 14-20. Year-long, within Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS), hundreds of volunteers work in the background, offering their time and expertise. Collectively, these efforts help support the success of EIPS schools and make a difference in students' lives and their learning environments. In recognition of National Volunteer Week, and on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Allen thanked all EIPS volunteers for the many ways they give their time, skills and resources to the Division.

TRUSTEES' SCHOOL TOURS

On April 11, trustees visited James Mowat Elementary, Rudolph Hennig Junior High, SouthPointe School and Win Ferguson Elementary as part of the Board's 2023-24 Trustees' School Tours. The Board extends thanks to all the staff and students at each school for hosting the tours. Everyone enjoyed learning about the schools and the programs they offer.

Superintendent's Report

RECENT EVENTS

Superintendent Stoddard highlighted several recent events:

- On March 22, she attended a meeting with the Strathcona Christian Academy Society and the two schools' principals. She's pleased to share the Division resigned its five-year lease agreement.
- On March 27, she met with the Elk Island Logos Society to discuss junior high programming and how to increase program enrolment.
- She also joined trustees at the Board Retreat, which focused on the Board's future work plans, public education and upcoming priorities.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

In honour of National Volunteer Week, April 14-20, Superintendent Stoddard thanked the many volunteers within EIPS—parents, caregivers, families and community members—who offer their time, expertise and hearts to the Division on an ongoing basis. These are individuals who often work behind the scenes to support students, staff and schools. Collectively, they make EIPS schools better places to be.

Association and Employee Relation Reports

ASBA ZONE 2/3 MEETING

Trustee Susan Miller presented highlights from the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting held on March 22. Highlights include:

- The Zone thanked school boards for submitting nominations for the Edwin Parr Teacher Award and the Friends of Education Award—the event takes place on May 24.
- The President’s report included highlights from the Alberta Teaching Profession Commission’s annual report and recent meeting updates about school nutrition programs, immigration, Budget 2024 and new school project announcements.
- The Vice-President’s report focused on the recent engagement hosted by the Advocacy Committee, and its plans for future sessions.
- Members reviewed the Zone’s financial statements and proposed position statements.
- Various action items were assigned, including survey response followups, bookkeeping information and upcoming events and deadlines, such as:
 - April 29: emergent position statements and bylaw amendments;
 - May 15: ASBA Speaker’s Corner; and
 - June 3-4: ASBA spring general meeting.

ATA LOCAL REPORT

The Board received for information the Alberta Teachers’ Association (ATA) Local No. 28 report from Deneen Zielke, the Local’s President:

- Recently, the ATA submitted feedback to the province about its new draft elementary social studies curriculum. Overall, the content did improve. However, the ATA is concerned with the limited teacher input included in the curriculum and the heavy emphasis on fact memorization versus critical thinking. Zielke encourages everyone to review the draft curriculum and share feedback with the province.
- On April 12, Zielke attended the ATA’s 2024 Collective Bargaining Conference, which included many informative sessions. The highlight: a session facilitated by Jim Stanford, an economist with the Centre for Future Work, who discussed wage indicators, inflation and the provincial and federal debt. According to Stanford, Alberta’s finances are the strongest of all the provinces, yet education spending is the lowest—which is a political choice, not an economic necessity.
- On April 12-14, the Local hosted an information booth at the 2024 Great Canadian Trade Fair and Sale—to build awareness around the importance of a strong public education system.
- On April 13-16, Zielke attended uLead 2024, an annual educational leadership summit that included keynote speakers, learning sessions and networking opportunities.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS GROUP REPORT

The Board received for information the Employee Relations Group (ERG) report from Michelle Miller, the committee’s Chair:

- Recently, the ERG welcomed a new member, Jesse Da Costa, who represents EIPS Central Services.

- On March 1, EIPS held its annual Classified Professional Learning Day—again a huge success. Post-event feedback is positive, with many attendees commenting on how much they enjoyed keynote speaker Lisa Vlooswyk, a Calgary-based motivational speaker who spoke about goal setting.
- On March 19, the ERG enjoyed joining the Board for a luncheon to share information about the group, successes and challenges, and ask questions.
- On April 16, the ERG meeting focused on EIPS' new educational assistant pilot program.

New Business

AMENDED BOARD OF TRUSTEE SCHEDULE: 2023-24

The Board approved the amended Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule for the 2023-24 school year (see pg. 10, "[Amended 2023-24 Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule](#)").

POLICY AMENDMENTS

The Board approved amendments to [Board Policy 13: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters](#). Changes were made to Section 1, regarding suspension and expulsion appeals, and to Section 2.5 to better align with the *Education Act*. Other changes were made to strengthen the policies' clarity and readability.

ACCESSING DIVISION UNALLOCATED RESERVES: 2024-25

The Board approved accessing \$352,000 of the Division's unallocated reserves to cover staffing costs in the 2024-25 school year. EIPS now projects the Division Unallocated Reserve to be \$3.05 million by Aug. 31, 2025—well within the operating reserve limit (see pg. 28, "[Accessing 2024-25 Division Unallocated Reserves](#)").

2023-24 KEY BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

The Board approved the key budget assumptions for the 2024-25 school year (see pg. 30, "[2024-25 Key Budget Assumptions](#)"). The assumptions are based on the Board's mission and belief statements, the Division's [Four-Year Education Plan](#), Alberta's Budget 2024 and the provincial *Funding Manual for School Authorities 2024-25 School Year*. EIPS will use the approved assumptions to develop its 2024-25 spring budget, which helps schools and departments plan for the upcoming school year. As with all assumptions, changes such as funding, reserve usage, enrolment numbers and standard costs can significantly affect the budget.

ASSUMPTION HIGHLIGHTS FOR 2024-25

BUDGET PRIORITIES – Focus areas include classroom complexity, curriculum and resource development to support teachers, the Mental Health Strategic Plan, continued pursuit of the collegiate school and support for career pathways, equitable access to education—for both rural and urban schools, staff retention and artificial intelligence considerations.

ENROLMENT – The Division expects student enrolment to increase by 53 students by fall 2024—to 17,813 students from 17,760 students in fall 2023.

FUNDING GRANTS – For the most part, funding rates remain unchanged. Although, Alberta Education added a new element to the Program Unit Funding Grant. EIPS will now receive 50% of the funding for kindergarten, severe and pre-kindergarten learners registered between Dec. 2, 2024 and Feb. 2, 2025. The Capital Maintenance and Renewal Grant will increase to pre-pandemic levels to \$2.83 million from \$1.14 million. Meanwhile, the Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal Grant will drop \$200,000—to \$2.22 million. Also notable, while the System Administration Grant remains at 3.2% of expenditures, it will increase by \$359,000 because expenditures were higher in 2023 than in 2022. As well, the Mental Health in Schools Pilot Grant is discontinued—as of Dec. 31, 2024.

OTHER REVENUE – EIPS anticipates receiving provincial funding to cover its lease agreements and the Division’s Official Languages in Education Program. The Division will also generate revenue through School Generated Funds and school fees. Similar to last year, the spring budget won’t include funding for the Odyssey Language Program, as it’s unknown if the federal government will continue to support it, and the amount.

COMPENSATION – EIPS anticipates the overall certificated standard costs to increase by 1.79% and standard classified costs to change by (2.5%) and 4.2%. The increases are the result of higher employee benefits rates and salary grid movement.

INFLATION – EIPS anticipates non-salary inflationary increases—based on the overall consumer price index. These include higher costs for insurance, energy, construction labour and materials, fleet purchases and custodial services.

CARBON TAX – EIPS incurs increases in carbon tax costs based on the *2030 Emissions Reduction Plan*, a federal document outlining Canada’s plan to meet its 2030 emissions reduction target. Currently, EIPS pays a \$80 per tonne carbon tax. Annually, that will increase until it reaches the targeted \$170 per tonne in 2030. As a result, it will continue to impact the Division’s budget and remove funds from the classroom.

RESERVES – School Generated Funds are now included when calculating EIPS’ operating reserve limit for Aug. 31, 2025. As such, the limit increased to 6% of the prior year’s operating expenditures, or \$12.45 million. That’s up from the previous limit of 3.2%. What this means: As of Aug. 31, 2025, the Division must ensure its operating reserves are within 6% of its 2023-24 expenses. Any surplus of more than 6% must be returned to Alberta Education. Administration will ensure operating reserves are below that number.

EXPENSES – Administration developed a five-year capital projection that lists anticipated capital needs, including infrastructure technology, fleet vehicles, and careers and technology studies equipment. The list ensures planning occurs for sufficient funds in future years.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEES: 2024-25

The Board approved the Student Transportation fee schedule for the 2024-25 school year. Student Transportation offers an enhanced transportation fee structure. As such, all riders pay a fee for transportation services. It’s an equitable structure for riders and allows EIPS to maintain its current level of service. Thanks to a new provincial funding model for student transportation—introduced in 2023-24—which expands the rider eligibility distance and money to cover higher fuel and inflationary costs, some fees will decrease in 2024-25. The Division will also apply a 40% rebate to current Student Transportation riders—calculated and applied to 2023-24 fees. Additionally, Student Transportation will continue to offer a payment-plan option—available to families with fees of \$300 and more—paid over seven months. The approved 2024-25 student fee schedule is available online at [Student Transportation Fees 2024-25](#), as of May 1.

Committee Report

POLICY COMMITTEE

The Board received for information a report from the Policy Committee meeting held on April 3. The committee reviewed three policies—4, 13 and 24. Amendments to [Policy 13: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters](#) were approved earlier at the April Board meeting (see pg. 3, “Policy Amendments”). Meanwhile, the committee plans to review [Policy 4: Appendix – Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions](#) and [Policy 24: Personal Communication Devices](#) with the Board at the next Caucus meeting in May. Artificial Intelligence (AI) guidelines were also reviewed. Ultimately, the committee determined AI use within the Division is not a governance issue, and guidelines for its use should be determined by EIPS administration.



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

STUDENT EXPULSION COMMITTEE

The Board received for information a report from the Student Expulsion Committee regarding four recent meetings—one on April 5 and three on April 12. The committee reviewed all relevant information and upheld the recommendations put forward by each school's administration.

Board Members

Cathy Allen, *Chair* | Susan Miller, *Vice-Chair* | Trina Boymook | Randy Footz | Colleen Holowaychuk | Don Irwin | Jacqueline Shotbolt | Ralph SoroChan

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Cathy Allen, *Board Chair* | P 780 417 8109

Laura McNabb, *Director, Communication Services* | P 780 417 8204

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