

Ardrossan Junior Senior High School
PAC Meeting Minutes
May 10, 2021

In Attendance: MJ Nam (Principal), Paul Schwartz (Assistant Principal), Lonnie Hicks (Assistant Principal), Ron Horton (Teacher Representative), Skip Gordon (Trustee), Hannah Q (Student Council Representative), Bailey A ((Student Council Representative), Jacqueline Fraser (Mental Health Capacity Builder), Jackie Anderson (Chair), Jennie March (Vice-Chair), Carolyn Van Kleek (CPF Representative), Jen Mailer, Kasia Spiker, Wendy Marty, Dayna McGeachy, Heather Bayne, Angela Ayers, Shelley Christenson, Lisa Slywka, Anna Nygren, Amy Archibald, Vania Lloyd, Cathy Farnell

1. Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.
2. Welcome and Introduction
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes of March 8, 2021 meeting
5. COSC Report – Jackie Anderson
 - There was a COSC meeting on May 5th, 2021.
 - The Division will be using \$2,100,000.00 from reserves for Covid response, including one year allocation for student emotional support and multi-year funding for learning loss and career pathway consultants.
 - There is no option for on-line learning for 2021/22, meaning that the options are in-school attendance or homeschooling without the option to transition between the two.
 - The ATA is selling lawn signs for \$4 to support public education. More information can be found on the ATA website.
 - At the meeting awareness for raised for the internet safety event being hosted by Ardrossan Jr Sr High following the May 10, 2021 Council Meeting.
 - Sherwood Heights is looking for input from interested parties to support the importance of the replacement school initiative with factual information. There will be a website and an email address available shortly where that input can be given.
 - COVID Update – at the time of the meeting 15 schools were on alert status and 5 schools were on outbreak status.
 - Annual Reports are due June 25. Jackie and MJ will review.
 - SCA held an information session covering topics such as why failure is important and the importance of relationships with adults other than parents. The session is available to view through the COSC Facebook group.
6. Trustee Report - Skip Gordon

I am sure that by now everyone is aware that the province has announced several additional health restrictions. The Government has mandated all kindergarten to grade 12 students across the province to temporarily shift to at-home learning beginning Friday, May 7, with a return to in-school learning on Tuesday, May 25.

EIPS has hired an external expert on Curriculum, Janice Aubrey. Ms. Aubrey gave her professional opinion on the merits of the new curriculum in a report that has been submitted to EIPS. The link to that document will be put up on the EIPS website. Timeline is uncertain at this point. I will say that she was not very impressed.

Elk Island Public Schools will return to the semester system for all senior high schools and combined junior-senior high schools in the 2021-2022 school year.

Two modular classrooms will be moved from Campbelltown Elementary to Ardrossan Jr.-Sr. High School for the 2021-2022 school year. This will bring the utilization rate down to 99% from 104%.

The technology fee is on hold. We are waiting to see how much the new curriculum is dependent on technology.

National Volunteer Week took place April 19-23. Within EIPS hundreds of volunteers offer their time and expertise on an ongoing basis. While that work looked a little different this year, the commitment from families remains the same. These efforts help to support the success of EIPS schools and make a profound difference in the lives of students and their learning environments.

For the 2021-2022 school year, funding from Alberta Education remained almost the same as the current school year. Allocations for schools, Supports for Students and Central Services will actually see a slight increase—primarily because of higher standard cost of teachers, benefit expenses, changes in Program Unit Funding and reserve usage. EIPS plans to access \$2.19 million from its operating reserves for schools and departments.

At the April 22 Board meeting, the Board approved the proposed school fees for 2021-2022, which outlines how fees are charged for optional courses, noon supervision and extracurricular expenses. Now approved, each school will post fees on their individual websites.

The Board also approved the Student Transportation fees for next year. For the 2021-2022 school year, fees will remain unchanged from the previous year. Student Transportation will also continue to offer a payment plan option—available to all families with fees of \$300 dollars or more.

7. Teacher Report – Ron Horton

- See attached report.

Jackie thanked the teachers also on behalf of the parents and students.

8. Student Council Report – Hannah Quewezance and Bailey Anderson

- See attached report.

Jackie asked if the Mental Health events were tagged to other organizations. Hannah said they were not, but she would take that suggestion back to Student Council for the future.

Hannah graduates this year so it is her last meeting with parent council. Hannah thanked parent council for inviting her to the meetings. Jackie and MJ, as well as many parents in the group chat, thanked Hannah for her involvement at parent council and wished her the best.

9. Mental Health Capacity Building Report – Jacqueline Fraser

- The plan had been to extend Mental Health Week throughout the whole month of May with different events planned for the school including having tables for different topics such as a myth busters game, mental health for male students and substance use and abuse. There were also plans to pop into classrooms to offer mental health breaks. They are adapting and moving the initiatives on-line.
- There is a bookclub called Between the Lines for parents and they are reading the book The Scaffold Effect. They will meet Wednesdays for an hour for 4 weeks. The book has valuable information for parents of children of all ages.
- Valuable information can be found at: <https://www.strathcona.ca/community-families/parents-children-families/>
- Junior High Journeys – for parents of kids transitioning to junior high. There will be a session June 14.

10. Admin Report - MJ Nam

- MJ thanked parents and students for their support in relation to the death of staff member Cathy Rudnisky, who was not only an educational assistant at the school, but a role model for the students.
- See attached report. MJ is looking for feedback with respect to the goals.
- There is a slight increase in the budget as there are an additional 5 students (870 up from 865 this year). It will seem like there are quite a few more students next year because this year 70-80 students were on-line learning and not in class, but still included in the enrolment numbers, causing in-class sizes to be smaller. Full in-person attendance is expected next year so that it will seem more like an additional 75-85 students rather than an additional 5.
- The modulars being moved to the school are much nicer than the old portables. They will be placed at the end of the 300 wing where the portables were removed. There was also some funds provided for furniture and equipment for the modulars. Having the two modular brings the school capacity from 104% to 99%.
- In terms of students, there are more junior high students expected next year (460) than senior high students (420).
- There is \$20,000 for learning loss to address regression resulting from the transitions back and forth between in-class and on-line learning. The school is looking at strategies for how to use those funds including resources as well as potentially using funds for educational assistants or subs to allow for smaller group learning. \$20,000 does not go very far so the school is spending time gathering information, including looking at learning benchmarks to evaluate needs, before determining how to allocate the funds.
- June exam sittings are on the website and see also at the end of these minutes.
- Classes will end Wednesday, June 23 to allow for the Red Carpet Recognition on June 24th and 25th.

Paul Schwartz

- Parent/teacher/student interviews will be held on-line as in the past. The link will be circulated Friday, May 14 at 3:30 pm. Teachers will phone parents at the number given. Teachers look forward to the opportunity to touch base with parents.
- Grade 9 Recognition – not able to have the same ceremony and dance as was done in past years, but the school is in the stages of planning. There is an in-class plan for a formal day on June 4 where certificates are presented in students' cohorts and there would be a photo booth.

Photos would be turned into a slideshow for parents. The decision as to whether to proceed will be made May 25 once it is known if there is a return to in-class learning. If the in-person plan cannot proceed, the school is looking at a video tribute instead.

- High response to the parent survey this year. Results were good for perceived quality of education, communication and safety. The results showed some improvements over past years, but were generally similar to past results. The school is unable to reach out to families with less positive results to try and address concerns because the survey is anonymous.

Lonnie Hicks

- Red Carpet Recognition for Graduates on June 24 and 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bookings will be done in the same format as parent/teacher interviews. Grads are entitled to bring 9 guests with them. The process will be similar to last year with 4 stages: filming on the red carpet; enter the theater and get caps and gowns with parents; guests enter the theater and then the Grad is announced and comes into the theater and parents give the certificate and move the tassel; leave the theater into the lobby area where the Grad records a message; leave the lobby and pick up the lawn sign and opportunities for photos.
- There is a google form to nominate a parent for the toast to the Grads (and his or her student would give the response toast to the parents).
- Parents of Grads should watch the Grad Instagram page.

11. New Business –

a. COVID Update – nothing further

b. Question – Does EIPS have any plan in place respecting vaccinations as we move forward? Will it impact things such as masking and cohorting, and how will it work with privacy concerns in terms of knowing who has been vaccinated?

- There is no official information available around that at this time.

12. Old Business – None

13. CPF – Carolyn Van Kleek

- The Elementary School raised \$340 through a Cobbs fundraisers offered through the hot lunch program.
- CPF helped cover the cost of 10 sets of French kits for kindergarten this year (\$200).
- The total funds CPF has right now is \$2,500 which is lower than usual because of the inability to hold usual fundraisers, such as the CPR year end BBQ.
- CPF does offer support to the high school as well, including assistance with the Grade 9 Quebec trip.
- Next CPF meeting is Monday, May 17, 2021 at 6:45 p.m. by Google Meet.

14. Next Meeting – September 20, 2021 6:30 p.m. Plan for Google Meet for now.

15. Adjournment – 7:29 p.m.

Ardrossan Jr/Sr High School Council Meeting

May 10, 2021

Teachers' Report

Teacher Representative: Ron Horton

Teachers transitioned from Quarter 3 to Quarter 4. We did have a few days of classes with students before transitioned to online learning. As teachers, we are flexible and were able to make the new system work.

I received feedback from several teachers, and all wanted me to pass on how much we appreciate your support. One wrote to me:

"Please, please, please, thank parents for what are doing to keep their families safe. We know it is not easy having kids at home but know that we appreciate everything that they are doing."

The staff at Ardrossan know that we have amazingly supportive parents, and we are all very thankful for that. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions or concerns.

We look forward to seeing you on May 19th for Parent-Student-Teacher Interviews.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT

April 6 – 9, 2021:

Health Care Appreciation Week

- Students were given the option to submit a small write up about family members who serve in the Health Industry
- Submission were transformed into posters and displayed on school social media platforms and throughout the school

April 20, 2021:

- Scavenger Hunt submissions closed

April 23, 2021:

- Jersey Day
- Students were invited to wear favorite team jerseys

May 3 2021:

- Poster Poacher Event began

May 5, 2021:

- Hat on for Mental Health Day

June 7, 2021:

- Ice Cream Sunshine Day
- Sales will be conducted in Grad Hall

June 16, 2021:

- Beach Day
- Student are invited to welcome summer with their beach themed clothing

**Administration Report
Arrossan Jr. Sr. High School Council Meeting
May 10, 2021**

School Education Plan:

- our 3 goals are:

GOAL 1:

Promote growth and success for all students. (EIPS Priority 1)

1-For all students to experience growth and success in the areas of literacy and numeracy by continuing to build a culture of school-wide collaboration.

GOAL 2:

Enhance High Quality Learning and Working Environments (EIPS Priority 2)

2-Building teacher capacity to improve student learning experiences, engagement, and differentiation through a variety of innovative instructional practices over the course of a school year.

GOAL 3:

Enhance Public Education through effective engagement (EIPS Priority 3)

3-Enhance public education by increasing community involvement, encouraging a culture of social responsibility, and developing empathetic citizens.

Budget and Staffing Update:

- Projections 2021-22
- we will make adjustments to both classes and budget as needed in September

Parent Teacher Interviews

Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences will be held on Wednesday May 19th - 5p.m. to 8 p.m. The teacher will be phoning the number provided during your booked time. Some teachers may choose to do virtual meetings and will communicate the process with those classes. There are no interview meetings at the school.

We will be using an online booking system, as in the past, to book conferences. Bookings will open up Friday May 14th at 3:30pm

Interviews will last 8 minutes, with a 2 minute transition for teachers to prepare for the next appointment.

Parents/Guardians will be prompted to provide a telephone number that you can be reached at during the booked time slot.

Final Sitting Schedule - no leaving after exams-Junior High
Last day of sittings- Wednesday, June 23rd.

Study, Homework, and Doing Your Best

One of the most common questions parents raise at interviews is:

What can we do to help our child improve their marks by the end of the year? There are several steps that can be adhered to which will **enable and ensure success** not only at junior high, but at all grade levels of school work. Using these steps at home will make a tremendous difference.

1. Have a set time to do homework as well as additional time set for nightly study.
2. Have a quiet and comfortable work environment.
3. Monitor that work/study is actually being done.
4. Be available to assist if needed.
5. Ensure studying occurs throughout the term rather than the night or week prior to exams. When your child indicates they have no homework, they do have study and review of the day's, week's and term work.
6. Development of positive work habits can only improve results.
7. Be in contact with teachers through interviews, telephone calls, e-mail or notes and letters.
8. Studying is not just reading over the material, but also rewriting, redoing, practicing, discussing with others, asking as well as answering questions.
9. Check your child's agenda regularly and insist that it be used and filled in.

****EXAM SCHEDULE**- on website**

<https://www.ardrossan.ca/download/344866>


Parent Survey- see website- areas of strength and challenges

Grade 9 Celebration - Mr. Schwartz

Grade 9 Celebration will be taking place on Friday, June 4.- if in person. Cost is \$5 for photo booth. Digital video if we are online as of May 25

Convocation/Red Carpet Recognition- Mr. Hicks

Thursday, June 24 and 25- sign up

 AJS Final Sitting– 4th Quarter 2020-21							
	MON., JUNE 14 DAY 2	TUE., JUNE 15 DAY 1	WED., JUNE 16 DAY 2	THUR., JUNE 17 DAY 1	FRI., JUNE 18 DAY 2	TUES., JUNE 22 DAY 2	WED., JUNE 23 DAY 1
	PART A	PART A	PART A	PART B	PART B	PART B	Part B
Sr High AM	FLA 30-1, 30-2 Social 30-1, 30-2	ELA 10-1 HON					Bio 30 FI FLA 30-1, 30-2 Social 30-1, 30-2 Bio 20 Math 20-1 Physics 20 Science 24 Science 14 ELA 10-1 HON
Sr High PM	ELA 20-1 Social 20-1 FI, 20-2 FI ELA 10-1, 10-2 Social 10-1, 10-2 Social 10-1 FI, 10-2 FI	ELA 30-1, 30-2				ELA 30-1, 30-2 Math 31 Science 30 ELA 20-1 Math 20-1 Social 20-1 FI, 20-2 FI ELA 10-1, 10-2 Math 10-C Social 10-1, 10-2 Social 10-1 FI, 10-2 FI	
Grade 9 AM		ELA 91, 92, 95 Social 96 FI				ELA 91, 92, 95 Social 96 FI	
Grade 9 PM							
Grade 8 AM	FLA 86, 87	Social 83, 85				FLA 86, 87 Math 82 Science 81, 83, 85	Math 81, 87 FI Science 82, 86 FI Social 83, 85
Grade 8 PM		Social 87 FI	ELA 86	Social 87 FI	ELA 86		
Grade 7 AM	ELA 77	ELA 76		ELA 76	ELA 77		
Grade 7 PM	Social 72, 76 FI	ELA 72 Social 73				Math 71, 77 FI Science 73 Social 72, 76 FI	ELA 72 Math 76 FI Science 71, 77 Social 73

*Regular classes are in session.