
ARDROSSAN JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

MINUTES

from School Council Meeting
Monday, May 13, 2024
6:30 PM

In Attendance:

Samantha DeCoursey (Student Council Rep)
Kelly Ferguson (Vice Principal)
Lonnie Hicks (Acting Principal)
Jennie March (President)

Tracey Stock (Teacher Representative)
Lisa Slywka (Secretary)
Anne Wasylyshen (COSC Representative)
Trudy Williamson (Vice Principal)

1. **Call to Order** – meeting called to order at 6:33 PM by Jennie Marsh
2. **Welcome and Introduction** – Jennie Marsh made note that this was the last meeting of the 2023-24 school year
3. **Approval of Agenda** – moved by Anne Wasylyshen
4. **Review & Approval of Minutes** - from March 18 meeting, moved by Anne Wasylyshen
5. **COSC Report** – Anne Wasylyshen
April 3 summary:
 - EIPS Supt. Stoddard focused on preserving choice and the challenges that will present school districts
 - The ATA had a booth set up at Sherwood Park’s Great Canadian Trade Fair and Sale April 12-14, promoting the importance of public education and providing information on current trends from ATA surveys
 - Discussed initiative to implement composting at schools – piloting in classrooms at Ecole Parc in Fort Saskatchewan with support from its municipalityMay 1 summary:
 - ASCA Engagement award presented to EIPS Chair Allen, Supt. Stoddard, and Assoc. Supt. Marshall
 - EIPS Board retreat took place April 8-9. Trustee Miller was discussing future career paths and preparing current students for the job market of the future
 - Conference and AGM was held April 26-28 - elected new board – AGM was generally viewed as a positive experience
 - ASCA golf fundraiser will be held June 5, registration deadline is May 31
 - School council annual reports due June 26 (AJS’ will be completed by Jennie March) – starting in 2024-25, a standard Google form will be provided for annual report completion
 - Supt. Stoddard reinforced importance of school security, keeping doors locked – an administrative procedure (AP) is being developed for all schools during the school day. An opportunity to provide feedback on the AP will be provided at the October 2024 COSC meeting
 - COSC AGM – breakout sessions, keynote was “excellent,” breakout discussion topics included mentorship for new school council chairs, potential for resource sharing

- EIPS' 2024-25 Budget – was not discussed due to time constraints; its details are available on the EIPS website and feedback is being accepted by Supt Stoddard via Central Services – 780-464-3477

QUESTION: when is the budget for 2024-25 to be finalized? Ms. Williamson: May 15

6. **Trustee Report** – Susan Miller – was unable to attend – a summary of her written report is as follows:

- The EIPS board approved an approx.. \$209M operating budget for the 2024-25 school year
- No additional funding has been provided from the Government to deal with inflation related to overhead costs – insurance, operations, transportation, infrastructure maintenance
- EIPS Budget priorities:
 - classroom complexity (1.508M to address achievement results; student population; socioeconomic factors; Indigenous, Inuit, and Metis students; EAL students, student in-care; students with non-leveled special education coding)
 - curriculum resource development
 - the Mental Health Strategic Plan
 - “continued pursuit of the collegiate school,”
 - career pathways
 - equitable access to education for urban and rural
 - staff retention
 - AI considerations
- 2024-25 projected enrollment: 17,813 students, up 53 from 2023-24
- AJS received increase in funds to deal with student enrolment increases and to cover the teachers' collective agreement
- AJS did not receive additional funding for the Reset Room Pilot Project

QUESTION: regarding the carbon tax – when it comes to budgets, is there a line item for this? How is it spent, and how does it impact “the other side?” Ms. Williamson: it will impact the other side, but there are not yet any details provided by EIPS as to how to account for it

- A new Student Transportation Fee Schedule has been posted by EIPS Transportation, which includes “large decreases” for eligible students, EIPS will continue with an optional payment plan
- A Community Conversation evening was held April 25 in Fort Saskatchewan – presentation and panel discussion focused on population growth, limited and aging infrastructure, Collegiate school as part of the three-year Capital Plan
- Trustees visited schools in Fort Saskatchewan (April 11); Ardrossan, Scotford, and Bruderheim (May 6) – trustees appreciate the time and effort invested by host schools

7. **Student Council Report** – Samantha DeCoursey for Bailey Anderson

- Ms. Nam was presented with a farewell Oilers jersey (“Ardrossan – 24”) by the school council
- Talent Show held April 30-May 2: cash prizes for \$10-75 were awarded
- Mother's Day Tea and Planting event with silent auction was held May 7 – proceeds to A Safe Place
- End of Year Field Trip May 31 to the U of A campus, lunch, then laser tag
- Western Day to be held June 5 with pancake breakfast
- Ice Cream Sunshine Day to be held June 5, 6, or 7

8. **Teacher Report** – Ms .Stock

- Ms. Stock listed the upcoming assessment events and indicated field trips that will take place in May and June – all on the school calendar
- Jr and Sr high track meets May 14 and 15
- FLA 9 students head to Quebec during the Victoria Day weekend
- There is so much going on in all departments, it's an exciting, great time of year, students getting so many hands-on learning opportunities

9. **Administration Report** – Mr. Hicks, Ms. Williamson, Mr. Ferguson

- Mr. Ferguson: Gr. 9 Grad to take place May 31 - ceremony and dance
- Ms. Williamson – Grade 12 grad news:
 - further planning being made for the grad, some changes had to be made to the celebration due to power-supply limitations, so a generator will be brought onsite by the County
 - Ardrossan's ward councillor used their discretionary funds to reduce ARC rental for AJS
 - Wilhauk Jerky orders will arrive this week
 - Grad BBQ was an amazing success, MADD driving simulation was onsite again
- Timetable for next year: pretty well finished, enough staff will be present to cover needs, estimated budget was on track with allotment
- EIPS budget allocation is dependent on staffing-total budget ratio of no more than 96% - keep in mind overhead costs
- EIPS has developed a matrix for accommodations related to degrees of need, admin. has been cautioned to be realistic rather than conservative with accommodation budget
- Mr. Hicks – retired during the school year and is on a temp. contract for now as acting principal – he has promised to attend the 2024 AND 2025 graduation ceremonies
- Rod Leatherdale will take over as principal of AJS for the 2024-25 school year, coming from Fort High
- Music Festival, JH Track, Gr. 9 FI trip to Quebec, DELF exams will all take place in May-June
- JR high students will move to a core common exams schedule for June, just like HS students
- Isolation and invigilation will be a challenge for accommodated students due to capacity and space constraints; staff and admin have been innovative with solutions
- Last day of instruction: June 18
- June 19-26 – HS – exams; JHS – still attend classes; if there is a common exam, students must stay in their exam space until the end of the allotted exam time – core, options, phys. Ed teaching will still take place
- Students will be required to stay in the school and will be provided with space to study and prep for exams
- Parents still have the option to make arrangements with the students ahead of time to pick up their child during class time – please contact the Office
- Some parents have requested exam deferrals up until June 26 AM, including PATs but not Diplomas – this is similar to deferral opportunities in January, but there is a final deadline to submit final marks to the district
- Parents should contact the student's vice-principal to make arrangements for deferral – it is easier to arrange deferrals weeks ahead than days ahead
- Teachers have the opportunity to mark PATs collaboratively, excellent PD for teachers
- Bamfield trip – 22 students total (14 Vegreville, 8 AJS) will go to Bamfield in the fall, Ms. W will chaperone

10. New Business

- Staff Appreciation, June 5 - Jennie March has organized all of the signups via Sign-Up Genius, admin will be sure that the links to the signups will be posted in Bison Tracks between now and May 31 – for food, beverages, helping hands

11. Old Business – none

12. CPF Report – no CPF representative was present to provide a summary

13. Next Meeting – first AJS Parent Council meeting and AGM on September 23 at 6:30 PM

14. Adjournment – moved by Anne Wasylyshen, meeting was adjourned at 7:11 PM by Jennie March