

MINUTES

from School Council Meeting
Monday, September 23, 2024
6:30 PM

In Attendance (19):

Jackie Anderson (Vice Chair)	Melissa Manolescu
Ady Arbuckle	Jennie March (President)
Kim Bright	Susan Miller (Trustee)
Samantha DeCoursey (Student Council rep.)	Cheryl Popik
Devid Gordulic (Teacher rep.)	Lisa Slywka (Secretary)
Jill Herbert	Erin Stroud
Kelly Koban	Stephanie Suchy
Rod Leatherdale (Principal)	Val Ulliac
Shyla Locke (Asst. Principal)	Anne Wasylyshen (COSC Representative)
	Trudi Williamson (Asst. Principal)

1. Call to Order
 - Meeting was called to order by Jennie March at 6:40 PM
2. Welcome and Introductions
 - All attendees introduced themselves, indicated their roles and enrolled children
3. Organizational Meeting
 - Election of President – 3 calls were made for position, Jennie March acclaimed
 - Election of Vice-Chair – 3 calls were made for position, Jackie Anderson acclaimed
 - Election of Secretary – 3 calls were made for position, Lisa Slywka acclaimed
 - Election of COSC Representative – 3 calls were made for position, Anne Wasylyshen acclaimed
4. Approval of Agenda
 - Addition to New Business – FI programming going forward, plan for the current group
 - Move to approve agenda made by Val Ulliac, seconded by Jackie Anderson
5. Approval of Minutes (May 13, 2024 meeting)
 - Correction to Mr. Leatherdale’s background was provided by Mr. Leatherdale, minutes for May 13 will be corrected and reposted (see also Bullet 1, No. 10, page 3 of these minutes)
 - Moved by Jackie Anderson, seconded by Anne Wasylyshen
6. COSC Report – Anne Wasylyshen
 - First COSC meeting will be in October

7. Trustee Report – Susan Miller

- June 24 – Board met with Education Minister and focused on the new, collegiate-style, junior-senior high replacement school for Fort Saskatchewan
- July – the Province released one-time funding to all school boards; EIPS received \$1.6M which will go to Next Step, capacity-building efforts, and individual schools based on needs algorithm
- July 18 - Board members attended the Sherwood Park and District Chamber of Commerce luncheon; Premier Smith highlighted the shortage of skilled tradespeople in the Edmonton region
- August 22
 - The Board hosted its annual Welcome Back and Thank-you breakfast for Central Services staff
 - At the Board meeting, Cathy Allen was acclaimed Board Chair, Susan Miller Vice-chair (Congratulations!)
 - The Board approved transferring \$1M to the EIPS' Capital reserve from its Operating reserve to ensure that the EIPS surplus remains in line with the Province's spending limits
 - The Board directed EIPS Administration to provide an allocation report for capital projects before Board trustees approve the 2024-25 fall budget

QUESTION: what is a collegiate-style school?

Ms. Miller: to support power engineering and electrical training, labs will be installed in the school, also training for EAs, nursing assistants. Dow and Shell are contributing to collegiate

QUESTION: how does this differ from RAP?

Ms. Miller: it is an accelerated version, will do academics half of the day, then be in the labs the other half

QUESTION: how much money is coming from EIPS?

Ms. Miller: those details have yet to be worked out. At this point, the collegiate is still in the approved stage

QUESTION: is this the new Fort HS, or is this additional?

Ms. Miller: this will be a wing in the new Fort HS Leatherdale: there is HS funding and then separate collegiate funding of approx. \$5M, designed to meet needs in community as well as industry – a result of collaborative partnerships. This is the first step in apprenticeship. Facey has a number of journeyperson instructors, and the program is successful

QUESTION: how will it be funded?

Ms. Miller: funding will be maintained with partner contributors such as Dow and Shell.

Mr. Leatherdale: up-to-date equipment is key, similar to NAIT

QUESTION: money was moved from capital to operating reserve – what are the plans for that money?

Ms. Miller: this remains to be seen. Gov't has capped the operating reserves, so this move was to retain the funds.

8. Student Council Report – Samantha DeCoursey

- Council has elected a new president and two vice presidents, a treasurer, a PC liaison, and two Grade 12 reps
- Halloween 2024 planning will start this Wednesday at 7:30 AM

9. Teacher Report – Mr. Gordulic

- Off to a really good start to the year, smooth sailing, getting back into routines, kids settling in
- Bison Thunder Run – winners going to EIPS Cross-Country run
- River Watch next week
- Orange Shirt Day is Friday

- Football – 3 games already
- Ms. Webb is forming a HS improv group

10. Administration Report – Mr. Leatherdale

- Mr. Leatherdale indicated that he comes to AJS as Principal from Central Services as the Team Lead for Supports for Students. Mr. Leatherdale has been with EIPS for 26 years, 16 as an administrator, was at AJS for 4 years before moving to Central Services 10 years ago.
- Current status:
 - enrollment: 852 students
 - New staff: 1 new counsellor, 1 new EA, 3 new teachers, 2 new administrators
 - A number of student teachers will be at AJS this fall as well, into both JR and SR grades
 - AJS is still closed boundary
- Mental Health in Schools Pilot: additional funding to support the Reset room, 2 staff leads will continue to build capacity, working with both staff and students to support student self-regulation
- Grade-level Assemblies took place in early September in the theatre – expectations, code of conduct, and plans for promoting a safe, caring learning environment were presented, as was the cellphone policy, locked outside doors, and bullying-behaviour issues
- My Blueprint: “a comprehensive education and career/life planning [online] program” to help students plan for post-graduation – will be hosted on Power School
- Safe travels:
 - Grades 7-9 must remain in school property during lunchtime, and Grades 10-12 can leave property. Concerns re: safe routes to the new strip mall have been raised with Strathcona County, no resolution timeline has been determined.
 - Concerns re: Entry/Exit for students who drive as it is very close to the entry/exit for the business next door
 - Message re: road safety was emailed to parents September 20
 - Concerns over lack of pedestrian access on this secondary highway were expressed by meeting attendees, discussed contacting the County Council to see if something can be done
- Provincial Apprenticeship Day: Monday, September 23. AJS celebrated current and former RAP students, one staff member’s accomplishments
- Athletics: Football, Volleyball, Cross-country running, are now underway; one AJS student is competing in golf at the Provincial level
- Upcoming Events: please see the school website and Bison Tracks for more details

QUESTION: why no fries M-W? This is why students are walking to A&W.

S. DeCoursey: New Comm. Foods teacher says that it’s not profitable. (Many attendees did not agree with the teacher’s assessment)

Mr. Leatherdale: principal and new teacher talked about healthy options, focus on the Culinary program. It’s something that the admin. will monitor and see whether we need to change things down the road.

QUESTION: re: fry thing – this is what kids want. They won’t want the new menu items.

Mr. Leatherdale: we will keep an eye on sales, popularity.

QUESTION: Awards night – are you still doing the Grade 12 French award? The CPF will need the name of the recipient for the award.

Ms. Locke: Yes, and the recipient’s name will be provided to CPF.

11. New Business - French Immersion program for Grade 10 moving forward – Ulliac and Herbert

- This year's Grade 10 class will be moving to Salsibury for Grade 12 in 2027 and will risk missing out on graduating with an FI diploma because of the French-language course-credit threshold laid out by the Province.

QUESTION: Is there a way to keep them here for Grade 12? Should they give up FI so that they can be with their friends?

Mr. Leatherdale: this is not a school-based decision, but AJS administration has reached out to Central Office about this. There will be a survey distributed to EIPS parents, and parents are encouraged to express their thoughts.

QUESTION: Is there no plan in place to ensure that those Grade 12 students will be able to graduate with a FI diploma? Some course choices need to be made this year for those Grade 10s to be able to graduate with enough French-language credits to qualify for an FI diploma

Mr. Leatherdale: commends suggestions made, but no plans are in place for any of this

- Concerns were expressed that EIPS should have anticipated these issues as part of the decision to move the FI program over the past several years

QUESTION: what are the best next steps for parents to take?

Ms. Miller: will bring this issue to Supt. Stoddard to have this addressed ASAP

Ms. Anderson: it needs to be clearly relayed what options are available, and at this point, there seem to be none

- Attendees noted that French is not available in summer school

Ms. Miller: contact me directly, and I will take this to Supt. Stoddard

MS. Locke: FI diploma requirements are posted on the AB ED website

- Attendees expressed concerns about a lack of French-qualified staffing to ensure that students in this predicament will be able to finish their high schooling at AJS

12.Old Business

- No old business

13.CPF Report

- A \$250 CPF scholarship will be awarded in October at AJS Awards night

14.Next Meeting – November 18, 2024 @ 6:30 PM

- CPF meeting will be at 6:00 PM on the same day

15.Adjournment

- Made by Jackie Anderson, meeting adjourned by Jennie March at 7:47 PM