

Wes Hosford Parent Council Meeting
Thursday, March 17, 2022
Virtual Meeting

Virtual Attendees: Courtney K, Caitlin H, Kya M, Colleen S, Loretta C, Kerry Lyn H, Amy F

WH Staff: Nicole Niles, Ralph Arndt, Sue Freiheit

EIPS Trustee: Don Irwin

1. **Welcome and Call to Order** - Kya called the meeting to order at 6:31pm

2. **Adoption of minutes from last meeting**
 - a. Motion to adopt minutes by Caitlin
 - b. Motion seconded by Kerry
 - c. Motion carried, minutes adopted.

3. **Trustee's Report- Don Irwin (EIPS Trustee)**
 - a. Our longer days and better weather continue to bring encouragement to students, families, and staff.
 - b. The Provincial budget was released on February 25 and initially looks encouraging but like last year it will take until the end of March to obtain the details we need to make any real decisions about next school year. The board has special meetings added in March to work on the details of the budget.
 - c. Attendance and absenteeism continue to be at the average rate across the district for students and staff.
 - d. Curriculum implementation has been scaled back to only English Language Arts and Literature and Mathematics for Kindergarten to Grade 3 in September 2022 and in Grades 4 to 6 in September 2023. Physical Education and Wellness will be implemented in Grades K to 6 in September 2022.
 - e. Trustees will be visiting all schools in Sherwood Park starting in April.
 - f. I'm sure you're looking forward to spring break coming up March 28 to April 1.
 - g. I am particularly looking forward to the student conference for grade 7 to 12 to be held on April 12.
 - h. The Alberta School Council conference is coming up April 22 and 23 and the complementary registration per school closes with the April 15 registration deadline.
 - i. If you have comments or questions please ask them during the meeting or email me at don.irwin@eips.ca or call or text me at 587-986-3900.

Question from Kerry - EIPS posted on Facebook about the funding going to charter schools - how much advocacy should there be through a school board?

Answer from Don – EIPS advocacy is for funding for public schools; funding for charter or private schools takes away from that.

Question - How much money is allocated per child at EIPS? And how does that compare to Edmonton Public and Calgary Public School Board? Don will get an answer to Sue to get back with the answer.

Answer - We cannot compare between Divisions as we do not have access to the school status reports for other Divisions as well as each Division calculates it differently.

This year the per/pupil allocation for EIPS is \$6064 for grades 1-6. There is an averaging process that happens in order to make planning at the school level more efficient, but generally the school receives \$5028.

4. Principal's report - Sue Freiheit

- a. Fees – last report before going to central office. No fee changes from last year.
- b. Kindergarten information night – April 28th at 6:30pm at the school.
- c. More changes to EIPS operating procedures – we can now go back to the school.
- d. Would we like to move this meeting back to the school library? The group voted on 3 options:
 - i. In-person only
 - ii. Online only
 - iii. Hybrid

Results were a tie between hybrid and online only. Sue and Ralph to confirm.

Decision: Based on follow up feedback we will have an online final meeting.

- e. New curriculum – k-3 teachers will be working hard to roll out the new curriculum. Administration is supporting the teachers – big challenge ahead to get all this ready for the fall. Thank you, teachers!

Question – Sue's last email referenced "lake Wes Hosford" meaning there will be a lot of water on the grounds as the snow melts. Is there a school board plan to mitigate this? Don will follow up with the maintenance department.

Answer – The water is pumped out by the county one or two times each depending on need.

Question - When is Haythorne orientation? Don will also look into this for the group. Sue reported that on April 5th Haythorne is coming to the school to visit with grade 6's in the classroom.

Answer – April 5th at 4:00 is the online parent meeting

5. Vice Principal's report - Ralph Arndt

- a. Happy St. Patrick's Day – sea of green at the csc
- b. Parent teacher interviews next week – parents can sign up now. Over the phone this time.
- c. Blanket exercises teaching the history of colonization from the indigenous perspective coming for grades 5 and 6.
- d. Substitute appreciation week – all our awesome subs got a treat.
- e. Spring concert prep is underway. Will be virtual – stay tuned for info.

- f. Clubs are starting up again – volleyball for grades 5 and 6, and math club with Mrs. Murray for grade 5 starting soon.

6. Teacher's Report – Nicole Niles

- a. Upcoming events
 - i. Division 1 – Salisbury comp high school coming to do a fairy tale presentation. Getting to gather in the gym together again. Students will be practicing assemblies.
 - ii. Division 2 – exploring going to Bev Facey to watch a performance. Dates TBD.
- b. Report cards are complete and being sent out tomorrow. Looknig forward to sharing children's progress on upcoming calls.
- c. Learning loss funding – small group support for both literacy and math has begun and it's making a really positive impact. Hoping to continue that into next year.
- d. As Covid protocols lift – hoping to organize a sports day this year and organize a family picnic day at the same time.

Question from Colleen – can we add a fundraising option for a concession at sports day? Sue and Nicole say yes, we can definitely look into it.

7. Parent Council Business

- a. No current business.

8. New Business

- a. Albert Council of Student Councils. Are we looking into sending a representative? Caitlin says yes. If EIPS is providing funding for it, we should send out to parent group to find a volunteer. It is April 23-24 with AGM on April 25. Caitlin to send out message to the group to look for a volunteer and ask Don for funding.
- b. Sue had talked with Mr. Gibson about a virtual book fair and he has set it up. Details will be coming out via email.
- c. Teacher Appreciation – the group voted to spend \$13 per person for approximately 25 people to purchase food for teacher appreciation.

7. Closing

- a. Kya adjourn meeting at 7:01pm.
- b. Next meeting Thursday, March 19, 2022.