

Wes Hosford School Council – Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 15, 2025
Hybrid Meeting - School Library & Google Meet

In Person Attendees: Tawnia McQueen, Kilby Ritchie, Courtney Kohlruss, Loretta Campbell, Chelby Tait, Rebecca Ross, Melanie Kennard, Erin Ramme

Online Attendees: Trenna Stott, Larissa Henderson, Kayla Brady

EIPS Staff: Susan Freiheit, Ralph Arndt, Kristy Thiessen, Don Irwin, Melissa Kerr

1. Call to order & Welcome

- a. Tawnia called the meeting to order at 6:31pm.
- b. Land Acknowledgement by Kilby Ritchie.
- c. Introductions.
- d. Meeting Procedures.

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Any additions to the agenda?
 - i. No
- b. Kilby motioned to approve the agenda.
 - i. Erin seconded the motion.
 - ii. All in favour?
 1. Yes
 - iii. Agenda approved

3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from March 13, 2025

- a. Kilby motioned to approve minutes from Thursday, March 13, 2025
 - i. Loretta seconded the motion.
 - ii. All in favour?
 1. Yes
 - iii. Minutes Adopted

4. Trustee's Report - Don Irwin

- a. Courtney asks about the cooling off period for ATA vote. Is EIPS thinking ahead with any contingency plan? Answer, Yes.
- b. Tawnia asks what the open/close dates for school trustees are? Answer, September 22.
- c. The Board of Trustees reviewed and approved the transportation fees for next year on May 1st. Transportation fees are increasing by \$25 in each category for the coming year. The increase is to help offset a reduction in

grant funding from the province. Tentative route schedules have been drawn up and transportation fee invoices have been sent to all parents. The fees are due by June 30th for the early bird rate. Fees paid on time help student transportation ensure the division has enough buses and drivers, enables the planning of bus routes and accurate scheduling and ensures timely communication with the families. After June 30th there will be an additional \$25 fee applied to each category.

- d. Long Service and Retirement
- e. On May 6th we celebrated the long Service Awards for all staff with 20 years of experience. As well there were 12 certificates presented for educational assistants, Library Tech and a master's degree. There are 22 staff retiring next year. We appreciate the service of all staff.
- f. Trustee Election Handbook
- g. This has been updated for the election on October 20, 2025 and can be viewed on the website - eips.ca.
- h. Superintendent's Evaluation
- i. In May, the Board of Trustees will take a full day to evaluate the performance of our Superintendent. This evaluation is done annually.
- j. 2025/2026 Budget
- k. The Board has spent much time in April and May reviewing expenditures and revenues and finalizing the new budget. There are some increases for inflation.

5. Principal's Report - Susan Freiheit

- a. Survey Results
 - i. Detailed results can be found online.
 - ii. Strengths were, students are encouraged to do their best, students encouraged, students cared for and school is safe. Great culture in school.
 - iii. Opportunities were, resources available, educational quality, divisions commitment to engage stakeholders.
 - iv. You can go through individual schools' survey priorities on their websites.
- b. Budget
 - i. Sue shares class composition for 2025/26, 298 students in 11 classes.
 - ii. Students will tentatively know which class they will be in before the end of year.
 - iii. Meet the teacher scheduled for August 27th
 - iv. Staff thankful for Fundraising contributions to school resources.

- c. Welcome Melissa Kerr
 - i. Sue has been working with her for a while now on school operating tasks and planning to collaborate.
 - ii. Ms. Kerr has been with EIPS for over 20 years.
 - iii. Tawnia requests that dates are shared between school council and Mrs. Kerr for approval and collaboration.

6. Vice Principal's Report - Ralph Arndt

- a. No portables will be lost after all!
- b. Blanket exersize with grade 5 and % split will take place on may 27th.
Indigious consultant joining.
- c. Indigenous kits within EIPS, this month WHF has the "games" kits.
- d. Sports Day June 24 with lunch on the land.

7. Teacher's Update - Kristy Thiessen

- a. Students are busy celebrating Mothers Day, and getting excited for the end of school. Fathers Day activities are coming soon!
- b. Thank you to all parent volunteers!
- c. Thank you for the special pizza lunch!

8. School Council Old Business

- a. ASCE Grant, will be invited back in the autumn.
- b. Land Acknowledgement Initiative for plaque to be placed near the playground. Tabled for now.
- c. Kindergarten night went great!

9. School Council New Business

- a. Thank you current school council executive team!
- b. Tawnia needs to complete School Council report by June 20 and submit to Sue
- c. Budget Requests:
 - i. Sunshine Budget Request for 2025/26 \$1,500
 - ii. Need more funds for meet the teacher night in August
 - iii. Need more volunteer help for Sunshine for 2025/26
- d. COSC needs a new volunteer representative to attend meetings
- e. Bookfair for 2025/26 get dates to Rebecca Ross after confirming with Ms. Kerr
- f. Sunshine Committee Report - Chelby Tait
 - i. Bus driver recognition
 - ii. Pizza lunch for staff

- iii. Showed recognition to terry on Admin day
- iv. Duck hunt
- v. Sunshine budget presented for attendees to look at
- vi. volunteer appreciation June 17 7-9:00 wye rd bp
- g. Voting for Executive Positions for 2025/2026 school year:
 - i. School Council Secretary
 - 1. Loretta Campbell nominates Courtney Kohlruss
 - 2. Courtney accepts the nomination
 - 3. Are there any other nominations?
 - a. No
 - 4. All in favour of Courtney for the School Council Secretary?
 - a. Yes
 - 5. Courtney Kohlruss nominated as School Council Secretary by acclamation for 2025/26 school year.
 - ii. School Council Chair
 - 1. Kilby Ritchie nominates Melissa Mitchell
 - 2. Melissa accepts via written confirmation
 - 3. Are there any other nominations?
 - a. No
 - 4. All in favour of Melissa for the position of School Council Chair?
 - a. Yes
 - 5. Melissa Mitchell nominated as School Council Chair by acclamation for 2025/26 school year.
 - iii. School Council Vice Chair
 - 1. Kilby Ritchie nominates Chelby Tait
 - 2. Chelby accepts nomination
 - 3. Are there any other nominations?
 - a. No
 - 4. All in favour of Chelby for the position of School Council Vice Chair?
 - a. Yes
 - 5. Chelby Tait nominated as School Council Vice Chair by acclamation for 2025/26 school year.

10. Adjournment

- a. Tawnia adjourned the meeting at 7:27pm
- b. Next meeting TBA

