

Sherwood Heights Junior High School Council

Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

October 15, 2024 – 6:00pm – Sherwood Heights Junior High School

Attendance:

SWH Administration: Sunny S. (Principal), Johanna R. (Registrar)

School Council: Kim S (Chair), Becky M (Vice Chair)

SWH parent/guardian: Christina S. Rachel B

Meeting Minutes

1. Kim called the meeting to order at 6:06pm
2. Welcome and Introductions

Kim Scott- Chair

Becky Mitchell- Vice Chair

(Not in attendance) Melissa Manolescu- Secretary

3. Board Report

Trustee Cathy Allen presented the Board Report

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Trustee Report

GOVERNANCE AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The Board approved piloting a new committee for the 2024-25 school year—the Governance and Evaluation Committee. Throughout the year, the committee will review the *Board Handbook*, develop the Board retreat agenda, work on the Superintendent evaluation, Board self-evaluation and Board work plan, and prepare for the upcoming trustee election and related onboarding. After the year, trustees will determine whether or not to make Governance and Evaluation a standing committee going forward.

TRUSTEE REMUNERATION

The Board approved the trustee remuneration for the 2024-25 school year—unchanged from the previous year.

BOARD POLICY 24

The Board approved rescinding Policy 24: Personal Communication Devices. The guidelines for personal communication device usage in schools are now outlined in Administrative Procedure 145: Use of Personal Mobile Devices

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SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION ACCELERATOR PROGRAM

EIPS did not receive funding from the School Construction Accelerator Program announced by Alberta Education. The new schools, replacement schools and new modulares will be most welcomed in Alberta school divisions to address enrolment pressures and ageing infrastructure. We will continue to advocate for our EIPS Capital Plan requests. The number one request is a Grades 7-12 replacement school for Fort High and Rudolph Hennig and the number 2 request is a replacement school for James Mowat.

COLLABORATION AND PROFESSIONAL LEARNING – DRAFT ALTERNATE CALENDARS

The Board reviewed extensive research on the impact collaboration and professional learning have on student achievement. The research clearly demonstrates teacher collaboration enhances collective efficacy, pedagogical practices and student outcomes. Given a key EIPS priority is “enhancing growth and success for all students,” the Board wants to explore alternative Division calendars that embed formal collaboration time.

As such, the Board directed administration to:

1. Develop alternate Division calendar options, 2025-26 and 2026-27, for the Board’s consideration—with collaborative teacher-learning opportunities and a November break embedded within each option.
2. Survey EIPS stakeholders to collect feedback about the possible calendar options.
3. If an alternative calendar is approved, create a new draft administrative procedure, entitled Collaboration and Professional Time, outlining expectations related to professional collaborative learning time.

The stakeholder survey is open from October 10-21, 2024. Superintendent Stoddard has recorded a video that further explains the research used in the creation of the two alternate calendars. This video is linked to the survey.

PROGRAM UPDATE: READ AND LEVERAGING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Board received for information an update on two literacy and numeracy intervention pilot projects: the Reading Enrichment and Development (READ) pilot project and a junior high pilot project funded through Leveraging Student Achievement. In 2023, EIPS launched the READ pilot project, a program aimed at improving student reading achievement through targeted intervention based on the science of reading. Seven schools took part in the program—five in Fort Saskatchewan and two rural schools. Each school received two rounds of intervention for a seven-week period, which included pre- and post-intervention assessments. In total, 50 students took part in READ, receiving intervention in four small-group sessions a week, with each session lasting 40 minutes. Post-intervention testing showed significant improvements for learners—specifically in the areas of letter identification, sounds and phoneme manipulation.

EIPS also used Board-allocated Leveraging Student Achievement funding to address learning gaps seen at the junior high level. In 2023-24, four schools were selected for literacy intervention and four schools for numeracy intervention—based on Star Reading, Star Math and Provincial Achievement Test scores. Schools received six weeks of intervention programming, totaling 12 hours of targeted instruction per

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student. In total, 55 students received literacy support, and 57 received numeracy support. Similar to the READ program, post-intervention testing demonstrated improved outcomes for students. Thanks to the success of the READ pilot project, the Division has expanded the program to include all elementary schools across the Division. It's also reviewing next steps for the junior high pilot.

SUGGEST A NAME FOR THE SHERWOOD PARK REPLACEMENT SCHOOL

Students, families, staff and community members are all invited to submit suggestions for the name of the Sherwood Park Replacement School. This opportunity will be open from October 15-31, 2024. Stay tuned for the survey link as well as postcards that will be distributed in the school.

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Allen

cathy.allen@eips.ca

780-417-8109

News article from CBC- 22 million given to EPS to relieve enrolment pressure. Was EIPS given funding?

A: yes, EIPS was given 1.6million because a formula was used. Small school grants are also accessible for rural schools because EIPS is a unique board.

4. Principal Report

- First 6 weeks of school was busy and SWH has had a strong start.
- Terry Fox assembly/Cougar run
- Read in week- with Ecole Campbelltown Elementary
- Theme for 24-25: Words and Actions
- Attendance is up, students are in class. An improvement from previous years.
- All new Administration team working hard to bring new culture, and a new presence for the student body.
- Clubs and activities are well underway
- Awards Ceremony set for November 21
- Parent Teacher Interviews: October 24 and 29

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a. School Education Plan

-Administration working to update school goals

-Current goals focus on mental health

-Shift to a more academic focus

-Admin feels a focus on academics will also support student behavior

Admin will be sharing data from previous year with families.

b. School Resource Officers

They have budgets, this year there are 4 assigned Resource Officers for Elk Island Community.

This year Sunny asked that Officers keep an eye out on our front entrance because the loss of parking lot due to construction. They won't be a large presence in SWH this year, school will call when Officers are needed.

c. Replacement school build update

-the new School Naming process has started- Survey has been sent out

-walls are going up in the build, live build camera is put up

d. Wellness Day

-cost of event is high

-a lot of work for staff

-data has shown that it was not as effective for school community.

-took away from instructional minutes

-looking to work toward a different theme

Parent suggestion: Career Day, suggested trades come to speak to student

5. Questions:

No Parent Questions.

6. Adjournment – Kim called a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm

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Upcoming School Council Meeting Dates – All meetings will be held in the school library at 6:00 p.m.

- Tuesday, November 19, 2024
- Tuesday, January 21, 2025
- Tuesday, March 18, 2025
- Tuesday, April 15, 2025
- Tuesday, May 20, 2025

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