



## Lamont High School Parent Advisory Council

Date: May 21, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Lamont High School

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### 1. Call to order: 6:38 pm

#### In Attendance:

- Marlis Marler (Assistant Principal)
- Kelly Sawatzky (Principal)
- Sylvia McDonald (Chair)
- Terri Barron (Secretary)
- Colleen Holowaychuk

### 2. Welcome & Introductions:

### 3. Review & Approval of Agenda -

Not enough present to approve

### 4. Approval of last month's meeting minutes -

Not enough present to approve

### 5. Principal Report - Kelly Sawatzky (Principal)

#### 1. April - May

- a. Career Fair
- b. Drama
- c. Athletics
- d. Course Selection

#### 2. Next Few Months

- a. Rural teacher recruitment video
- b. Grad/grad week
- c. Year End

**3. 2024/25 School Year**

- a. Assistant Principal
- b. Hiring
- c. Door locking procedures

**4. Funding Request**

- a. Chromebooks - Thank you!

**6. Trustee Report - Colleen Holowaychuk**

**Volunteer Appreciation Week**

April 15-19, 2024

Thank you to all volunteers in our division!

**Transportation Fees 2024-2025**

Eligible - Students who meet the distance eligibility criteria and are therefore funded regardless of whether they attend their designated or non-designated school.

(1km or greater for students Kindergarten to Grade 6)

(2km or greater for students grade 7-12)

Ineligible – Students who do not meet the distance eligibility criteria and are not funded regardless of whether they attend their designated or non-designated school.

(Alberta Education now funds students, within their school division, to the school they are attending rather than just their designated school.)

Fee Description	2023-2024 Fees	2024-2025 Fees before June 30	2024-2025 Fees after June 30
Eligible Fees	ranged from \$75.00 to \$325.00	\$75.00	\$100.00
Ineligible Kindergarten		\$150.00	\$175.00
Eligible Kindergarten		\$50.00	\$75.00
Ineligible Additional Bus		\$100.00	\$125.00
		\$100.00	\$125.00

**Budget 2024-2025**

(For more information, please see the very detailed budget report in the May 2, 2024, Board Meeting package, which can be found online).

Although the Alberta Education profile saw an overall increase of 4%, the 2024-2025 budget for EIPS and many other school divisions in the province is going to be very tight, as no increases for inflationary costs were included.

## **2024-2025 Budget Priorities for the Board are:**

### **1. Complexity in classrooms**

A new complex classroom allocation of \$1.508 million for schools.

This new allocation is based on an algorithm including the following factors:

- o Provincial Achievement and Diploma Test results including standard deviation/mean, o socio-economic factors,
- o First Nation, Métis, and Inuit self-identified students,
- o English as an Additional Language,
- o students in care; and
- o students with non-levelled special education codes, and student population size.

Overall, the total amount allocated to schools has not changed significantly, but some schools see overall increases and others see overall decreases.

### **2. Curriculum and resource development**

### **3. Mental health strategic plan**

### **4. Collegiate program and career pathways**

### **5. Equity for rural and Equity for all**

#### **Rural**

Mileage allocation for schools in Sectors 4 (Lamont County) and 5 (Vegreville) will continue.

This is to fund staff traveling to Central Services for professional development and/or meetings.

This provides for one principal meeting per month, one assistant principal meeting every two months and one staff person meeting per year.

Letter of Understanding to allow for a travel allowance for certificated substitutes for eight rural schools.

For the two rural small schools, Bruderheim and Mundare, the amount reduced from their block funding for operations has been lessened, allowing them to keep more funding.

There continues to be a \$30 per student Distance allocation for rural (costs more for field trips etc.) provided to schools in Sectors 4 and 5.

#### **Equity for all**

The additional special education programs in Fort Saskatchewan implemented last year will remain. (One program in Lamont is on hold currently though as there are not enough students registered in the program).

Complexity allocation considers lower socio-economic status factors and other factors that are unique to each school.

Classified staff will be able to take their second personal business day without providing the funds for a sub to the Division.

### **6. Retention of staff**

The Division is looking to hire more permanent educational assistants and less hourly for the 2024-25 year.

Classified staff will be able to take their second personal business day without providing the funds for a sub to the Division.

### **7. Artificial intelligence and digital tools**

#### **Reserves**

On August 31, 2024, reserves will need to be at 3.2% of prior year expenditures.

On August 31, 2025, reserves will need to be at 6% of prior year expenditures, but this will also include SGF (school generated funds)

### **System Administration**

Held to a maximum of 3.2% of prior year expenditures.

Schools and departments received their budgets allocations on May 2, 2024.

EIPS finalized budget will be submitted to Alberta Education after our budget board meeting on June 6, 2024.

### **School Tours**

April 11, 2024 – Fort Saskatchewan area

May 6, 2024 – Bruderheim, Scotford Colony and Ardrossan

**Bruderheim School Event May 1, 2024**, Phil Callaway Comedian dinner and show. Thank you for the invitation. It was a great evening!

### **School Council Engagement Award**

Elk Island Public Schools was nominated and received this award from the Alberta School Councils Association! Thank you to our Committee of School Councils for the nomination.

**Blanket Exercise** was held at Lamont Elementary School on May 2, 2024.

### **Bus Driver Appreciation Day May 3, 2024**

### **Long Service Awards May 7, 2024**

### **7. Town Report - Colleen Holowaychuk (absent, sent via email)**

### **Budget 2024**

Approved with a 0.5% mill rate increase, minimum tax amount increased to \$750 from \$700. Assessments increased by 3.4%. The town has no control over the assessment % but it does increase the total tax increase amount.

2023 Audited Financial Statements - Approved and ended the year with a \$105,000 surplus.

### **Volunteer Appreciation**

Annual Volunteer Appreciation Evening was held on April 17, 2024, in Lamont. I was pleased to MC the event.

**Hawk Perches** - Two perches have been installed to help with the gopher population.

**Lamont Farmers' Market** - Will start again May 15 -Sept 15, 2024, at the Hall /Arena

**Town Wide Clean Up** – Was held May 11, 2024.

**National Public Works Week** - May 19-25, 2024

**Park and Recreation Survey** -will run from May 10-September 16, 2024

**Tree Canada Grant** – The Town received \$10,000. This will help to replace the trees that were lost due to black knot as well as add some to the park if there is enough money left.

**Spray Park** – opened May 17, 2024.

**Yard Beautification Awards** – There will be awards in three categories: most improved yard, best yard, and most colorful yard. See Facebook for more details.

**Rural Health Professionals Attraction and Retention Committee** – a new committee will have a town council representative who will work alongside others from healthcare to increase rural health attraction and retention.

**Alberta Rural Health Week** – May 27-31, 2024

**Community Wide Garage Sale** - June 1, 2024. The Public Library Board will be hosting a spaghetti luncheon fundraiser at the meeting room.

**Lamont Public Library Online Auction** is currently being held to support the library as well. See Facebook for details. Closes May 29, 2024.

**Community Futures Lemonade Day** – June 15, 2024, a free, fun, experiential learning program that teaches youth how to start, own and operate their own business.

### **Council Meetings**

Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month 7pm. Always live streamed on Facebook. Next meeting is May 28, 2024.

The Town of Lamont FB Page is always a great place to look for information.

### **8. Old Business - Saffron Presentation - Sylvia McDonald**

We will look into more Saffron presentations next year.

### **9. New Business**

### **10. Questions/Round Table -**

### **11. Next Meeting - September 2024 Date TBD**

### **12. Meeting adjourned: 7:36 pm**