



Lamont High School Parent Advisory Council

Date: October 8, 2024

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Lamont High School

1. Call to order: 6:35 pm

In Attendance:

- Melissa Aylward (Treasurer)
- Peter Vandermeulen (Assistant Principal)
- Kelly Sawatzky (Principal)
- Sylvia McDonald (Chair)
- Melissa Young (Vice-Chair)
- Terri Barron (Secretary)
- Colleen Holowaychuk (Trustee)
- Heather Rideout
- Krista Skinner
- Bobbi Moonen
- Nadia Chopping

2. Welcome & Introductions:

3. Review & Approval of Agenda -

Nadia Chopping made a motion to pass the agenda as presented. Seconded by Krista Skinner. All in favor. Motion passed.

4. Review and Acceptance of last meeting minutes

Approval of May's meeting minutes -

Krista Skinner made a motion to approve May's minutes. Seconded by Nadia Chopping. All in favor. Motion passed.

5. Trustee Report - Colleen Holowaychuk

Annual Pancake Breakfast to Kickoff School Year 2024-2025

Trustees welcomed central office staff with the annual pancake breakfast on August 22, 2024.

Board Organizational Meeting – August 22, 2024

Board Chair – Cathy Allen

Vice Chair – Susan Miller

Allocation of \$1.6 million additional dollars received from the Government

In July, the Province announced additional one-time funding to all Boards.

As taken from the announcement:

“Alberta’s population is booming and causing unprecedented growth in our education system, adding a historic number of new students across the province for the 2024-25 school year.

Alberta’s government recognizes and sympathizes with the challenges school authorities face with increasing enrolment, rising operational costs and inflation.

That is why it is investing \$215 million to help alleviate these pressures, beginning in the 2024-25 school year. We are providing school authorities with an additional \$125 million for the 2024/25 school year to address higher-than-expected enrollment growth and unavoidable cost pressures, including inflation.

Funding may be used to hire additional teachers and classroom support staff, so school authorities can manage class sizes and the growing number of students.”

EIPS’ portion is approximately \$1.6 million based on the enrollment numbers used in the spring budget. This number will be updated based on our true enrollment on Sept. 27, 2024.

There are no restrictions on how EIPS uses these funds.

Given that the spring budget already covered inflationary costs, the administration wanted to allocate the majority of the funds to schools, to address a key budget priority – classroom complexity.

The method of allocating the newly released funds follows the classroom complexity allocation methodology based on an algorithm which includes the following factors:

- Provincial Achievement and Diploma Exam Test Results including standard deviation/mean,
- Socio-economic factors,
- First Nations, Métis and Inuit self-identified students,
- English as an Additional Language,
- Students in care; and
- Students with non-leveled special education codes and student population size (students with leveled special education codes are funded through separate System Programs and Inclusive Education allocations).

In addition to classroom complexity, Next Step received an allocation and dollars were also put toward the Educational Assistant Capacity Building Project.

Sherwood Heights Groundbreaking was held September 12, 2024.

Premier Announcement and Meeting with Minister of Education on Investment in New Schools September 17 & 18, 2024

We sent our letter to indicate strongly that we are shovel ready for the Fort Saskatchewan Collegiate.

New Governance and Evaluation Committee

There are a number of Board related work items that could be accomplished by Board committee work.

These items include:

- Annual review of the Board handbook
- Development of the Board Retreat agenda and logistics
- Carry out the Board self-evaluation and development of Board Work Plan
- Superintendent evaluation
- Preparing for the election and on-boarding of new trustees

Board Policy 24 Personal Communication Devices

Rescinded and outlined in an updated Administrative Procedure 145 – Use of Personal Mobile Devices

Encourage that you read and understand the pieces and responsibilities of staff, student and parents and caregivers.

Consideration of the Research on Collaboration and Professional Learning on student achievement.

Motions approved:

That the Board of Trustees direct Administration to develop alternate, potential, calendar options, that are aligned to research, for the 2025/2026 and 2026/2027 school years, for consideration, and:

That the Board of Trustees also directs Administration to create a draft “Collaboration and Professional Time” Administrative Procedure that outlines the utilization of professional development time, develop a calendar survey for stakeholders with accompanying video, and ensure all proposed calendar options maintain the November Break.

Survey will take place from October 10-20, 2024. There will be a video to watch prior to being able to do the video.

To note: instructional days will remain the same. Depending on the calendar option, between 8-10 minutes will be added to each day.

That Board of Trustees receive for information the Facility Services 2023-24 Summer Projects update.

387 projects total, with 36 in the Capital Projects department and 351 in the Maintenance department.

Maintenance program includes gym floor refinishing, painting, inspection of fire protection systems, air handling system duct cleaning, and parking lot repairs.

COSC Meeting Dates

Held at EIPS Central Office at 6:30pm, the next meeting will be held on November 6, 2024.

Meetings are always available to join virtually.

Reserves CAP

The fall funding manual has been updated to exclude school generated funds (SGF) from the calculations of the CAP for Aug. 31, 2025.

The CAP at Aug.31, 2025 is at 6% of operating expenditures. Used to be 3.2%

This is good news for schools and boards.

Transportation Update

10,708 students being transported.

September 27, 2024, Student Count

17,956 -up 196 students from last fall.

Funding Formula Announcement

On the weekend, Minister Nicolaidis announced that they are looking at revising the funding formula, as they now realize that it is not working. It sounds like it will possibly be in place for the 2025 budget.

6. Town Report - Colleen Holowaychuk

Yard Beautification Awards-Awards in three categories: most improved yard, best yard, and most colorful yard. They were presented at the Picnic in the Park.

Alberta Municipalities Convention

Red Deer, Alberta

September 24-27, 2024

Lamont Farmers' Market

Sept 25, 2024, at the Hall /Arena.

Tree Canada Grant

The Town received a \$10,000 grant Planting will take place on Sunday September 29, 2024, 10am at Hillside Park Pavilion.

Truth and Reconciliation Day

Monday September 30, 2024, 1pm at Tawáw Park

Yard Waste Pickup

Weather permitting, the last pick up will be October 25, 2024.

Council Meetings

Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month 7pm. Always live streamed on Facebook. Next meeting is October 8, 2024.

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

7. Principal Report - Kelly Sawatzky (Principal)

1. Back to school update
 - a. 352 students, a few fewer than we expected which resulted in a budget adjustment.
 - b. New staff/new students
 - c. 3rd grade 7 cohort with extra funding
 - d. New options: Forensics, Baking, Cycling 7/8s through options
 - e. Overall a smooth startup
2. School Education Plan for 2023/24 goals
 - a. Lamont High School will provide opportunities, inspire and encourage students in exploring and understanding career options, leading to improved feedback on student's ability to visualize and plan their future.
 - b. Implement a comprehensive system of feedback and assessment to enhance engagement, increase ability to handle rigor, and improve motivation to succeed academically across all subjects and grade levels.
 - c. Foster a sense of belonging among all students by creating an inclusive school environment, promoting positive relationships, and implementing programs that celebrate diversity, leading to improved student well-being and academic success.
3. Music
 - a. Continue to pay? - moved to Foundation meeting
4. Calendar Survey
 - a. Stakeholder survey for 2 new calendar options(Weekly Early Out Wednesdays or Every Second Friday)

5. Bus - Will schedule a separate meeting to discuss the options available for our Lakers bus. This is the last year of its life expectancy.

8. Old Business - n/a

9. New Business -

a. Voting in New Council -

Chair -Terri Barron nominated Sylvia McDonald for Chair, Sylvia accepted. Second call for nominations, third call for nominations, nominations ceased. Sylvia McDonald is chair by acclamation.

Vice Chair - Melissa Aylward nominated herself for Vice-Chair. Second call for nominations, third call for nominations, nominations ceased. Melissa Aylward is Vice-Chair by acclamation.

Secretary - Sylvia McDonald nominated Terri Barron for secretary, Terri accepted. Second call for nominations, third call for nominations, nominations ceased. Terri Barron is secretary by acclamation.

Treasurer -Heather Rideout nominated herself for Treasurer. Second call for nominations, third call for nominations, nominations ceased. Heather Rideout is treasurer by acclamation.

Board will be for both the Parent Advisory Board and Foundation Board.

b. Christmas Dinner

Christmas dinner will be scheduled for Monday, December 16. Prep day will be Sunday, December 15. Terri Barron made a motion to pass this event on these days. Melissa Young seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried.

10. Any Questions -

11. Next Meeting -

a. Date: Tuesday Nov. 19, 2024

b. Time: 6:00 pm

12. Meeting adjourned: 7:57 pm

Thank you for attending Lamont High School Parent Advisory Council Meeting