



Lamont High School Parent Advisory Council

Date: March 13, 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: Lamont High School

1. Call to order: 6:08 pm

In Attendance:

- Peter Vanermeulen (Assistant Principal)
- Melissa Aylward (Vice-Chair, Acting Chair)
- Heather Rideout (Treasurer)
- Terri Barron (Secretary)
- Nadia Chopping
- Krista Skinner
- Bobbi Moonen

2. Welcome & Introductions:

3. Review & Approval of Agenda -

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

4. Approval of last month's meeting minutes -

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

5. Principal Report - Peter Vandermeulen (Vice-Principal)

School Education Plan

1. SEP goal #1: 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 for their future.
2. SEP Goal #2: 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.
3. SEP Goal #3: 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.

1. February - March
 - ❖ Athletics
 - ❖ Pizza with the Principals
 - ❖ Career Fair and Post high school readiness
 - ❖ Wildlife trip
 - ❖ Survey season
 - ❖ Black History Month
 - ❖ Random Acts of Kindness Week
 - ❖ Riddle Wednesday
2. March - June
 - ❖ Basketball Zones
 - ❖ Career Fair
 - ❖ Badminton
 - ❖ Grad - June 14, 2025
 - ❖ Year end
3. 2025/26 School Year
 - ❖ RSR 338 students
 - ❖ Timetabling
 - ❖ School Fees (only Foods increased)

6. Town Report - Colleen Holowaychuk (sent via email)

Councillor Resignation

Dave Taylor resigned at the end of February 2025 to pursue a new career opportunity. We will continue to operate with 4 councillors and the mayor.

Election October 2025

For anyone interested in running for town council, nomination packages are now available at town office.

Free Public Skate and Shiny

See the schedule on the website or Facebook, will be coming to an end with hockey season ending.

Volunteer Appreciation in Lamont

April 14, 2025, tickets are free and available at the town office. All volunteers are welcome.

Economic Development Week

May 11-17, 2025

National Public Works Week

May 18-24, 2025

Upcoming Council Meetings

Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month 7pm. Always live streamed on Facebook. Next

meeting is March 25, 2025.

Budget discussion meetings are scheduled for March 13 and if needed March 18, 2025.

The Town of Lamont FB Page and the water bill insert are always great places to look for information.

7. Trustee Report - Colleen Holowaychuk (sent via email)

Board Retreat

The Board met for three days of meetings in Fort Saskatchewan on February 10-12, 2025. This allows time for trustees and the superintendent to have important discussions on planning, priorities, opportunities and challenges that affect the Division.

Budget 2025

Tabled at the legislature February 28, 2025. Board Chair Allen was invited to attend as a guest of MLA Kyle Kasawski.

There has been an adjustment on the funding formula with the Weighted Moving Average (WMA) to a two-year rolling average from a three-year rolling average. They will now use 30% funding based on current-year enrolment and 70% based on upcoming year enrolment projections.

Other grants did see some increases and more details will follow on how the budget affects EIPS. Budget meeting will be held on March 18, 2025.

Transportation Eligibility

Alberta Education amendment to the current distance eligibility funding criteria of 1.0 km for kindergarten to Grade 6 students to 1.6 km effective September 1, 2025.

Grade 7-12 will remain at 2.0km

Key Concerns:

1. Impact on Families: Over 686 students within EIPS will be affected by the 1.0km distance criteria change effective the 2026-27 school year.

We bus over 11,000 students

2. Financial Implications: The amendment is projected to result in a funding shortfall exceeding \$415,000 for EIPS. This deficit may lead to reductions in transportation services or increased fees for families. Even a substantial increase in fees will not recoup the loss of funding.

Could see significant increases in transportation costs.

(2.32% recent funding announcement on every transportation rate will provide \$355,000. Will be

able to make less of an increase in fees than we first thought).

3. Service Disruptions: If we choose to no longer provide transportation service to students who do not meet the distance eligibility criteria, this will pose significant challenges for families who rely on transportation services for access to education.

Students need to be registered and paid in order for EIPS to receive the full funding, even if the student only rides part time.

4. Trust and Policy Consistency: The initial reduction to 1.0km was a commitment to improving accessibility. The revision to 1.6 km undermines this trust and raises concerns about the government's commitment to its policy objectives.

The amendment to the distance eligibility criteria for grades 1 to 6 students has significant implications for families and EIPS Student Transportation services. A reduction in funding to EIPS, the inability to sustain the current service level, and an increase to transportation fees for parents may all be a result of this change.

Transition funding for the 2025-26 school year will provide temporary relief but this change will need to be entirely addressed for the upcoming 2026-2027 school year.

Alberta School Council Association Conference

The ASCA School Councils Virtual Conference and AGM is scheduled to take place April 26-27—Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Start and end times to be confirmed. Check the ASCA website for details.

The theme will center around “resilience” providing opportunities for school councils to share experiences, challenges and growth.

This year's event will be offered virtually only, encompassing keynotes and approximately 12 breakout rooms offered in 2 time slots (6 in each).

April 26 keynote and breakout sessions - \$95.54 for the virtual link

April 27 Annual General Meeting - \$0.00 for school members to attend. All our schools are members of ASCA.

Board approved to pay for the cost of one link per school board. The link cannot be shared due to limitations on ASCA link. This does create issues as school councils will need to view the same speakers and breakouts from one location, either the school or someone's home.

Alberta Rural Education Symposium

March 3-5, 2025

We were very thankful to have Mayor Foulds and Councilor Sieker attend the Symposium with

our Board. Mayor Hauch from the Town of Bruderheim also attended with us.

Edwin Parr Teacher Award

We had two nominees this year.

The Board approved Elk Island Public School's nomination of Janna MacLelland, first-year French immersion teacher from Ardrossan Elementary School for the Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 2025 Edwin Parr Teacher Award.

Education Act Section 55 and School Councils Regulation

Reminder for school councils to look at it and ensure they are meeting their requirements as per the Act and Regulations.

Education Act link <https://search.app/Xbj6zPXFC3s7ec2o6>

School Council Regulation link <https://search.app/sk7Q3CF1wzwHzhScA>

COSC Meeting Dates

The next COSC meeting will be held on Wednesday April 2, 2025, 6:30pm in EIPS Central Office, Sherwood Park. Thank you to Heather for attending to represent LHS and LES.

Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday March 20, 2025.

8. Old Business - N/A

9. New Business-

- Email sent to ASCA regarding registering online account access to members only information for council member educational purposes (ASCA is understaffed and has responded with an email informing their response time is slow.)
- ASCA spring symposium being held April 26, 2025 9:30-3:30 virtually - Melissa Aylward will attend.

10. Questions/Round Table -

11. Next Meeting - Thursday May 8, 2025 @6:00

12. Meeting adjourned: 6:50 pm