

FORT SASKATCHEWAN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

AGM and School Council Meeting Minutes

May 15, 2025, 3:30pm

Upcoming Dates:

Run for the Stollery May 28, 2025

Track and Field Day June 5, 2025

CHREDA year end picnic June 6, 2025

Attendance: Kerry Churchill, Leanna Bechtel, Elizabeth Snell, Matt Matheson, Ryan Marshall, Angela Fairall, Nadine Lennox, Stephanie VanBoom, Amanda Darley, Cortney Phillips

Regrets: Maureen Keith, Katie Vanginhoven, Ralph Sorochan

AGM

- Thank you school council members who are finished their term:

Kerry Churchill - Chair

- Introduction of new council member candidates:

Elizabeth Snell. Cortney motioned to approve Elizabeth as a new council member, Kerry seconds the motion

- Vote for new parent council chair position

Stephanie motioned to approve Leanna Bechtel as chair. Angela seconds the motion

- Angela to continue as Secretary, Amanda and Leanna to share the COSC representative role

School Council Meeting

1. Approval of Jan 9, 2025 School Council Meeting Minutes -

Amanda motions to approve, Stephanie seconds the motion.

2. Admin Report - Matt Matheson

Teacher Appreciation Week

Thank you, thank you, thank you!!

Felt incredibly blessed to have such a supportive School Council

Authentic blessing seeing the joy in the giving

Thank you for the socks, Tim Hortons, the cards and the treats (my Macintosh toffee was delicious)

The thoughtfulness was very much felt by the staff

School Auction - April 25

Was a great evening!!

Always a great time of chatting with people, checking out all the great items, and raising money for some wonderful causes

Used money in past for Literacy resources, technology (sound systems, projectors, Chromebooks), and musical instruments (recorders)

This year we raised \$48,000 (half to Shiloh half to the school)

Looking at getting Gaga Ball pit installed (just working on total costs, logistics, etc. before making a final decision)

JH Spiritual Emphasis Day - May 23

Always a great day for all JHs at Nakamun

Fun activities, and a guest speaker Tim Parker (one of the speakers from the Missions Trip) coming in to speak on the topic of prayer

Looking forward to an awesome day!

Chapels and Service Projects - June 18

We planned a little bit of a different chapel for May.

Mission statement: To assist families by providing students with a Christ-centred, biblically directed education which instills the vision and practice of excellence in academics, moral character and service to others.

pre-recorded the chapel (worship and message) which was shown to individual classes.

Various service projects lined up for each class that took place over the course of the week

Singing with seniors at RiverCrest

Bridging Generations

Making cards for prisons ministry

FSC school yard cleanup

FSC gym storage room clean up

River Valley cleanup

Community baking

Run for the Stollery - May 28

Looking forward to this

Sandra is organizing

Great way to raise money for a great cause and honour the Charests

I know that it's on the agenda to talk about

Track and Field Day - June 5

Talk about School Council's role later in the meeting

I know school council plays a role (hot dogs)

School Education Plan

Current goals are:

Students will demonstrate growth in their literacy achievement by the end of June.

Students will demonstrate growth in their numeracy achievement by the end of June.

To foster social-emotional growth and development among students and staff at Fort Saskatchewan Christian School to cultivate a healthy culture of mental health and personal wellness.

Got feedback on this in April from staff and they are happy with the goals

We will be working tweaking the strategies to achieve this more successfully in the coming weeks

Has allowed us to focus in out what we've identified as essential to our school and to make decisions in alignment with this

Enrollment/Budget

Enrollment is sitting at 430 for next year (up 2 from current numbers; some people in, others out, overall, similar)

Have received our budget; things are tight as always

Working through staffing and timetables for next year

Cell Phone Parent Info Night

What the Research Is Telling Us About the Impact of Cellphones

School Solutions: What Actually Works?

Parent Feedback Activity

Vision and Next Steps - This is a journey we take together, not a policy handed down

3. Trustee Report - Ralph Sorochoan

1) APPRECIATION – You are appreciated for your efforts on School Council! Thank you!

2) NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK April 27-May 03 – I wish to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of you who have dedicated your time, energy, and passion to enriching the lives of our students and staff in Elk Island Public Schools. Your invaluable contributions not only transform our school environments, but leave a lasting impact on our community. Whether it's assisting in the classroom, organizing fundraising events, or engaging in a myriad of activities, your generosity of time, spirit, and expertise is truly invaluable, and we are immensely grateful for your support.

Your selflessness, dedication, and commitment to making a difference does not go unnoticed.

THANK YOU!

3) EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANT APPRECIATION DAY MAY 14 - Annually, EIPS officially recognizes the

professional service our educational assistants provide throughout the Division each day. We encourage schools, boards, families and community members to take a moment to tell educational assistants you know how thankful you are for the exceptional services they bring to your school community.

4) POWERSCHOOL BREACH UPDATE – Please see attached article, below.

5) BUDGET 2025-26 - Budget allocations were approved by the Board of Trustees on April 24, at a special board meeting. Schools and departments are now working diligently through their individual budget allocations for next year. At their May 29 public meeting, the Board will be presented the 2025-26 Spring Budget for debate. Important budget considerations for EIPS include: literacy and numeracy, career pathways, classroom complexity, high-quality teaching and learning, equity—eligible classified staff have received a lump sum payment, curriculum work, rural education, early learning—the Division is piloting full-time kindergarten pilot programs for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and French Immersion.

More detailed information on allocations can be found at <https://www.eips.ca/about-us/whatsnew/post/board-highlights-april-2025>

6) STUDENT TRANSPORTATION ELEGIBILITY UPDATE - We did receive information that there will be a slight increase in transportation dollars for 2025-26 and that a regulation alignment has occurred to align the funding manual to the new eligibility requirement of 1.6 km from the previous 2.4 km. While this will mitigate some of the funding challenges, it will not eradicate them. There is transition funding for this year, for the 1.0 to 1.6 km, but next year a shortfall will exist if funding doesn't increase accordingly. Approved transportation fees for 2025-26 have increased by \$25 per category. (at special meeting of the Board May 01, 2025). There are 181 instructional days in the school year. An eligible rider, paid by June 30, will pay \$0.55 per day for transportation, or 27.5 cents per ride for each morning and afternoon trip.

7) 3-YEAR CAPITAL PLAN – At their March 20th meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the 2026-29 Three-Year Capital Plan. The priority of projects remains the same, as in the previous few years, with RHJ/FHS as #1 and James Mowat at #2. Recent announcements by the provincial government regarding new school build approvals have primarily centred around previously announced funding stages and very high enrolment areas. The Board continues to advocate for new builds in Fort Saskatchewan as its primary capital funding advocacy effort.

The Division's top five capital priorities are:

Priority 1: A replacement school for Rudolph Hennig Junior High and Fort Saskatchewan High (grades 7-12).

Priority 2: A replacement school for James Mowat Elementary (grades K-6).

Priority 3: A new school for the Cambrian Crossing neighbourhood (grades K-9).

Priority 4: A modernization and expansion of Vegreville Composite High to accommodate K-12 programming.

Priority 5: A modernization of Win Ferguson Elementary (grades K-6).

8) CAMPUS EIPS - Although the Division has not yet received funding to build a new collegiate school (first and foremost on its priority list), The Board has approved a school name for the Division's new collegiate program called Campus EIPS. Starting in 2025-26 Campus EIPS will offer programming to students at secondary schools throughout the Division, including Ardrossan Junior Senior High, Bev Facey Community High, Fort Saskatchewan High, Lamont High, Salisbury Composite High, Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary, Vegreville Composite High and Next Step. As with any division wide program, there are many factors to consider, from transportation to registration. This does not detract from the new school build in Fort Saskatchewan which, when built, will become the flagship school for this program in our Division.

9) ADVOCACY IN ACTION - One of the critical roles of the (EIPS) Board of Trustees is to represent students' best interests, acting as the voice for public education on behalf

of the communities they serve. Each year, the Board determines the focus of its advocacy efforts, which are also in alignment with the Division's priorities and goals. The intent of the Board's advocacy is twofold:

To influence the Government of Alberta's education policy, and to seek and secure sufficient resources to meet the needs of all EIPS students. See the full article for the fall/winter advocacy efforts at www.eips.ca.

10) REMINDER: UPCOMING TRUSTEE ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER 2025 – The next municipal election is on October 20, 2025. If you or anyone you know is interested in running for public office, check out the details for candidates on www.eips.ca. Two trustees will be elected from Electoral Subdivision No. 1, comprised of lands within the corporate limits of the City of Fort Saskatchewan.

11) CAREGIVER SERIES: May/June Sessions - Recovery Alberta offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Sessions are offered through Zoom. The list of May/June 2025 sessions is now available.

12) NEXT BOARD MEETINGS – The next regular Board meeting takes place on May 29, 2025, at 10 AM. Board meetings are held in the Elk Island Public School boardroom. EIPS livestreams public Board meetings on its YouTube channel.

13) INQUIRIES? - If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at ralph.sorochan@eips.ca or 780 417 8107.

14) Have a wonderful month of May, an excellent June, and an amazing summer vacation!

All updates regarding this incident are available at

<https://www.eips.ca/parents/powerschool/cybersecurity-incident>

POWERSCHOOL DATA BREACH UPDATE

May 8, 2025

Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) has been informed by PowerSchool that a threat actor is attempting to extort some school boards using the data breached in December 2024. To date, EIPS has not been contacted by this individual but it's important to ensure school families are aware of what is taking place.

At this time, PowerSchool has indicated no new data has been accessed. PowerSchool has told school boards its system is secure and they continue to actively monitor.

We were informed PowerSchool paid a ransom to secure deletion of the impacted data shortly following the December 2024 incident. As with any such incident, there was a risk the threat actors would not honour their commitment to delete the stolen data, despite assurances provided to PowerSchool. EIPS did not pay a ransom, nor did it contribute financially to any ransom payment.

The protection of student and staff data is important to us, and we're taking this security breach seriously. We remain committed to keeping staff and families informed, and updates will continue to be posted here as they become available. Past updates continue to be available on this page.

Identity Protection and Credit Monitoring Reminder

As previously shared, PowerSchool is offering two years of complimentary identity protection services, provided by Experian, to students and educators whose information was involved. A credit card is not required to enrol.

PowerSchool is offering credit monitoring services to involved staff and students who have reached the age of majority in Alberta.

In March, direct email communication started going out from Experian—sent on behalf of PowerSchool—to individuals connected to EIPS affected by the PowerSchool cybersecurity incident earlier this year. Even if you didn't receive the direct email, you can still take advantage of the services being offered.

How to Apply for Identity Monitoring

- Visit the Experian IdentityWorks website to enrol: globalidworks.com/identity1
- Provide the activation code: MPRT987RFK
- The deadline to enrol is July 30, 2025 (The code will not work after this date)
- For questions about the product or help with enrolment, email globalidworks@experian.com

How to Apply for Credit Protection

- Visit <http://www.powerschool.com/security/canada-credit-monitoring/> and click on the link to the validation website
- Enter your first name, last name and year of birth

If your identity is validated, a pop-up will appear that provides an activation code and a link to TransUnion's myTrueIdentity site to enrol

4. COSC Report - Leanna Bechtel

5. Parent Council Business - Kerry Churchill

- Review Teacher's Appreciation Week
- Run for Stollery Planning - May 28 - decided that further planning would be done on the WhatsApp chat group
- Track and Field Planning - June 5 - decided that further planning would be done on the WhatsApp chat group

- Year End Picnic Planning - June 6 - further planning would be done on the WhatsApp chat group

6. Adjournment - 5:35pm

7. Next meeting - New school year in the Fall