



## **Lamont High School Parent Advisory Council**

**Date: May 8, 2025**

**Time: 6:00 PM**

**Location: Lamont High School**

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### **1. Call to order: 6:10 pm**

#### **In Attendance:**

- Kelly Sawatzky (Principal)
- Melissa Aylward (Vice-Chair, Acting Chair)
- Heather Rideout (Treasurer)
- Terri Barron (Secretary)
- Delane Zacharko
- Bobbi Moonen

### **2. Welcome & Introductions:**

### **3. Review & Approval of Agenda -**

Delane Zarharko made a motion to pass the agenda. Seconded by Terri Barron. All in favor. Motion passed.

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

Heather Rideout made a motion to approve last month's minutes. Seconded by Melissa Aylward. All in favor. Motion passed.

### **5. Principal Report - Kelly Sawatzky (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. March - April
  - a. Athletics
  - b. Field Trips
    - i. Skills Canada (COS and Foundations), Millennium Place (PFit, PE 20/30), Yoga (PFit, PE 20/30), RAM
  - c. Riddle Wednesday
  - d. Mental Health Week
  - e. Foods - Family Meal
2. May - June
  - a. Track and Field Day - May 16
  - b. Fieldtrip - Witness Blanket Ceremony (gr. 7), Science 8 Pond Dipping, Physics 30 @ U of A, Fort Theatre (Film Studies, LINKS and SS 10)
  - c. Common Exams/PATS/Diplomas
  - d. Spelling Bee
  - e. Rural Health Week
  - f. Grad
  - g. Year End
3. 2025/2026 School Year
  - a. Hiring
  - b. Timetabling
  - c. School Fees
  - d. My Blueprint

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

### **Volunteer Appreciation**

The Lamont event was well attended. All Volunteers are invited. Thank you from the Town Council to all our volunteers.

### **Tax Notices**

0% increase to Mill rate.

Although there is a % 0 increase to the mill rate, the tax amount can still increase because the assessed value of homes in Lamont has increased.

The Town also has to collect taxes (requisitions) that are then paid forward to Education (provincial, not EIPS), Seniors Housing, Policing. The Town does not keep any of those dollars.

### **Library Fundraiser**

Mothers' Day Fundraiser was held on May 7, 2025. Welcome Door Mat was a huge success and a great evening out with the ladies at our local library.

### **Urban Hen Bylaw**

Council felt that the pilot project was successful and has created a bylaw for Urban Hens within the Town.

### **Town Wide Clean Up**

May 10, 2025, 10am to meet at the Hillside Park Pavillion with a thank you BBQ to follow around noon.

All are welcome and any help is appreciated.

### **Townwide Garage Sale**

Saturday June 7, 2025. To have your address on the map, please contact the town office. A \$5.00 fee will apply.

### **Upcoming Council Meetings**

Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month 7pm. Always live streamed on Facebook. Next meeting is May 13, 2025.

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

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

### **Budget**

Budget assumptions were approved on April 17, 2025. Allocations to Schools and Departments were approved on April 24, 2025, for the 2025-2026 school year.

\$211 million allocated (\$148million to Schools and Supports for Students, and \$62million staying in Facility Services, Student Transportation, Information Technology, Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR), and other central departments.)

An example here for 'other central' is \$90,000 per year to election costs to have enough in four years.

Please see April 24, 2025, Board meeting package for the report for full details.

### **Key Budget Priorities for the Board for 2025-2026:**

- ❖ Ongoing Support of Literacy and Numeracy Improvement
- ❖ Continued pursuit of Collegiate School/Program and support for Career Pathways
- ❖ Complexity in the Classrooms: the algorithm that EIPS has created has allowed the more fair and equitable way of addressing classroom complexity
- ❖ Classroom Complexity Algorithm:
  - PAT and Diploma, Mean and Standard Deviation, Student Population, Socio Economic,
    - FNMI, ELL, Students in Care, Non-Leveled Special Education Codes, Severe Codes, Rural Boost
    - Added a "rural boost" as well as "severe codes" to the algorithm.
    - Rural Boost is defined by a small factor to increase their funding.
    - Very rarely is a staff member EA tied to a specific student.
    - Admin believes that the algorithm is very close to reflecting the complexity of our schools
    - 75% of funds will be allocated through the algorithm and 25 remaining will be given through pro-rated support.
- ❖ Curriculum and Resource Development
- ❖ Retention of Staff and Staff Equity
- ❖ Equity for Rural

- Mundare school enrolment has declined such that they have dropped a funding group under the Rural Small Schools Grant. To hold the school fiscally harmless and ensure delivery of quality education continues with sufficient staffing, the Division has allocated additional funds. \$119,062.
- For the two small rural schools, the amount reduced from their block funding for operations has been eliminated, allowing them to keep more funding.
- There continues to be a \$30 per student Distance allocation for rural areas (costs more for field trips etc.) provided to schools in Sectors 4 and 5.
- Mileage allocation for schools in Sectors 4 and 5 will continue. This is to fund staff traveling to Central Services for professional development and/or meetings. This provides one principal and assistant principal meeting per month, and one staff person meeting per year.
- Hosting a rural forum to work with our rural communities to identify what is wanted in rural education.
- ❖ Expansion of Early Learning Outcomes
- ❖ Educational Technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI) Considerations

## **Reserves**

- Reserve Limits For 2025-26, the maximum and minimum limits on operating reserves set by Alberta Education have not changed from prior year. These limits apply to all operating reserves except school generated funds (SGF).
- The minimum limit for all school boards is 1% of prior year expenditures. The minimum limit for EIPS at August 31, 2025, is estimated to be \$2,131,515.
- The maximum limit for all school boards is 6% of prior year expenditures. The maximum limit for EIPS at August 31, 2026, is estimated to be \$12,789,091.
- EIPS' operating reserve balance (excluding SGF) at August 31, 2026, will be appropriately between these two limits, with a balance of \$5,701,463. Just over \$9million including SGF.
- Capital Reserves \$791,883.00. We can always use operating reserves for capital purchases. In order to be considered 'capital' it must cost more than \$500 and last longer than one year.
- Leveraging Student Achievement \$63,534.00 (this is the \$ above the 1% carryforward from schools)

## **Some additional info that may be of interest:**

- LHS White Bus. EIPS central fronts the cost and the school pay it back over ten years. \$153,000.00
- Technology: one-to-one ratio does not have an impact on student achievement according to research so schools should not feel the need to fundraise for a one-to-one ratio.

## **New or revised grants examples**

- School Nutrition Grant Federal \$42 million over three years for all school divisions in Alberta, we don't know the amount for EIPS yet. The nutrition program will stay in Lamont and Bruderheim for next year.
- Supplemental Rural Grant for operations and maintenance. EIPS \$12,000 (\$15 million

for the whole province)

- Literacy and Numeracy Support Funding replaces the Learning Disruption grant
- Mental health and well-being grant replaces the mental pilot project funding \$440, 000 to EIPS.
- See Budget Assumptions report for details. April 17, 2025, Board meeting Package

#### Transportation Fees Approved

Elk Island Public Schools 2025-2026 Transportation Fee Schedule		
Description	Early Incentive Rate (by June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025)	2025-2026 Transportation Rate
Eligible - Students who meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	\$100	\$125
Ineligible - Students who do not meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education. (Includes full-time Kindergarten)	\$200	\$225
Kindergarten Eligible - Kindergarten students who meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	\$65	\$90
Kindergarten Ineligible - Kindergarten students who do not meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	\$130	\$155
Additional Bus - Additional stop required on a different bus route is non-refundable. (Includes full-time Kindergarten)	\$130	\$155
Kindergarten Additional Bus - Additional stop required on a different bus route is non-refundable.	\$100	\$125

#### Transportation Fees Approved

Elk Island Public Schools 2024-2025 Transportation Fee Schedule		
Description	By June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	After June 30, 2025
Eligible - Students who meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	\$75	\$100
Ineligible - Students who do not meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education. (Includes full-time Kindergarten)	\$150	\$175

Kindergarten Eligible - Kindergarten students who meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	\$50	\$75
Kindergarten Ineligible - Kindergarten students who do not meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	\$100	\$125
Additional Bus - Additional stop required on a different bus route is non-refundable. (Includes full-time Kindergarten)	\$100	\$125
Kindergarten Additional Bus - Additional stop required on a different bus route is non-refundable.	\$75	\$100

Bus schedules will be sent out next week with fees. For planning purposes, it is important that fees are by the June date. Any later and it makes planning very difficult the closer we get to the start of the school year.

Next year we will lose \$415,000 due to the change from 1.0km-1.6km. For 2025-2026, transition funding has been provided to enable us to not need to increase fees as much as thought.

#### **Collegiate Update:**

Meetings with Norquest regarding health care aid and Educational Assistant specifically in Lamont

An information session will be taking place in Lamont, a date to be determined.

Sessions were held at Fort High on April 29 and Ardrossan on April 22.

Buses will be available for students to attend collegiate programming from Lamont to Fort High.

#### **COSC Meeting Dates**

The last COSC meeting of the year was held on Wednesday May 7, 2025, 6:30pm in EIPS Central Office, Sherwood Park with a virtual option always available. The next meeting will be held in October 2025 for the next school year.

#### **Next Board Meeting**

The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 29, 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 was not able to attend.

- Discuss elephant - are there any changes being made to EIPS staffing and misconduct discipline?

**10. Questions/Round Table -**

**11. Next Meeting - AGM September 2025 Date TBD**

**12. Meeting adjourned: 6:46 pm**