

**WIN FERGUSON SCHOOL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Meeting Date: January 27, 2025

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Attendees:

Tami Richert	Keri Busenius	Lainie Gratrix	Trish Kuhn	Jen Shea
Leah Kenchington	Mandy Spiess	Shelley R	Ralph Sorochan	Brandi Fokema
Krystal Bailey-Thurn	Kristi Wahl (FCSS)	Aly Moore		

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
1	Call to Order
	Meeting was called to order at 6:00pm Introduction of attendees Leah did the reading of the Treaty Acknowledgement
2	Review of Agenda
	Motioned by Jen, seconded by Shelley-carried
3	Approval of minutes from last meeting
	Approval of previous minutes motioned by Shelley, seconded by Lainie-carried
4	Administration Report

See attached report provided by Keri Busenius.

Additional notes on the report points:

PD day this Wednesday – no school, Teachers will be working on writing instruction. Teachers will also meet to come up with an alignment on phonics to help ensure success for the students.

Jam-uary reading minutes for the food bank were 52,851 minutes!

Thank you to PTA for funds to purchase of grade 6 reading material as well as the Rapunzel theatre presentation to happen Feb 3.

Community

-Grade 6 participated in the blanket exercise to learn about Canada's history from an indigenous perspective.

-Continued with Turtle islanders, the students got the chance to do some beading.

-This month the school has been taking about the seven sacred teachings of the bear – courage

-The indigenous map will be available in the gym during Parent teacher interviews – all are encouraged to stop by to take a look.

Teacher Representative – Mrs. Fokema

-Just finished second unit in science, which was space and this was a big hit! This was very successful with the outcomes being very achievable and an extremely high level of student involvement.

Government of Alberta K-3 assessments for literacy and numeracy completed this week.

School operations

Fees

-Proposed an increase of 2% for school fees

-Noon Supervision to return for the 2025-2026 school year (It was noted during the meeting, if you print off receipts for school noon supervision costs from Powerschool, you can claim this on your taxes under childcare)

-It was noted that it may be good to review if the kindergarten agendas are worth the current investment

Farewell Michelle Campbell and Welcome Tanya Suprovich

Grade 4 survey from Alberta Education – it was asked if there are ideas to assist parents/caregivers with completions?

-the council proposed adding reminders to our social media, email, agendas and/or perhaps a paper reminder

Facilities upgrades-New lights have been installed in the gym

School Budget items- Projector for Gr. 5M and likely a new set of Chromebooks and a cart.

Personal Mobile Devices Plan is now online for students/families to reference.

New calendar for 2025/2026, please note the Wednesday early outs.

Additionally next school year there will be a change to bell schedule times

Field Trips

Skating in January for Grades 1,2 & 5 going great!

Ski Trip – March 12 for Grade 3-6

Swimming lessons for Grade 2-3

Rec Swim for Grade 4-6

Studio Photopgraphy from 2024/2025 – there are still a lot of issues with this years photographers, can we review a second choice for 25/26 school year?

-Council will look into the other option for next years photos

Book Fair will start Thursday January 30th and will be open to students at scheduled times throughout the week as well as open to parents during parent teacher interviews

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
5	<p>Trustee Report</p>
	<p>See the attached report provided by Ralph Sorochan. Ralph is available to answer questions or concerns and can be reached via email at Ralph.Sorochan@eips.ca or 780-417-8107</p> <p>Some additional notes from the Trustee Report:</p> <p>-Please note the board takes the breach very seriously, the board is working with an IT team to help ensure Power School is protected going forward. There is a comprehensive list on the link on the website that details what information was involved in the breach, if you have any questions please feel free to reach out to your school admin fee and they can help provide you additional resources.</p> <p>Ralph would like to call attention to the student transportation eligibility change, please see additional details in the Trustee report.</p> <p>Division calendar Change includes early dismissals every Wednesday for the next two years, please see trustee report for additional calendar highlights</p> <p>Upcoming Trustee elections in October 2025.</p> <p>AERR (Annual Education results report) overview is attached as part of the Trustee Report. Note the full report is available on the EIPS website</p>
6	<p>Standing Business</p>
	<p><u>Alberta Musical Theatre</u> Booked Feb 3rd 2025, Monday</p> <p><u>ASCA Workshops</u> \$740 available funds – it was noted that we should confirm what workshops we would like to take as soon as possible. Link for the options of the workshops so that everyone can review and rank them.</p> <p><u>Teacher’s Wishlist – see updates on PTA meeting minutes</u> Ozobots – additional options cards (approx. \$150-200) Tool kit (Krystal to confirm the scope) with some fidgets for each class (\$50 per class x 16 classes)</p>
7	<p>Old Business</p>
	<p><u>Christmas Concert Feedback</u> Staff appreciate the opportunity to have the concert at the Dow. Will need to confirm if the Dow is booked for the 25/26 school year, does the PTA want to continue to support the rental of the Dow?</p> <p>Council to prepare a survey on social media to engage parents on their preferences and feedback and will look to set up a table for parent teacher interviews.</p>
6	<p>New Business</p>

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
	<p><u>Family and Community Support Services (FCSS)</u> -Welcome back Kristi Wahl the Youth and family coordinator</p> <p>Kristi provided fliers that list local support networks for youths, seniors and many other resources that you may be looking for, please see in meeting minutes.</p> <p>Some points from her presentation included -Aging parent support have groups available like Caregivers support,& grief and loss support.</p> <p>-Older Adults and Seniors information series - March 4 scams and fraud prevention, April 8 Leisure Wellbeing</p> <p>-FCSS offers a support group called Dragonfly Support Group – they meet once a month in collaboration with Families First for families with a child or children that may be neurodiverse. Please note that they offer childcare as well!</p> <p>-Melissa with FCSS supports local groups and non profits</p> <p>-Group called Youth Council that is planning an event between youth the RCMP and Firefighters to play volleyball.</p> <p>-ASSIST program – there are a few spots coming up, if interested</p> <p>-FCSS is available on Instagram and Facebook for families to look for more information on what they have available, you can also visit: forsask.ca/FCSS</p> <p><u>Booking ASCA workshop(s) for in person or online and which courses</u> -see standing business</p> <p><u>Casino Communications going forward</u> -Mandy will be taking on the casino duties going forward.</p> <p><u>Bev Facey Jennifer Daly reached out to potentially pool ASCE grant funds for an event Mach 11, 12, 13.</u> Presenter David Irvine, workshops are: Raising Accountable Young People and Psychological Safety – need to reply by Jan 31. Discussion with council noted that attendance may be difficult during the day so that we would not be able to participate in this.</p> <p>Next COSC meeting Feb 5 at 6:30pm, virtual or in person at EIPS central service boardroom.</p>
7	<p><u>Adjournment</u></p>
	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm. Next Meeting to be held February 24, 2025 Note there is no March meeting</p>

**WIN FERGUSON PTA
MINUTES OF MEETING**

Meeting Date: January 27, 2025

Meeting Time: 6:00 PM

Attendees:

Tami Richert

Keri Busenius

Lainie Gratrix

Trish Kuhn

Jen Shea

Leah Kenchington

Mandy Spiess

Shelley R

Krystal Bailey-Thurn

Aly Moore

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
1	Call to Order
	Meeting was called to order at 7:29 PM
2	Review of Agenda
	Agenda was motioned by Jen, seconded by Trish -carried
3	Approval of minutes from last meeting
	Previous minutes were motioned by Shelley, seconded by Lainie- carried
4	Treasurer's Report
	<p>Current online banking administrator is Liz Ream.</p> <p>Liz presented the report. Month end Financials as of January 26, 2025 General Account: \$34,884.81 Casino Account: \$27,298.10</p> <p>Our available balance as of today is: General Account: \$4,436.16 after standing motions and expenses.</p> <p>Casino Account: \$20,365.57 after the \$1500.00 standing motion for next casino and expenses.</p> <p>Additional Notes: -Combined available funds \$24,807.73 -Raffle Box Profit \$242.26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Total Income \$1712.21 after stripe fees o \$892.50 to Winner o \$446.25 to Families First o \$131.20 for 7% fee to Rafflebox. Leah motions to increase the Rafflebox motion to \$150, Lainie seconded- carried.</p>
5	Old Business
	<p>5.1 Christmas Concert Rafflebox feedback – see breakdown in treasurers report. From a user point of view it was easy to promote and easy to purchase. Cheque for 25% donated to Families First</p> <p>5.2 Fridge Donation -Home Depot donated a fridge to the school that is now installed and up and running. There may an opportunity to get another fridge, Leah will look further into this.</p>
6	Standing Business

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF DISCUSSION
	<p>6.1 Wishlist -Ozobot add on sets purchased Leah motioned to increase the Ozobot original motion from \$200.00 to \$300.00, Shelley seconded- carried.</p> <p>6.2 Alberta Theatre Has been booked for Feb 3</p> <p>6.3 Family Bingo Friday February 21st, 2024 6-8pm, Trish has been collecting prizes and will be working to get more Trish also looking for some more volunteers with setup, concession and bingo checkers. Krystal Hudson is confirmed as the Bingo caller 50/50 raffle will be added, donations will go towards Food Bank and bussing</p>
7	New Business
	<p>7.1 Wishlist Krystal breathing ball timer fidgets – requesting \$800 to cover this per class (to come from Casino funds) Leah motioned, for \$800 (\$50 x 16 classes) Shelley seconded- carried</p> <p>7.2 Fridge Donation thank you poster -will do a thank you poster as well as do a social media post and tag Home Depot</p>
8	Committee Reports
	<p>7.1 Hot Lunch – Paige – Next hot lunch is Feb 28th - Subway</p> <p>7.2 Fundraising – Jared/Lainie – Ion Art. Papers will be coming for kids to complete in the coming weeks. Students will have until March 20th, then the online store opens March 24 into April to be able to order in time for Mother’s Day.</p> <p>7.3 Milk program – Lacey- no update</p> <p>7.4 Treat Sales – Heather- Next Treat Sale March 13th & 14th</p> <p>7.5 Recycling program – Shelley – already deposited over \$600 with another \$200 to follow. Reminder: We are looking for a volunteer(s) to assist with this program for next year! Please let us know if you are interested.</p> <p>7.6 Casino – Discussion to be had in 2025/2026 school year</p> <p>7.7 Family Bingo – Trish – see standing business</p>
9	Adjournment
	<p>Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM Next meeting to be held February 24, 2025 Note: There is no meeting in March</p>

WFG School Council – January 27, 2024

Ralph Sorochan

- 1) **APPRECIATION** – Thanks to everyone for your contributions!
- 2) **POWERSCHOOL SECURITY BREACH** – Elk Island Public Schools was recently advised of a widespread data breach of PowerSchool client information, which has impacted school divisions worldwide—including students and staff. The Division is working with the vendor to determine the extent of the data accessed and the number of people affected. In the meantime, we've been assured the data accessed during this cybersecurity incident did **not** include individuals' financial or banking information. There has been no disruption to the daily operations of schools or classroom instruction. Please [follow this link](#) for the latest updated information. We appreciate your patience as we work through this issue.
- 3) **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY CHANGE** - In response to feedback from school authorities regarding resource and capacity challenges, Alberta's government has revised the 1.0 distance eligibility for kindergarten to Grade 6 students to 1.6 kilometers, effective September 1, 2025. The criteria for grades 7 to 12 students remains unchanged at 2.0 kilometers. To mitigate transitional difficulties, Alberta Education has committed to providing one-year transition funding during the 2025-26 school year for school authorities maintaining the 1.0 kilometer criteria.
Key Concerns:
 - Impact on Families: Over 686 students within EIPS will be affected by the 1.0-kilometre distance criteria change effective the 2026-27 school year.
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - Trust and Policy Consistency: The initial reduction to 1.0 kilometres was a commitment to improving accessibility. The revision to 1.6 kilometres undermines this trust and raises concerns about the government's commitment to its policy objectives.
- 4) **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: 2024** - The Board approved the Audited Financial Statements for Aug. 31, 2024. MNP LLP, a national accounting firm, audited the statements and overall, the Division ended the 2023-24 school year with an operating surplus of \$3.2 million—revenues and expenses were greater than budgeted because of increased enrolment, changes in grant funding and a one-time sale of non-capital assets. [Click here to access the Audited Financial Statements.](#)
- 5) **AUDITOR REAPPOINTMENT** - The Board approved reappointing MNP LLP, a national accounting firm, as the Division's external auditor for EIPS' year-end financial statements for Aug. 31, 2025.
- 6) **EIPS 2024-25 FALL BUDGET** - The Board approved the EIPS 2024-25 Fall Budget Report for the period of Sept. 1, 2024 to Aug. 31, 2025. The Board originally approved the 2024-25 operating budget on June 6, 2024. Every fall, the budget is updated to account for current information regarding enrolment numbers, revenue changes, actual carry forward amounts, expenses and

planned reserve spending. Overall, the EIPS 2024-25 budget provides stability for schools and maintains essential services (see pg. 189, "[2024-25 Fall Budget](#)").

Highlights from the Fall Budget Report:

- *budget priorities* – complexity in classrooms, curriculum and resource development, the mental health strategic plan, collegiate and career pathways, equity, staff retention, and artificial intelligence and digital tools considerations
- *operating budget* – \$213.15 million, which includes a \$2.11-million draw from operating reserves and \$390,000 from asset retirement obligation amortization
- *student enrolment* – 17,949, as of Sept. 27, 2024
- *employees (full-time equivalent)* – 1,367, as of Sept. 30, 2024
- *operating reserves projection* – \$10.59 million, as of Aug. 31, 2025
- *capital reserves projection* – \$210,000, as of Aug. 31, 2025
- *instructional spending* – 78% of the total budget, equating to \$9,518 per student

- 7) **UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT: SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2024** - The Board received for information EIPS' Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2024, to Nov. 30, 2024—prepared by Financial Services. As of November 30, revenues exceeded expenses, resulting in an operating surplus of \$639,000. The operational revenue for the three months is \$51.28 million, which represents 25 per cent of the budget. Similarly, total expenses are \$50.64 million, also representing 25 per cent of the budget. The primary reason for the surplus is timing differences, meaning expenditures are not incurred evenly over the year. EIPS expects these to resolve themselves by the end of the school year—after all expenses are incurred (see pg. 75, "[Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2024 to Nov. 30, 2024](#)").
- 8) **SCHOOL FEE PARAMETERS: 2025-26** - The Board approved the school fee parameters for the 2025-26 school year. For the upcoming school year, fees can increase by two per cent—in 2024-25, the allowable increase was five per cent. Highlights of the 2025-26 school fee parameters include:
- Optional-courses fees, Noon-supervision fees, Activity fees, Extracurricular fees, Non-curricular travel fees, Non-curricular goods and services fees* – **two per cent allowable increase**
- Schools must set all fees at a cost-recovery rate. If fees are over-charged by more than \$10 a student, schools must refund that amount to the student. Additionally, if any fees exceed the listed parameters, the school must submit an explanation for EIPS' Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer to review. With the fee parameters now approved, schools can begin establishing their 2025-26 School Fees Schedule.
- 9) **DIVISION CALENDAR** - The Board approved the Division calendars for the next two school years—2025-26 and 2026-27. For the most part, the calendars resemble previous years. However, a change was made to early dismissal days. In previous years, early dismissal days occurred on the first Wednesday of every month—students are released from school one hour early to allow for staff meetings and collaboration. Going forward, early dismissal days will now occur weekly, every Wednesday. On these days, after students are released, school staff will take part in structured collaborative learning opportunities to ultimately enhance student achievement. Before making the calendar change, the Division surveyed the school community—the weekly early dismissal aligns with feedback heard and, also, the Division's needs (see pg. 36, "[2025-26 and 2026-27 Division Calendars](#)").

Calendar highlights include:

2025-26	2026-27
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• first day of school – Aug. 28, 2025• November break – November 10-14• Christmas break – December 22 to Jan. 2• second semester starts – January 29• Teachers’ Convention – February 5-6• spring break – March 23-27• last day of classes – June 23, 2026	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• first day of school – Aug. 31, 2026• November break – November 9-13• Christmas break – December 21 to January 1• second semester starts – February 1• Teachers’ Convention – February 4-5• spring break – March 22-26• last day of classes – June 28, 2027

- 10) **UPCOMING TRUSTEE ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER 2025** – The Board of Trustees approved the following Bylaws, in preparation for the upcoming 2025 EIPS Trustee Elections
Bylaw No. 009/2024: The Establishment of Wards and Electoral Subdivisions received third reading and was then passed by the Board. The bylaw replaces Bylaw No. 007/20 in [Appendix A – Policy 7: Board Operations](#).
Bylaw No. 010/2024: The Rules and Procedures for the Conduct of School Trustee Elections received three readings and was then passed by the Board. The bylaw replaces Bylaw No. 008/2020 and will guide the upcoming school trustee election.
Bylaw No. 011/2024: Criminal Record Checks Required for Trustee Nominations received three readings and was then passed by the Board. EIPS will abide by Bylaw No. 011/2024 throughout the upcoming school trustee election.
- 11) **ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT 2023-24** - The Board approved EIPS’ *Annual Education Results Report 2023-24*, an Alberta Education reporting requirement that provides school families and community members easy-to-understand information about the Division. It also serves as a mechanism to improve accountability and transparency with local stakeholders. The *Annual Education Results Report 2023-24* features detailed information about how EIPS is doing relative to Alberta Education’s performance measures; how the Division supports students to achieve the best possible outcomes; and its successes, challenges and priorities moving forward. Now approved, the Division will submit the report to Alberta Education on November 29. After sending it to the province, EIPS will also post it online and share it with stakeholders and the Committee of School Councils. The summary report is attached below. To read the full report visit, eips.ca.
- 12) **NAMING OF THE SHERWOOD PARK REPLACEMENT SCHOOL** - The Board approved a name for the new replacement school in Sherwood Park—Forest Grove School—expected to open in the 2026-27 school year. Once open, Forest Grove School will offer a single-track elementary French Immersion program and a dual-track junior high program, including a regular English program and a French immersion program for grades 7-9.
- 13) **CAREGIVER SERIES: JANUARY AND FEBRUARY SESSIONS** - Recovery Alberta offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Sessions are offered through Zoom. The list of [January and February 2025 sessions](#) is now available.
- 14) **NEXT BOARD MEETING** – The next regular Board meeting takes place on February 20, 2025, at 10 AM. Board meetings are held in the Elk Island Public School boardroom. EIPS also livestreams public Board meetings on its [YouTube channel](#).
- 15) **INQUIRIES?** - If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at ralph.sorochan@eips.ca or 780 417 8107.



Annual Education Results Report Overview 2023-24



Every year, Elk Island Public Schools publishes an Annual Education Results Report, which outlines the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, opportunities for growth and how it's supporting students to achieve the best possible outcomes. Collectively, the Division uses the report to guide its work and enhance learning going forward. Read the full report at eips.ca.

MISSION

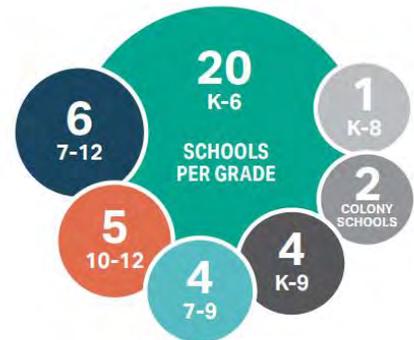
To provide high-quality, student-centred education

BELIEF STATEMENTS

- Student growth and success are the core work of the Division.
- All students deserve equitable access to high-quality teaching and learning.
- Every student can learn and experience success.
- Success is measured by academic growth, social-emotional learning, physical well-being and the competencies required to live a life of dignity and fulfilment.
- Student growth and success are a shared responsibility between all stakeholders.
- Respectful relationships are foundational to creating an environment where teamwork and collaboration thrive.
- Decisions are informed by reliable data and made in the best interest of all students.

Alberta Education Assurance Measures

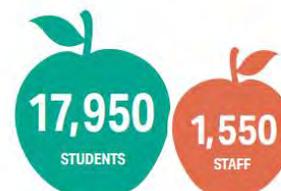
	EVALUATION SCORE
Student Learning Engagement	n/a
Citizenship	Intermediate
High School Completion Rate	Very High
Provincial Achievement Tests	High
Diploma Examinations	High
Dropout Rate (1.8%)	Good
Education Quality	High
Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments	n/a
Access to Supports and Services	High
Parental Involvement	Intermediate



42
TOTAL
SCHOOLS

Schools by location

- 19: Sherwood Park
- 5: Strathcona County
- 5: Lamont County
- 9: City of Fort Saskatchewan
- 4: Vegreville, County of Minburn



As of Sept. 27, 2024

"We acknowledge with respect the history and culture of the peoples with whom Treaty 6 was entered and the land upon which Elk Island Public Schools reside. We also acknowledge the traditional homeland of the Métis Nation and our responsibility, as Treaty 6 members, to honour the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples" — EIPS Board of Trustees

Annual Education Results Report

Local Profile and Context

EIPS is one of Alberta's largest school divisions, serving more than 17,950 students from kindergarten to Grade 12 in 42 schools—in Sherwood Park, Fort Saskatchewan, Vegreville, Strathcona County, Lamont County and the western portion of the County of Minburn. The Division also employs 1,551 people who work collectively to inspire students to learn, grow and succeed.

Thanks to its size, EIPS is able to provide students with a range of learning opportunities, from pre-kindergarten to Grade 12. These include specialized, faith-based, language, career pathways, academic and outreach programs. That, coupled with strong extracurricular opportunities, family supports and numerous student services, ensures all learners receive a well-rounded education that develops their skills and knowledge.

Overall, 2023-24 was a productive year for EIPS, with much to celebrate. The year also presented challenges and opportunities for growth. What shines through, though, is the priorities, programs and strategies the Division has in place are positively impacting on students. To make that happen, everyone within EIPS has had to come together and stay committed to its the goals listed in the [Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26](#).

A Closer Look

Results

EIPS' annual results data shows the strategies and goals it has in place are having a positive impact on student achievement and well-being.

The Board continues to focus efforts on: building literacy and numeracy skills for all students, and supporting staff growth through meaningful professional learning and evidence-based best practices.

Funding

Every year, EIPS' budget gets tighter, making operations more challenging. The reason: the province's funding formula for education, student enrolment growth and inflation. As such, the Division closely examined its operations to find cost savings.

The Board approved a budget using available resources to ensure a budget that supports the mission, beliefs and priorities of EIPS.

New Elementary Curriculum

EIPS rolled out Phase 2 of the new elementary curriculum, with three subjects launching in 2023-24—mathematics and English language arts and literature, grades 4-6, and science, kindergarten to Grade 3.

The Board invested resources for EIPS to create an implementation plan, develop high-quality resources, build capacity and ensure smooth transitions for students.

Engagement

EIPS finalized the last project listed within its three-year public engagement plan: how to address school capacity issues, improve attendance areas for junior high students, balance senior high enrolment in Sherwood Park and enhance accommodations for elementary and secondary French Immersion programming.

The Board made the decision to relocate the senior high French Immersion program to Salisbury Composite High, and balance senior high enrolment by redesignating senior high students living in the Lakeland Ridge attendance area to Bev Facey Community High—both effective when the new Sherwood Park replacement school opens.

Mental Health

Work continued on EIPS' Mental Health Strategic Plan, now in Year 3, which aims to better support students' and staff's socio-emotional and positive mental health development.

The Board invested significant resources into the strategic plan to enhance supports for students, families and staff—focused on providing education and resources on mental health literacy, support for student mental health and well-being, capacity building and service pathways.

2024-25 Expenses by Program

NOTE: All dollar amounts are expressed in thousands

Instruction	\$166,129	78%
Operations and Maintenance	\$24,105	11%
Transportation	\$17,413	8%
System Administration	\$4,515	2%
External Services	\$990	1%
TOTAL	\$213,152	100%

78% INSTRUCTION (\$9,518 PER STUDENT)

Includes teacher and support staff salaries for schools. School allocations increased because of higher standard costs.

11% OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Includes school building maintenance, utilities, insurance and custodial services. Costs are higher because of rising inflation.

8% STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Costs to transport EIPS riders.

2% SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

Includes Board costs and central administration costs. Expenses are below the \$6.55 million grant provided by Alberta Education. Unused funds will go toward instruction.

1% EXTERNAL SERVICES

Includes contracted services, secondments, facility rentals, and before-and-after school care.

GRIEF & LOSS SUPPORT GROUP 2025

Last **Tuesday** of the Month
1:00pm-2:30pm
Pioneer House Library
10102-100 Ave Fort Saskatchewan

January 28	September 30
February 25	October 28
March 25	November 25
April 29	December 30
May 27	

*there will be no meetings held between June-August



For more information:

Diane McPherson

dmcpherson_2000@yahoo.com

780-975-8721

Older Adults & Seniors

INFORMATION SERIES

Occurring the **FIRST** Tuesday of each month at **1:00 pm**
Pioneer House - 10102 100 Ave

2024

October 1

**Wills, Power of
Attorney, & Personal
Directives**

November 5

Falls Prevention

December 3

**Mental Health in the
Holiday Season**

2025

January 7

**Alzheimer &
Dementia Awareness**

February 11 (Second Tuesday)

UPDATE

**Seniors Benefits &
Credits**

March 4

**Scams & Fraud
Prevention**

April 8

Leisure for Wellbeing



**Family & Community
Support Services**
CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

DRAGONFLY SUPPORT GROUP

Are you a caregiver navigating the unique challenges and joys of raising a neurodiverse child? We warmly invite you to join our monthly support group.

This is a safe space to share your journey, learn from others, and gain valuable insights into navigating the world of neurodiversity.

January 27: CASA Mental Health Guest Speaker
February 24: Group Discussion
March 17: Group Discussion

NEW

Time: 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm

Excited to announce extended time for the new winter dates!

More dates and guest speaker announcements to come.

 Families First Society
9901 90 St, Fort Saskatchewan, AB T8L 3T1

****Children's Programming is Available!****

Register by calling (780) 998-5595 ext. 221
no later than one week prior to each session





FORT SASKATCHEWAN'S LOCAL SUPPORT NETWORK FOR YOUTH



Feeling unsure about which agency is the right fit for you? Any of these community partners would be happy to assist you in navigating the support network.

REMEMBER, THERE'S NO WRONG NUMBER IN OUR COMMUNITY



Family & Community Support Services
CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN
780.992.6267

- Outreach Supports
- System Navigation
- Community and Agency Supports
- Workshops and Trainings
- Community Programs

FCSS Youth Outreach Intake

780.992.6267

- Short term, goal oriented, one-on-one support to youth ages 6-18 and their families
- School, home, office, or community visits offered



The Bridge Wellness Hub for Youth by Kickstand

780.589.0024 [facebook.com/TheBridgeWHY](https://www.facebook.com/TheBridgeWHY)

- Youth 11-24
- Youth and Family centered health, mental health and social support services



Families First Society

780.998.5595 ext. 221 [familiesfirstsociety.ca](https://www.familiesfirstsociety.ca)

- Play programs, Family support and education, Family Violence Prevention, System navigation, Connection to resources for all ages



211 Alberta

2-1-1 ab.211.ca

- Connects you with the proper resource or service for your situation. Live answer 24/7
- If you're having an emergency call 9-1-1



Fort Saskatchewan Public Library

780.998.4275 [fspl.ca](https://www.fspl.ca)

- Educational and entertainment resources, services and programs for all ages



BGC Fort Saskatchewan

780.992.0103 [footsask.bgccan.com](https://www.footsask.bgccan.com)

- Children & Youth 6+
- Before/After school care, youth programs
- Family Supports and programs



For more information and services, please visit footsask.ca/FCSS

Kids Help Phone

1-800-668-6868 kidshelpphone.ca

Text CONNECT to 686868

- 24/7 e-mental health services to young people in Canada



Child Intervention Intake

1.800.638.0715 alberta.ca/child-intervention

- Offers to work with children, youth, and families to ensure the safety and well-being of children and youth.



Saffron Centre

780.449.0900 www.saffroncentre.com

- Counselling, education, and advocacy for individuals impacted by sexual violence



Suicide Crisis Helpline

988 Call or Text 988.ca

- A safe space to talk, 24 hours a day, every day of the year
- If safety is at risk, call 9-1-1 right away



Fort Saskatchewan Nourishment Center/Food Bank

780.998.4099 fortsaskatchewanfoodbank.com

- Food Hampers (T,Th)
- Daily Bread+ (M,W,F)
- Christmas Hamper and Toys



Indigenous Support Line

1.844.944.4744 or 811

- Support line for first Nations, Métis, and Inuit people
- Connects callers with Indigenous listeners who can provide culturally appropriate care and healthcare guidance



AHS Addiction and Mental Health - Intake Services, Child and Adolescent

825.402.6799

- Provides a single intake service for child and adolescent community mental health clinics across the Edmonton Zone



Distress Line

780.482.4357

- The Distress Line is available 24/7 for those in crisis or distress or those supporting someone who is.



Hope for Wellness

1.855.242.3310 hopeforwellness.ca

- Offers 24/7 support and counselling services to Indigenous peoples



Hope for Wellness

Robin Hood Association

780.992.0035 robinhoodassoc.com

- Children and Youth Services offers family-centered programs and respite services to children with disabilities and their families.



For more information and services, please visit fortsask.ca/FCSS



FORT SASKATCHEWAN'S LOCAL SUPPORT NETWORK FOR SENIORS



Feeling unsure about which agency is the right fit for you? Any of these community partners would be happy to assist you in navigating the support network.

REMEMBER, THERE'S NO WRONG NUMBER IN OUR COMMUNITY



**Family & Community
Support Services**
CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

780.992.6267

- Outreach Supports
- System Navigation
- Community and Agency Supports
- Workshops and Trainings
- Community Programs

Meals on Wheels

780.992.6267

- Nutritious meals delivered to residents homes Mon-Fri
- Cost is \$8.50/meal



Pioneer House Club 50

780.998.3898 facebook.com/PioneerHouse50

- Seniors social supports, recreational opportunities, outings, and events



Fort Lions Transportation Society

780.940.5247 fortsasklions.com

- Specialized transit support related to wheelchair, scooter or walker use



We Serve

Heartland Housing Foundation

780.998.3321 heartlandhousing.ca

- Rent assistance programs
- Near market housing
- Seniors lodges, near market and affordable apartments



Home Care - Adult Services

780.496.1300 (intake) 780.342.2333 (clients)

- Professional health & support services at home
- Services include: after-surgery care, respite services, short & long-term care needs, palliative care



Fort Saskatchewan Nourishment Center/Food Bank

780.998.4099 fortsaskatchewanfoodbank.com

- Food Hampers (T,Th)
- Daily Bread+ (M,W,F)
- Christmas Hamper and Toys



The Fort Foundation

877.359.3640 fortfoundation.ca

- Information, advocacy, and referral services on Family, Civil, Immigration and Criminal Law



Careers Under Construction

587.760.2010 careersunderconstruction.ca

- Skill-Bit employment skills training program



Robin Hood Association

780.992.0035 robinhoodassoc.com

- Adult, youth, and children services for people with developmental disabilities



Fort Saskatchewan Furniture Bank

fortsaskfurniturebank.com

- Provides gently used furniture and household goods to those that qualify. Please refer to their website for the criteria.



EISA Settlement Practitioner

780.991.8223 eisa-edmonton.org

- Information, advocacy, and support for new immigrants, refugees and first generation Canadians



Leisure Days Adult Day Support Services

780.998.7678 leisuredays-services.com

780.496.1300 (intake)

- Engaging dependent adults in purposeful recreation & socialization
- Caregiver Respite
- T/Th 9:30am-3:30pm



The Legion - Branch No.27

780.998.3466

- Local services, supports, and socialization
- Silver Wing Lounge
- Walker/Wheelchair Loans



Families First Society

780.998.5595 ext. 221 familiesfirstsociety.ca

- Play programs, Family support and education, Family Violence Prevention, System navigation



Fort Saskatchewan Public Library

780.998.4275 fspl.ca

- Educational and entertainment resources, services and programs for all ages



Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital

780.998.2256 albertahealthservices.ca

- Acute and outpatient care
- 24hr emergency services
- Women's health
- Ophthalmology



Still have Questions? Contact Lucas (FCSS Seniors Coordinator) 780.992.6623



FORT SASKATCHEWAN'S LOCAL SUPPORT NETWORK



Feeling unsure about which agency is the right fit for you? Any of these community partners would be happy to assist you in navigating the support network.

REMEMBER, THERE'S NO WRONG NUMBER IN OUR COMMUNITY



Family & Community Support Services
CITY OF FORT SASKATCHEWAN

780-992-6267

- Outreach Supports
- System Navigation
- Community and Agency Supports
- Workshops and Trainings
- Community Programs

 *Digital copies feature clickable links for convenient access, guiding you directly to the websites below!*

BGC Fort Saskatchewan

fortsask.bgccan.com



- (780) 992-0103
- Children & Youth 6+
- Before/After school care, youth programs
- Family Supports and programs

Families First Society

familiesfirstsociety.ca



- (780) 998-5595 ext. 221
- Play programs, Family support and education, Family Violence Prevention, System navigation, Connection to resources for all ages

The Bridge Wellness Hub for Youth

facebook.com/TheBridgeWHY



- (780) 589-0024
- Youth 11-24
- Youth and Family centered health, mental health and social support services

Fort Saskatchewan Public Library

fspl.ca



- (780) 998-4275
- Educational and entertainment resources, services and programs for all ages

Heartland Housing Foundation

heartlandhousing.ca



- (780) 400-3500
- Rent assistance programs
- Near market housing
- Seniors lodges, near market and affordable apartments

Fort Saskatchewan Nourishment Center/Food Bank

fortsaskatchewanfoodbank.com



- (780) 998-4099
- Food Hampers (T,Th)
- Daily Bread+ (M,W,F)
- Christmas Hamper and Toys

The Fort Foundation

fortfoundation.ca



- (877) 359 3640
- Information, advocacy, and referral services on Family, Civil, Immigration and Criminal Law

Careers Under Construction

careersunderconstruction.ca



- (587) 760-2010
- Skill-Bit employment skills training program

Robin Hood Association

robinhoodassoc.com



- (780) 992-0035
- Adult, youth, and children services for people with developmental disabilities

Fort Saskatchewan Furniture Bank

fortsaskfurniturebank.com



- Provides gently used furniture and household goods to those that qualify. Please refer to their website for the criteria.

EISA Settlement Practitioner

eisa-edmonton.org



- (780) 991-8223
- Information, advocacy, and support for new immigrants, refugees and first generation Canadians

Outloud

outloudstalbert.ca



- (587) 936-9620
- 2SLGBTQIAP+ supports, programs, resources, advocacy and education

Creating Hope Society

creatinghopesociety.ca



- (780) 477-7961
- Indigenous based programs, cultural supports, education and resources

Fort Lions Transportation Society

fortsasklions.com



- (780) 940-5247
- Specialized transit support related to wheelchair, scooter or walker use

Pioneer House Club 50

facebook.com/PioneerHouse50



- (780) 998-3898
- Seniors social supports, recreational opportunities, outings, and events

Fort Saskatchewan Community Hospital

albertahealthservices.ca



- (780) 998-2256
- Acute and outpatient care
- 24hr emergency services
- Women's health
- Ophthalmology



Principal's Report to School Council
January 27, 2025

1. SCHOOL EDUCATION PLAN IN FOCUS

- *School goal #1: Through consistent and daily use of small-group instruction and evidence-based practices, our students will demonstrate growth in **reading**.*

- Professional Learning Jan. 29 – writing instruction conversations
- UFLI Phonics K-6 alignment discussions on Jan. 29
- “Jam-uary” reading minutes for the food bank: 52 851
- PTA funds purchased a grade 6 writing resource, hundreds of Phonics books for small group reading
- Thank you to PTA for the *Rapunzel* theatre presentation on Feb. 3
- Division has developed a reading level assessment (5 min/student) and has highlighted other options to replace the STAR Reading test



- *School goal #2: By implementing high-leverage instructional strategies that support small group instruction in math class, all students will demonstrate growth in **number sense**.*

- School has purchased many new manipulatives for all grades for Individual, whole class, and small group work
- Division has created a math assessment to replace STAR Numeracy; we are still learning about it

- *School goal #3: Build staff capacity to engage students in purposeful **wellness** activities to promote student well-being and build a healthy, safe, and caring school community.*

- Student Leadership
- First Nations, Métis, and Inuit Foundational Learning
- Community
- Athletics
- Staff learning: Educational Assistant Community of Practice #2, Teachers Convention (Ribbon Skirt Making, Fort Edmonton)
- High level of volunteerism (grandparents, community, parents and caregivers)



Draft EIPS Vision:

"To collaboratively deliver a world-class education, that empowers EIPS students and staff to confidently embrace the future, achieve their goals, and make meaningful contributions to their communities and the world."



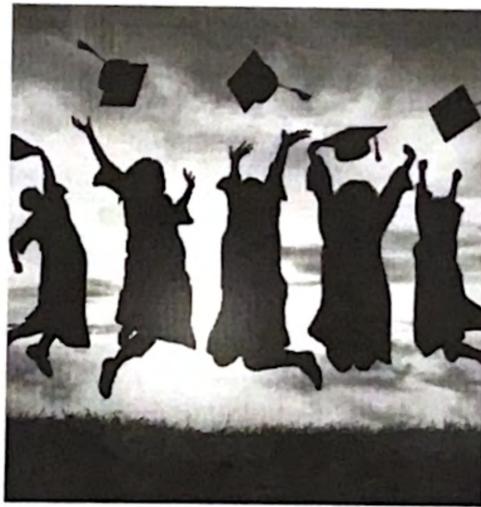
Draft EIPS Mission:

"At Elk Island Public Schools, we foster a student-centered approach within a diverse and inclusive environment.

We inspire collective ownership and engagement among students, staff, families, and the community in supporting success.

Together, we prepare students for life beyond high school by integrating high leverage strategies, innovative real-world experiences, academic rigor, and social responsibility.

We equip our students with foundational learning, critical thinking, adaptability, and collaboration skills, enabling them to lead lives of dignity, fulfillment and purpose, in an ever-evolving world."

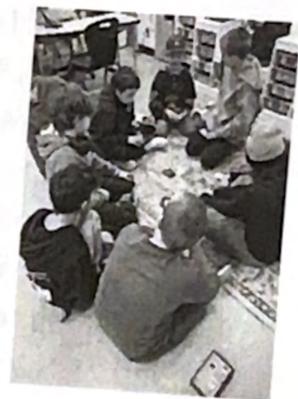


- Staff book club – great discussions about free play, age 16 for cell phones and social media, social media and loneliness, device additions

- Teacher rep sharing – Mrs. Fokema
- Government of Alberta K-3 assessments for literacy and numeracy completed this week

2. SCHOOL OPERATIONS

- Proposed fees for 2025-26 – discussion and paper survey to follow
- Farewell to Michelle Campbell in the office and welcome to Tanya Suprovich
- Grade 4 survey from Alberta Education – ideas to assist parents/caregivers with completion?
- Interviews/Learning Conferences Feb. 3 & 4 from 4:00-7:00 PM
 - Grade 6 presentations night 1 and celebration of learning night 2
- Facilities upgrades: New lights in gym
- School Budget Items: Projector for Gr 5M \$1200, likely a new set of Chromebooks and a cart \$16 000, library books \$\$
- Personal Mobile Devices Plan is now online for students/families to reference
- New calendar for 2025/26 - change to bell schedule times (8:20 AM and 3:16 PM - lunch unaffected)
- Field trips – March 12 ski trip for Gr 3-6; Swimming Gr 2-3, Rec Swim for Gr. 1-6; January skating for grades 1, 2, and 5 going great
- Studio Photography in 24/25 - Can we try your second choice for 25/26?



3. DIVISION OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

- WISEST Conference in February – four grade 6 students attending

Win Ferguson Elementary
SCHOOL FEE SCHEDULE - Proposed in January 2025
 for the 2025-2026 School Year

Category	Fee Name 2024-25	(A)						
Activity	Field Trip - Elk Island National Park	\$ -						
Activity	Field Trips - ECS	\$ 50.50	Increase of 2%					
Activity	Field Trips - Gr 1	\$ 50.50	Increase of 2%					
Activity	Field Trips - Gr 2	\$ 50.50	Increase of 2%					
Activity	Field Trips - Gr 3	\$ 50.50	Increase of 2%					
Activity	Field Trips - Gr 4	\$ 50.50	Increase of 2%					
Activity	Field Trips - Gr 5	\$ 50.50	Increase of 2%					
Activity	Field Trips - Gr 6	\$ 50.50	Increase of 2%					
Activity	Ski/Snowboard Trip	\$ 54.00	-Increase of \$1.50					
Activity	Splash Park - ECS and Gr. 1	\$ 2.00						
Activity	Swimming - Gr. 4-6	\$ 9.00	-Increase of 2%					
Activity	Swimming Lessons - Gr. 2	\$ 79.00	-Increase of 2%					
Activity	Swimming Lessons - Gr. 3	\$ 79.00	-Increase of 2%					
Extracurricular	Cross Country Running	\$ 13.50						
Extracurricular	Handbell Club	\$ 7.50						
Lunch Supervision & Activities	Noon Supervision - ECS	\$ 45.00	-decrease of \$7.50					
Lunch Supervision & Activities	Noon Supervision - Gr. 1-6	\$ 75.00	-increase of \$1.50 from 2021/2022 fee schedule					
Other Sales & Services	Agenda	\$ -	PTA pays for these					
Other Sales & Services	Equipment Rental	\$ -	School pays \$9.50 for a recorder for each grade 4 student (to use in grades 4, 5, 6).					
Other Sales & Services	Instrument Rental	\$ -						
Other Sales & Services	Sport Camps (ex. Volleyball Camp)	\$ -						
Other Sales & Services	Uniform Rental	\$ -						



EIPS KINDERGARTEN CALENDAR 2025-26

No School for All Students and Staff
 Early Dismissal for Students
 - one hour early every Wednesday

★ First Day of Class
 No School for Students
 - Professional Learning Day/Operational Day

SCHEDULE A:
Mondays, Thursdays
and select Wednesdays

SCHEDULE B:
Tuesdays, Fridays
and select Wednesdays

Important Dates

- Aug 26** Professional Learning Day
- Aug 27** Operational Day
- Aug 28** First Instructional Day Schedule A
- Aug 29** First Instructional Day Schedule B
- Sept 1** Labour Day - holiday
- Sept 4** First Day of Kindergarten Busing
- Sept 30** National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - Division closure
- Oct 3** Professional Learning Day
- Oct 13** Thanksgiving Day - holiday
- Nov 10 - 14** November Break
- Nov 11** Remembrance Day - holiday
- Nov 17** Classes Resume
- Dec 22 - Jan 2** Christmas Break
- Dec 25** Christmas Day - holiday
- Jan 1** New Year's Day - holiday
- Jan 5** Classes Resume
- Jan 28** Professional Learning Day
- Feb 5 - 6** North Central Teachers' Convention
- Feb 16** Family Day - holiday
- Mar 6** Professional Learning Day
- Mar 23 - 27** Spring Break
- Mar 30** Classes Resume
- Apr 3** Good Friday - holiday
- Apr 6** Easter Monday - Division closure
- May 1** Professional Learning Day
- May 18** Victoria Day - holiday
- June 21** National Indigenous Peoples Day
- Jun 22** Last Instructional Day Schedule A
- Jun 23** Last Instructional Day Schedule B
- Jun 24** Operational Day

AUGUST 2025

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31						

SEPTEMBER 2025

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OCTOBER 2025

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NOVEMBER 2025

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DECEMBER 2025

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JANUARY 2026

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FEBRUARY 2026

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MARCH 2026

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APRIL 2026

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MAY 2026

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JUNE 2026

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JULY 2026

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

WFG School Council – January 27, 2024

Ralph Sorochan

- 1) **APPRECIATION** – Thanks to everyone for your contributions!
- 2) **POWERSCHOOL SECURITY BREACH** – Elk Island Public Schools was recently advised of a widespread data breach of PowerSchool client information, which has impacted school divisions worldwide—including students and staff. The Division is working with the vendor to determine the extent of the data accessed and the number of people affected. In the meantime, we've been assured the data accessed during this cybersecurity incident did **not** include individuals' financial or banking information. There has been no disruption to the daily operations of schools or classroom instruction. Please [follow this link](#) for the latest updated information. We appreciate your patience as we work through this issue.
- 3) **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY CHANGE** - In response to feedback from school authorities regarding resource and capacity challenges, Alberta's government has revised the 1.0 distance eligibility for kindergarten to Grade 6 students to 1.6 kilometers, effective September 1, 2025. The criteria for grades 7 to 12 students remains unchanged at 2.0 kilometers. To mitigate transitional difficulties, Alberta Education has committed to providing one-year transition funding during the 2025-26 school year for school authorities maintaining the 1.0 kilometer criteria.
Key Concerns:
 - Impact on Families: Over 686 students within EIPS will be affected by the 1.0-kilometre distance criteria change effective the 2026-27 school year.
 - 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.
 - 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.
 - Trust and Policy Consistency: The initial reduction to 1.0 kilometres was a commitment to improving accessibility. The revision to 1.6 kilometres undermines this trust and raises concerns about the government's commitment to its policy objectives.
- 4) **AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: 2024** - The Board approved the Audited Financial Statements for Aug. 31, 2024. MNP LLP, a national accounting firm, audited the statements and overall, the Division ended the 2023-24 school year with an operating surplus of \$3.2 million—revenues and expenses were greater than budgeted because of increased enrolment, changes in grant funding and a one-time sale of non-capital assets. [Click here to access the Audited Financial Statements.](#)
- 5) **AUDITOR REAPPOINTMENT** - The Board approved reappointing MNP LLP, a national accounting firm, as the Division's external auditor for EIPS' year-end financial statements for Aug. 31, 2025.
- 6) **EIPS 2024-25 FALL BUDGET** - The Board approved the EIPS 2024-25 Fall Budget Report for the period of Sept. 1, 2024 to Aug. 31, 2025. The Board originally approved the 2024-25 operating budget on June 6, 2024. Every fall, the budget is updated to account for current information regarding enrolment numbers, revenue changes, actual carry forward amounts, expenses and

planned reserve spending. Overall, the EIPS 2024-25 budget provides stability for schools and maintains essential services (see pg. 189, "2024-25 Fall Budget").

Highlights from the Fall Budget Report:

- *budget priorities* – complexity in classrooms, curriculum and resource development, the mental health strategic plan, collegiate and career pathways, equity, staff retention and artificial intelligence and digital tools considerations
- *operating budget* – \$213.15 million, which includes a \$2.11-million draw from operating reserves and \$390,000 from asset retirement obligation amortization
- *student enrolment* – 17,949, as of Sept. 27, 2024
- *employees (full-time equivalent)* – 1,367, as of Sept. 30, 2024
- *operating reserves projection* – \$10.59 million, as of Aug. 31, 2025
- *capital reserves projection* – \$210,000, as of Aug. 31, 2025
- *instructional spending* – 78% of the total budget, equating to \$9,518 per student

7) **UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT: SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2024** - The Board received for information EIPS' Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2024, to Nov. 30, 2024—prepared by Financial Services. As of November 30, revenues exceeded expenses, resulting in an operating surplus of \$639,000. The operational revenue for the three months is \$51.28 million, which represents 25 per cent of the budget. Similarly, total expenses are \$50.64 million, also representing 25 per cent of the budget. The primary reason for the surplus is timing differences, meaning expenditures are not incurred evenly over the year. EIPS expects these to resolve themselves by the end of the school year—after all expenses are incurred (see pg. 75, "Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2024 to Nov. 30, 2024").

8) **SCHOOL FEE PARAMETERS: 2025-26** - The Board approved the school fee parameters for the 2025-26 school year. For the upcoming school year, fees can increase by two per cent—in 2024-25, the allowable increase was five per cent. Highlights of the 2025-26 school fee parameters include:

Optional-courses fees, Noon-supervision fees, Activity fees, Extracurricular fees, Non-curricular travel fees, Non-curricular goods and services fees – **two per cent allowable increase**

Schools must set all fees at a cost-recovery rate. If fees are over-charged by more than \$10 a student, schools must refund that amount to the student. Additionally, if any fees exceed the listed parameters, the school must submit an explanation for EIPS' Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer to review. With the fee parameters now approved, schools can begin establishing their 2025-26 School Fees Schedule.

9) **DIVISION CALENDAR** - The Board approved the Division calendars for the next two school years—2025-26 and 2026-27. For the most part, the calendars resemble previous years. However, a change was made to early dismissal days. In previous years, early dismissal days occurred on the first Wednesday of every month—students are released from school one hour early to allow for staff meetings and collaboration. Going forward, early dismissal days will now occur weekly, every Wednesday. On these days, after students are released, school staff will take part in structured collaborative learning opportunities to ultimately enhance student achievement. Before making the calendar change, the Division surveyed the school community—the weekly early dismissal aligns with feedback heard and, also, the Division's needs (see pg. 36, "2025-26 and 2026-27 Division Calendars").

Calendar highlights include:

2025-26

- first day of school – Aug. 28, 2025
- November break – November 10-14
- Christmas break – December 22 to Jan. 2
- second semester starts – January 29
- Teachers' Convention – February 5-6
- spring break – March 23-27
- last day of classes – June 23, 2026

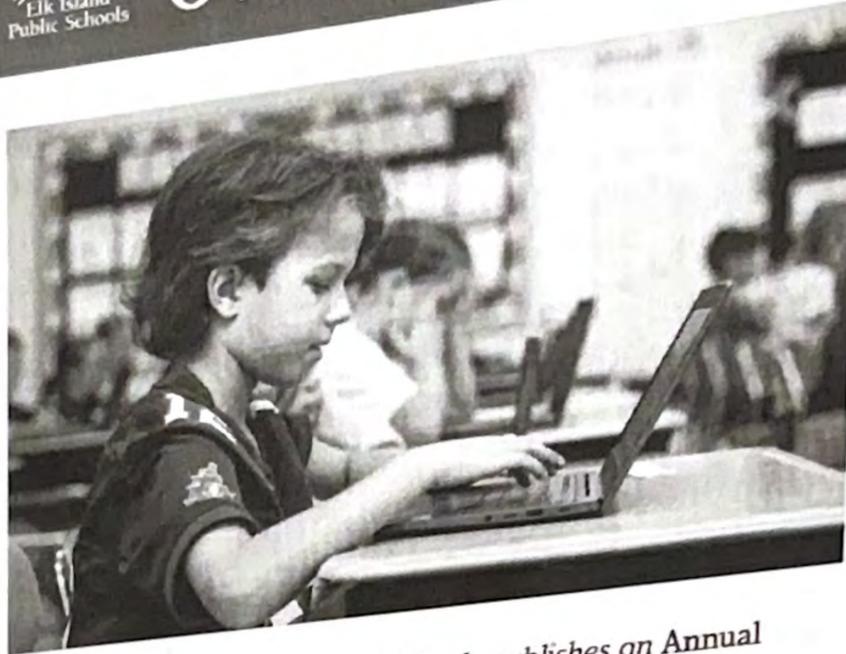
2026-27

- first day of school – Aug. 31, 2026
- November break – November 9-13
- Christmas break – December 21 to January 1
- second semester starts – February 1
- Teachers' Convention – February 4-5
- spring break – March 22-26
- last day of classes – June 28, 2027

- 10) **UPCOMING TRUSTEE ELECTIONS IN OCTOBER 2025** – The Board of Trustees approved the following Bylaws, in preparation for the upcoming 2025 EIPS Trustee Elections
- Bylaw No. 009/2024:** The Establishment of Wards and Electoral Subdivisions received third reading and was then passed by the Board. The bylaw replaces Bylaw No. 007/20 in Appendix A – Policy 7: Board Operations.
- Bylaw No. 010/2024:** The Rules and Procedures for the Conduct of School Trustee Elections received three readings and was then passed by the Board. The bylaw replaces Bylaw No. 008/2020 and will guide the upcoming school trustee election.
- Bylaw No. 011/2024:** Criminal Record Checks Required for Trustee Nominations received three readings and was then passed by the Board. EIPS will abide by Bylaw No. 011/2024 throughout the upcoming school trustee election.
- 11) **ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT 2023-24** - The Board approved EIPS' *Annual Education Results Report 2023-24*, an Alberta Education reporting requirement that provides school families and community members easy-to-understand information about the Division. It also serves as a mechanism to improve accountability and transparency with local stakeholders. The *Annual Education Results Report 2023-24* features detailed information about how EIPS is doing relative to Alberta Education's performance measures; how the Division supports students to achieve the best possible outcomes; and its successes, challenges and priorities moving forward. Now approved, the Division will submit the report to Alberta Education on November 29. After sending it to the province, EIPS will also post it online and share it with stakeholders and the Committee of School Councils. The summary report is attached below. To read the full report visit, eips.ca.
- 12) **NAMING OF THE SHERWOOD PARK REPLACEMENT SCHOOL** - The Board approved a name for the new replacement school in Sherwood Park—Forest Grove School—expected to open in the 2026-27 school year. Once open, Forest Grove School will offer a single-track elementary French Immersion program and a dual-track junior high program, including a regular English program and a French immersion program for grades 7-9.
- 13) **CAREGIVER SERIES: JANUARY AND FEBRUARY SESSIONS** - Recovery Alberta offers free online programming for parents and caregivers of children and youth. Sessions are offered through Zoom. The list of January and February 2025 sessions is now available.
- 14) **NEXT BOARD MEETING** – The next regular Board meeting takes place on February 20, 2025, at 10 AM. Board meetings are held in the Elk Island Public School boardroom. EIPS also livestreams public Board meetings on its YouTube channel.
- 15) **INQUIRIES?** - If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at ralph.sorochan@eips.ca or 780 417 8107.



Annual Education Results Report Overview 2023-24



Every year, Elk Island Public Schools publishes an Annual Education Results Report, which outlines the Division's Four-Year Education Plan, opportunities for growth and how it's supporting students to achieve the best possible outcomes. Collectively, the Division uses the report to guide its work and enhance learning going forward. Read the full report at eips.ca.

MISSION

To provide high-quality, student-centred education

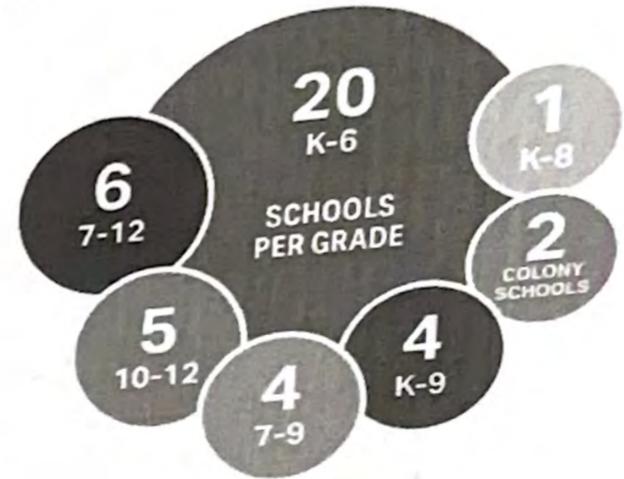
BELIEF STATEMENTS

- Student growth and success are the core work of the Division.
- All students deserve equitable access to high-quality teaching and learning.
- Every student can learn and experience success.
- Success is measured by academic growth, social-emotional learning, physical well-being and the competencies required to live a life of dignity and fulfilment.
- Student growth and success are a shared responsibility between all stakeholders.
- Respectful relationships are foundational to creating an environment where teamwork and collaboration thrive.
- Decisions are informed by reliable data and made in the best interest of all students.

"We acknowledge with respect the history and culture of the peoples with whom Treaty 6 was entered and the land upon which Elk Island Public Schools reside. We also acknowledge the traditional homeland of the Métis Nation and our responsibility, as Treaty 6 members, to honour the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples" — EIPS Board of Trustees

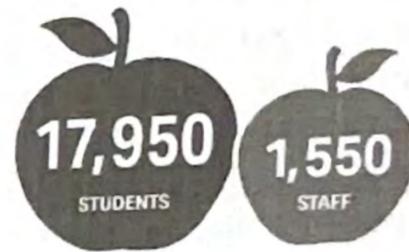
Alberta Education Assurance Measures

	EVALUATION SCORE
Student Learning Engagement	n/a
Citizenship	Intermediate
High School Completion Rate	Very High
Provincial Achievement Tests	High
Diploma Examinations	High
Dropout Rate (1.8%)	Good
Education Quality	High
Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments	n/a
Access to Supports and Services	High
Parental Involvement	Intermediate



42
TOTAL SCHOOLS

Schools by location
19: Sherwood Park
5: Strathcona County
5: Lamont County
9: City of Fort Saskatchewan
4: Vegreville, County of Minburn



As of Sept. 27, 2024

Annual Education Results Report

Local Profile and Context

EIPS is one of Alberta's largest school divisions, serving more than 17,950 students from kindergarten to Grade 12 in 42 schools—in Sherwood Park, Fort Saskatchewan, Vegreville, Strathcona County, Lamont County and the western portion of the County of Minburn. The Division also employs 1,551 people who work collectively to inspire students to learn, grow and succeed.

Thanks to its size, EIPS is able to provide students with a range of learning opportunities, from pre-kindergarten to Grade 12. These include specialized, faith-based, language, career pathways, academic and outreach programs. That, coupled with strong extracurricular opportunities, family supports and numerous student services, ensures all learners receive a well-rounded education that develops their skills and knowledge.

Overall, 2023-24 was a productive year for EIPS, with much to celebrate. The year also presented challenges and opportunities for growth. What shines through, though, is the priorities, programs and strategies the Division has in place are positively impacting on students. To make that happen, everyone within EIPS has had to come together and stay committed to its the goals listed in the *Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26*.

A Closer Look

Results

EIPS' annual results data shows the strategies and goals it has in place are having a positive impact on student achievement and well-being.

The Board continues to focus efforts on: building literacy and numeracy skills for all students, and supporting staff growth through meaningful professional learning and evidence-based best practices.

Funding

Every year, EIPS' budget gets tighter, making operations more challenging. The reason: the province's funding formula for education, student enrolment growth and inflation. As such, the Division closely examined its operations to find cost savings.

The Board approved a budget using available resources to ensure a budget that supports the mission, beliefs and priorities of EIPS.

New Elementary Curriculum

EIPS rolled out Phase 2 of the new elementary curriculum, with three subjects launching in 2023-24—mathematics and English language arts and literature, grades 4-6, and science, kindergarten to Grade 3.

The Board invested resources for EIPS to create an implementation plan, develop high-quality resources, build capacity and ensure smooth transitions for students.

Engagement

EIPS finalized the last project listed within its three-year public engagement plan: how to address school capacity issues, improve attendance areas for junior high students, balance senior high enrolment in Sherwood Park and enhance accommodations for elementary and secondary French Immersion programming.

The Board made the decision to relocate the senior high French Immersion program to Salisbury Composite High, and balance senior high enrolment by redesignating senior high students living in the Lakeland Ridge attendance area to Bev Facey Community High—both effective when the new Sherwood Park replacement school opens.

Mental Health

Work continued on EIPS' Mental Health Strategic Plan, now in Year 3, which aims to better support students' and staff's socio-emotional and positive mental health development.

The Board invested significant resources into the strategic plan to enhance supports for students, families and staff—focused on providing education and resources on mental health literacy, support for student mental health and well-being, capacity building and service pathways.

2024-25 Expenses by Program

NOTE: All dollar amounts are expressed in thousands

Instruction	\$166,129	78%
Operations and Maintenance	\$24,105	11%
Transportation	\$17,413	8%
System Administration	\$4,515	2%
External Services	\$990	1%
TOTAL	\$213,152	100%

78% INSTRUCTION (\$9,518 PER STUDENT)

Includes teacher and support staff salaries for schools. School allocations increased because of higher standard costs.

11% OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE

Includes school building maintenance, utilities, insurance and custodial services. Costs are higher because of rising inflation.

8% STUDENT TRANSPORTATION

Costs to transport EIPS riders.

2% SYSTEM ADMINISTRATION

Includes Board costs and central administration costs. Expenses are below the \$6.55 million grant provided by Alberta Education. Unused funds will go toward instruction.

1% EXTERNAL SERVICES

Includes contracted services, secondments, facility rentals, and before-and-after school care.

Four-Year Education Plan 2022-26

Priority Summary

Priority 1: Promote Growth and Success for All Students

Results

- Early learning:** Families agree EIPS' Early Learning program prepares children well for Grade 1.
- Literacy and numeracy:** PAT and diploma examination results are consistently higher than the province.
- Indigenous education:** Overall educational outcomes for Indigenous students are improving, and consistently higher than the province.
- Career pathways:** EIPS continues to see strong results related to senior high achievement—thanks, in part, to the Division's vast career pathway programming.
- Assurance:** Stakeholders are confident students develop the skills needed to succeed after finishing school.

Priority Strategies 2025-26

- Continue building teacher capacity in literacy, numeracy, student engagement and assessment practices.
- Continue using multi-disciplinary teams to address needed interventions and support complex learners.
- Implement high-leverage instructional and assessment practices to support growth in literacy and numeracy.
- Continue developing foundational knowledge about First Nations, Métis and Inuit perspectives.
- Continue efforts to prepare students in career planning and transitions to post-secondary.

Priority 2: Enhance High-Quality Learning and Working Environments

Results

- Learning environments:** Families are satisfied with the quality of teaching and education their child receives at school.
- Working environments:** Staff agree EIPS is a positive place to work and have opportunities to grow.
- Infrastructure:** Families are satisfied with EIPS' infrastructure.
- Assurance:** EIPS stakeholders are confident the Division's environments are welcoming, inclusive, respectful and safe.

Priority Strategies 2025-26

- Build capacity through targeted and collaborative learning opportunities related to staff competencies for leadership, teaching and support positions.
- Offer the Educational Assistant Internship to build capacity.
- Implement Year 5 of EIPS' Mental Health Strategic Plan to better support students and staff.
- Develop efforts to ensure welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning and working environments.
- Improve infrastructure reliability and increase equipment life cycles through ongoing and effective asset management and regular preventative maintenance.
- Continue efforts to ensure secure, safe, robust and reliable technology access.

Priority 3: Enhance Public Education Through Effective Engagement

Results

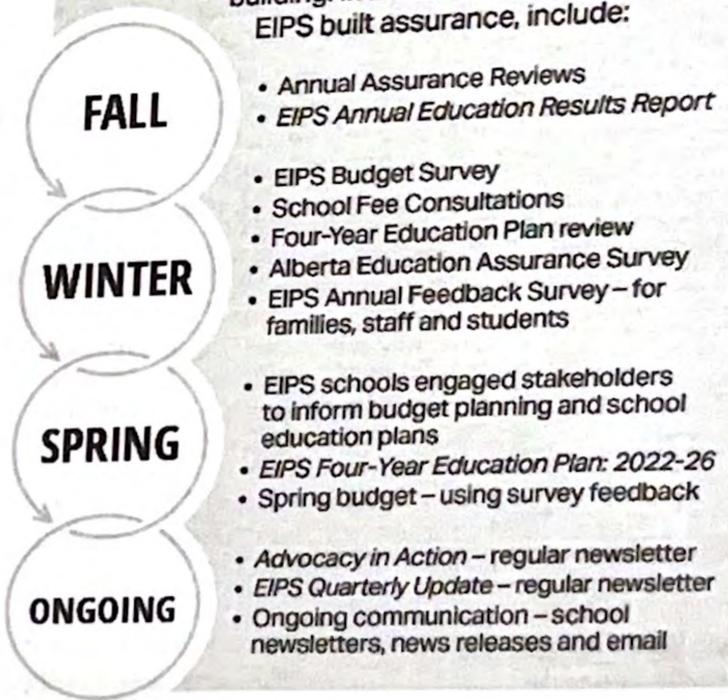
- Engagement:** Families agree schools keep them informed about their child's progress and achievement.
- Governance:** The Board worked diligently to ensure it communicated EIPS' standpoint on a range of topics—the value of public education, funding, autonomous school boards, new curriculum, mental health and well-being, classroom complexity and infrastructure projects.
- Assurance:** Stakeholders are confident EIPS provides meaningful opportunities for family involvement.

Priority Strategies 2025-26

- Build capacity for families to help support their child's education journey.
- Continue assurance framework efforts.
- Continue developing ways to engage families and school communities—advocacy, consultations, Division news.
- Promote effective communication and build relationships with elected government officials.
- Develop and maintain focused advocacy plans.

BUILDING ASSURANCE

In addition to providing high-quality education to students, EIPS is also responsible for assuring the public it's fulfilling its responsibilities, through reporting, engagement and relationship building. In 2023-24, some of the ways EIPS built assurance, include:



EIPS Four-Year Education Plan: 2022-26

Mission: To provide high-quality, student-centred education

Priority 1: Promote growth and success for all students

GOAL 1 EXCELLENT START TO LEARNING

Outcome: Kindergarten children reach developmental milestones by Grade 1.

Outcome: Students develop a strong foundation for learning through reading and doing mathematics at grade level by the end of Grade 3.

GOAL 2 SUCCESS FOR EVERY STUDENT

Outcome: Students are engaged with their learning and achieve student-learning outcomes.

Outcome: Students achieve a minimum of one year's growth in literacy and numeracy.

Outcome: Self-identified First Nations, Métis and Inuit students are engaged in holistic, lifelong learning that is culturally relevant and fosters success.

Outcome: Students are supported and prepared for life beyond high school.

Priority 2: Enhance high-quality learning and working environments

GOAL 1 A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Outcome: The Division uses evidence-based practices to support and enhance the quality of teaching, learning and leading.

GOAL 2 POSITIVE LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENTS

Outcome: The Division's learning and working environments are welcoming, caring, respectful, safe and foster student and staff well-being.

GOAL 3 QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ALL

Outcome: Learning and working environments are supported by effective planning, management and investment in Division infrastructure.

Priority 3: Enhance public education through effective engagement

GOAL 1 PARENT AND CAREGIVER ENGAGEMENT

Outcome: Student learning is supported and enhanced by providing meaningful opportunities for parents and caregivers to be involved in their child's education.

GOAL 2 ENGAGED AND EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE

Outcome: The Division is committed to engaging stakeholders to augment its decision-making and support student success.

Outcome: The Division is committed to engagement and advocacy to enhance public education.

