



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

TRUSTEES

Ted Paszek

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EICS Organizational Meeting

At the June 17, 2020 regularly scheduled Elk Island Catholic Schools (EICS) Board of Trustees meeting, trustees formally elected the Chair and Vice-Chair for the upcoming school year. Ted Paszek was elected Board Chair by acclamation and Le-Ann Ewaskiw was elected Vice-Chair by her fellow trustees. They will lead the Board of Trustees for the 2020-21 school year.

During this Organizational meeting, the members for a number of EICS Board of Trustee associations and committees were also determined. These range from the Alberta School Board Associations, the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustee Association, finance, and schools across the division are each represented by a key trustee for their area. This information will be updated and posted on the EICS website once the minutes have been approved at the next EICS Board meeting in September.

EICS Board of Trustees Advocacy Report

The Elk Island Catholic Schools Board of Trustees finished off the busy 2019-2020 school year with a meeting at the end of June with their local MLAs both virtually and with attendees in person to discuss issues affecting the EICS school division with specific emphasis on the following issues:

- School re-entry plan for Fall of 2020
- Costs associated for school re-entry with the COVID-19 pandemic
- Need for a new high school in Camrose

NEXT MEETING
September 16,
2020

Virtual Meeting

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EICS 2020 School Re-Entry Planning

EICS is preparing for the next school year beginning in September 2020 with the safety of students, staff and families at the forefront of our minds and plans. This has been our main priority since March of 2020 and will continue to be as we move forward.

Minister LaGrange indicated in her May announcement that they will have a final decision on which scenario School Board's will operate under by August 1, 2020. It is important to note that any return to school will be done so under the guidance and direction from Alberta's Chief Medical Officer of Health and Alberta Education.

What we can share with you now as a division, is that Administration and staff within EICS are creating comprehensive plans for each scenario, guided by Alberta Education's 2020-2021 School Re-Entry Plan, and its supporting documents regarding Scenarios' 1 and 2.

Over the Summer, once the August 1st decision is made, we will be communicating with all EICS families and sharing the specifics to our plans via email and the EICS main website. We know, as you do, that the best place for our students to learn is in a classroom with their peers, supported by an entire school community. It is there that they receive an outstanding educational experience, and it is what we are all hoping for heading into the next school year, as we plan for all eventualities.

EICS Board of Trustees Celebrates 2020 Grads

All four high school graduations in the division did an amazing job of acknowledging their graduates within the context of the pandemic and all the public health restrictions. Celebrations were certainly different in 2020, but very heartfelt and appreciated by the students and their families. Examples of celebrations included:

- Each school had a virtual graduation mass
- OLMP, SAB, St. Mary's and ABJ all had the ability to do a drive thru graduation celebration of some capacity or virtual celebration and each school had a car parade in which our trustees were invited to participate in.
- Strathcona County worked in collaboration with EICS and EIPS to honour the three high schools and continuing education centres in Strathcona County by having the names of all County graduates scrolling on the electronic signs at Millenium Place; Broadmoor Park and through the Chamber of Commerce sign on Wye Road.
- EICS Board of Trustees purchased ½ page colour ads in all community newspapers to give blessings and congratulations to all of our graduates. These ads are running the week of June 22 in Sherwood Park and Fort Saskatchewan; June 25 in the Camrose Booster and June 25 in the Vegreville Advertiser to coincide with all of the papers' graduation special theme.

Next EICS Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2020
2:30 p.m. EICS Central Learning Services