

Elk Island Catholic Separate School Division

Minutes of the Public Board Meeting

Held on January 22, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

St. André Bessette Catholic School, Fort Saskatchewan, AB

Board Members Present: Le-Ann Ewaskiw, Board Chair, via video conference
 Jean Boisvert, Vice-Chair
 Ted Paszek, Trustee
 Shelley Charchun, Trustee
 Teresa Makowecki, Trustee
 Al Stewart, Trustee

Board Members Absent: Dean Sarnecki, Trustee

Administration Present: Paul Corrigan, Superintendent
 Tracy Leigh, Secretary-Treasurer
 Brett Cox, Assistant Superintendent Human Resources
 Christina MacKinnon, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Excellence
 Jody Seymour, Director Student and Staff Formation
 Geoff Pratt, Director Technology Services
 Michael Di Massa, Communications Coordinator
 Lisa Wispinski, Recording Secretary

Public: 2

Call to Order	Vice Chair Boisvert called the meeting to order at 12:59 p.m.
Opening Prayer	Trustee Stewart led the Board in opening prayer and offered prayers of condolences for those that have lost loved ones.
Singing of O'Canada	The Board joined in the singing of O'Canada.
Acknowledgement of Land and People	Elk Island Catholic Schools acknowledges that we are, in all the schools and communities of EICS, located within the traditional land of Treaty No.6 and home of the Métis Nation. We also acknowledge the Inuit and other diverse Indigenous peoples whose ancestors have marked their territory since time immemorial, a place that has welcomed many peoples from around the world to make their home here.

	These traditional territories are a vast area encompassing large portions of central Alberta and central Saskatchewan, an area in which we live, work and play each and every day.
Approval of the Agenda	001/2025 Trustee Paszek moved that the agenda be adopted as circulated. CARRIED
Approval of the Minutes	002/2025 Trustee Charchun moved that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the December 20th, 2024 Public Board Meeting as circulated. CARRIED
Presentations / Delegations	
Faith Formation	Director Seymour led the Board in Faith Formation, focusing on nurturing relationships with Jesus. Reflecting on how forgiveness transforms our lives and leadership. Forgiveness is not an end, it's a beginning. Reminding us to bring this gift of forgiveness to those we encounter, becoming true witnesses of God's relentless love.
Technology Services	Superintendent Corrigan introduced Geoff Pratt, Director of Technology Services. Director Pratt presented the Trustees with highlights and accomplishments from his department over the past year. Vice Chair Boisvert expressed gratitude to Director Pratt and his team for their hard work this year.
Delegation to the Board	A parishioner from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church provided the board with information on upcoming sessions at the parish.
New Business	
2025-2026 School Year Calendars	Superintendent Corrigan introduced his briefing, seeking board approval to the 2025-2026 'in-principle' calendars for the upcoming school year. 003/2025 Trustee Charchun moved that the Board of Trustees approve 'In-Principle,' the recommended 2025 – 2026 Strathcona / Fort Saskatchewan / Vegreville Calendar, as well as the 2025-2026 Camrose 4 day student week and 5 day student week Calendars. CARRIED
Policy 9 - Board Representatives	Chair Ewaskiw presented <i>Policy 9 - Board Representatives</i> for first reading.

	<p>Chair Ewaskiw reported that Policy 9 was presented with amendments for second reading at the public meeting on June 19th, 2024, which was defeated. Following this, the Policy Committee reviewed the recommendations from the June 2024 meeting and made minor revisions. These changes are reflected in the version of the policy now presented to the board for first reading.</p> <p>004/2025 Chair Ewaskiw moved that the Board of Trustees approve Policy 9 - Board Representatives for first reading.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>CARRIED</i></p>
<p>Policy 13: Distributed Decision Making</p>	<p>Chair Ewaskiw presented <i>Policy 13 - Distributed Decision Making</i> for first reading.</p> <p>005/2025 Chair Ewaskiw moved that Board of Trustees approve <i>Policy 13 - Distributed Decision Making</i> for first reading.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>CARRIED</i></p>
<p>Exemption to 2023/2024 Maximum Reserve Limit</p>	<p>Secretary Treasurer Leigh shared that the 2023/2024 Funding Manual requires a boards operating reserve balance to be below a maximum equal to their system administration percentage.</p> <p>For Elk Island Catholic Schools, that reserve maximum was 3.2% of the total expenses on August 31, 2023.</p> <p>The operating reserve balance for the 2023/2024 school year was 0.46% higher than the maximum allowed, therefore Minister approval is required for an exemption to the reserve maximum for 2023/24.</p> <p>006/2025 Trustee Stewart moved that the Board of Trustees request Minister approval for an exemption to the reserve maximum for the 2023/2024 school year.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>CARRIED</i></p>
<p>Superintendent's Report</p>	
	<p>Superintendent Corrigan shared the following information with the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Held a productive meeting with Bilingual Ukrainian Catholic Parents Society (BUCPS) regarding Elk Island Catholic's ongoing support of Ukrainian Bilingual programming in Sherwood Park. ● Transportation Amendment Update. ● Nominations for the 2025 Municipal and School Board Elections are now open.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Division Education Assurance Survey is now open to parents, staff, and students in grades 4 - 12. • Knight of Columbus meeting at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish to discuss Catholic Education in Sherwood Park. <p>Superintendent Corrigan extended sincere gratitude and appreciation to Battle River School Division and New Norway School for graciously hosting the Our Lady of Mount Pleasant (OLMP) basketball team overnight during a snowstorm. The Superintendent commended the community for stepping up and ensuring the team was well cared for, reflecting the spirit of camaraderie and compassion within our broader educational community.</p> <p>007/2025 Trustee Charchun moved that the Board of Trustees receive the Superintendent Report as information.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>CARRIED</i></p>
Secretary Treasurer Report	
Governance and Financial Reports	<p>Secretary Treasurer Leigh presented the Financial and Governance Report for December 2024.</p> <p>008/2025 Trustee Paszek moved that the Board of Trustees receive the Secretary-Treasurer's Report as information.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>CARRIED</i></p>
Correspondence	
	<p>No correspondence at this time.</p>
Trustee Reports	
Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA)	<p>No report at this time.</p>
Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)	<p>Trustee Boisvert shared a verbal report on changes to the ASBA Zone 2 / 3 Edwin Parr awards.</p>
	<p>009/2025 Trustee Charchun moved that the Board of Trustees receive the Trustee Reports as information.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>CARRIED</i></p>

Board Meeting Evaluation	Trustees were encouraged to complete the Board Meeting Evaluation.
Closing Prayer	Trustee Makowecki led the closing prayer.
Adjournment	Vice Chair Boisvert declared the meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.

Board Chair, Le-Ann Ewaskiw

Secretary Treasurer, Tracy Leigh