

**Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary School Council Meeting**  
**Trustee Report     January 17, 2023**

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Trustees approved the motion: “That the Board of Trustees ratify the memorandum of agreement for the Elk Island Public Schools Teachers’ Collective Agreement, Sept. 1, 2020 to Aug. 31, 2024.”

**RECEIPT OF TRUSTEE RESIGNATION**

The Board accepted the resignation of Trustee Jim Seutter, effective Nov. 30, 2023. Seutter recently moved. His new residence is outside the ward he represents, which disqualifies him as an EIPS trustee. As outlined in the *Education Act*, section 81(2), a by-election isn’t required when there is only one vacancy on the Board. As such, EIPS will not hold a by-election. Instead, the remaining eight trustees will assume Seutter’s duties, by modifying:

- the 2023-24 Trustee School Liaison Representative list;
- the 2023-24 Board Committee Representatives list; and
- the 2023-24 Acting Chair Schedule.

**AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: 2022 -2023**

The Board approved the Audited Financial Statements for Aug. 31, 2023. MNP LLP, a national accounting firm, audited the statements and provided the opinion:

“[The Division’s] financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of EIPS as at August 31, 2023, and the results of its operations, its remeasurement gains and losses, changes in its net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.”

Briefly, the presented statements indicate net financial assets of \$24.5 million and liabilities of \$31.2 million, which also includes the new asset retirement obligation of \$14.1 million.

Additionally, the non-financial assets include \$158.2 million in capital assets and \$1.7 million in prepaid expenses. Meanwhile, the spent deferred capital contributions total \$144.9 million, comprised of provincial funding to cover capital assets. Overall, the Division ended the 2022-23 school year with an accumulated surplus of \$8.3 million and an operating deficit of \$5.3 million.

**ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT 2022-23**

The Board approved EIPS’ *Annual Education Results Report 2022-23*, 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 2022-23* features detailed information about how EIPS is doing relative to Alberta Education’s performance measures; how the Division’s supporting 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 30. After sending it to the province, EIPS will also post it online and share it with stakeholders and the Committee of School Councils. To read the report visit, [eips.ca](http://eips.ca).

### **EIPS 2023-24 FALL BUDGET**

The Board approved the EIPS 2023-24 Fall Budget Report for the period of Sept. 1, 2023 to Aug. 31, 2024. The Board originally approved the 2023-24 operating budget on May 25, 2023. 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 2023-24 budget provides stability for schools and maintains essential services (see pg. 184, “2023-24 Fall Budget”).

Highlights from the Fall Budget Report: 2023-24 include:

*operating budget* – \$207.5 million, which includes a \$1.05-million draw from operating reserves

*student enrolment* – 17,760, as of Sept. 29, 2023

*employees (full-time equivalent)* – 1,372.58, as of Sept. 30, 2023

*compensation* – a 2% increase, effective Sept. 1, 2023—in accordance with the certificated settlement ratified June 2022. As approved by the Board, classified staff received the same increase in pay as certificated staff.

*operating reserves* – \$7.25 million, as of Aug. 31, 2024.

*capital reserves* – \$965,000, as of Aug. 31, 2024

*instructional spending* – 78.5% of the total budget, equating to \$9,448 per student.

*system administration spending* – \$4.59 million, 2.2%, of total expenses.

**NOTE:** System administration spending is within the \$6.19 million provided by Alberta Education. EIPS will distribute the surplus funds for other uses, as allowed in the *Funding Manual for School Authorities 2023-24 School Year*.

### **SPORT FOR LIFE**

The Board approved designating Clover Bar Junior High’s Sport for Life program as an EIPS alternative program, effective starting in the 2024-25 school year. Open to students in grades 7 through 9, the year-long program introduces learners to healthy living through a range of sport, recreation and well-being activities. The aim is for students to use the skills and knowledge attained through the program and incorporate these into their daily living—now and throughout their lives. As such, the Board also approved amending Board Policy 18: Alternative Programs. Starting in the 2024-25 school year, the policy will list the Sport for Life program as an EIPS alternative program.

### **LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES: 2023-24**

The Board received for information a report about the locally developed courses available to students in the second semester of 2023-24. The Division plans to introduce Developing Personal Value: 15, 25 and 35 at Next Step starting in February 2024. Open to students in grades 10, 11 and 12, the course helps learners recognize their inherent worth by emphasizing their infinite personal value.

### **UNAUDITED ACCUMULATED SURPLUS**

The Board approved the transfer of \$5.62 million to the Division’s unrestricted surplus from its internally restricted operating reserves to offset the net results in 2022-23.

**UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT: SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2023**

The Board received for information the Unaudited Financial Report for EIPS, prepared by Financial Services. As of Nov. 30, 2023, revenues exceeded expenses, resulting in an operating surplus of \$1.24 million. The operational revenue for the three months was \$50.58 million, which represents 25 per cent of the budget. Meanwhile, total expenses incurred was \$49.33 million, which represents 25 per cent of the budget. The primary reason for the surplus: costs associated with staffing, services and supplies that will be incurred later in the school year (see pg. 81, "Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2023 to Nov. 30, 2023").

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cathy Allen

[cathy.allen@eips.ca](mailto:cathy.allen@eips.ca)

780-417-8109