

Wes Hosford School Council – Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 16, 2025
Hybrid Meeting - School Library & Google Meet

In Person Attendees: Courtney Kohlruss, Tawnia McQueen, Chelby Tait, Loretta Campbell

Virtual Attendees: Kilby Ritchie, Amy Power, Alannah Lawrence, Larissa Henderson

EIPS Staff: Ralph Arndt, Darlene Gillis, Don Irwin

Regrets: Susan Freiheit

1. Call to order & Welcome

- a. Tawnia called the meeting to order at 6:34pm
- a. EIPS Land Acknowledgement by Tawnia McQueen
- b. Introductions
- c. Meeting Procedures

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Any additions to the Agenda?
 - i. Yes. Tawnia motions to change the date type-o on the agenda for the meeting from November 2024.
- b. Courtney motioned to approve Agenda with the above change
 - i. Loretta seconded the motion.
 - ii. All in favour. Yes.
 - 1. Agenda approved.

3. Adoption of Meeting Minutes from November 21, 2024

- a. Kilby Ritchie motioned to approve minutes from November 21, 2024
 - i. Loretta seconded the motion.
 - ii. All in favour. Yes.
 - 1. Minutes from November 21, 2024 adopted.

4. For Information - The following was included with the Agenda:

- a. [Provincial Education Funding Model Presentation](#)
- b. [EIPS Annual Education Results Report 2023-2024](#)
- c. [School Open House & Information Sessions](#)
- d. [Junior High Curriculum Pilot 2025 & Implementation 2026](#)

5. Trustee's Report - Don Irwin

- a. Assurance reviews these were completed for all central office, and for each school in October and November. The full report is available, but I have included a copy of the highlights of the assurance reviews at this meeting. Our overall results are excellent and we are continuing to strive to improve our results. Thanks to all staff for your excellent work.
- b. Time for collaboration among the staff. The new timetable for 2025/2026 includes one hour of consultation time each Wednesday with the same number of instructional minutes each week. We believe this change will improve the quality of instruction for students. Thanks for the large number of your responses.
- c. Trustees are elected by those living in each of the wards, cities, towns etc. throughout the province. There are three trustees from Sherwood Park two from Fort Saskatchewan two from rural Strathcona, County, and one from Lamont County, and one from Vegerville/Minburn county. The election will be held on October 20,2025 and nominations are now open For all positions. Please refer to the EIPS website for details of the position and the election.
- d. School reregistration opens and closes in February . Please refer to the EIPS.ca website for details.
- e. French immersion transition plan We will hold a public meeting on January 29 to discuss the results of the surveys taken this fall. The meeting will be at Salisbury Composite High School at 530pm in the Gym.
- f. New school name in December the board voted to adopt the name Forest Grove school for the new school scheduled to open September 2026, which combines Campbelltown and Sherwood Heights. Thanks to the more than 10,000 suggestions from students, families, and community members.
- g. Re: New Calendar Questions
 - i. Kilby asks, was there previous communication about teacher wanting collaboration time? Don answers, no.
 - ii. Kilby asks will the survey results for the parent survey be released? Don answers, he will find out and let Sue know.
 - iii. Kilby asks if there was any research about extending learning days, but not recess? Don requests an email to provide answers.
 - iv. Tawnia asks how will the collaboration efforts be implemented with little classroom resources/time to do it in? Darlene answers it quite often happens in synchronicity.
- h. Tawnia asks about specialized programming within EIPS, there is gaps. Can the board consider more programming for learners who are behind or need extra support? Don requests an email to get an answer.

6. Mental Health Capacity Builder Report - Alanna Lawrence

- a. Working on micro dosing regulation strategies. Includes making magnets to be worked into students daily schedule
- b. Meeting members asked to participate in a breathing exercise
- c. Div 1 starting emotion awareness lessons
- d. Div 2 starting healthy relationships lessons
- e. Starting lunch time groups. Different grades and activities during lunch break.

7. Principal's Report - Ralph Arndt

- a. Parent Teacher Interviews
 - i. Feb 4th and 5th 2025
- b. Prime Minister Awards for Teaching Excellence
 - i. Deadline was January 15 to nominate
- c. Power School Breach
 - i. On January 8th we were notified of a data breach
 - ii. No financials taken, passwords or usernames
- d. 2025-2026 EIPS Calendar
 - i. Discussed during Dons presentation
- e. STEM Kindergarten Pilot at WHS
 - i. Full time kindergarten program
 - ii. \$350/month for staff, supplies, field trips etc.
 - iii. The objective is to have a STEM for all grades eventually
- f. School fee discussion
 - i. Increase of \$2.00 for noon supervision for div 1 and 2, and \$1.00 for ECS. Everything else the same as 2023/2024.
 - ii. Perhaps we should match inflation rate in fees?
 - iii. As fundraising will go down in the next few years at WHS, should reflect increase in fees to come up with shortfall?

8. Vice Principal's Report - Ralph Arndt

- a. Spring Concert
 - i. Christmas concert went very well!
 - ii. Div 2 concert is April 10th
 - 1. Raffle front row. Get Trena to set up. Courtney to lead.
- b. 7 Teachings

- i. 7 Grandfather Teachings. Respect in November, Love this month. There is animals connected with each teaching.
- c. Goota Desmarais
 - i. Inuit knowledge keeper. Coming Jan 23rd, grade 2 and 5 classes invited.
- d. Intramurals: running club, kindness club, wellness club, coding club, art club.

9. Teacher's Update - Darlene Gillis

- a. Oil Kings
 - i. Have played recording during daily O'Canada at school
- b. Thank you Sunshine Committee
 - i. Thank you for your thoughtfulness!

10. School Council Old Business

- a. \$500 ASCA Grant
 - i. Learning Consortium. Professional learning with caregivers for math literacy. \$225/hour. Find out if it will be separate for div1/2 or together.
 - ii. Other option is to pool money for David Irwin
 - iii. Spend by end of school year
 - iv. Could use to sponsor executive members to attend ASCA meeting
 - 1. Amy motions to spend the \$500 grant towards math Learning Consortium, with any remaining funds going towards being pooled with other schools for David Irwin.
 - 2. Loretta Seconds
 - 3. All in Favour? Yes.
 - a. Motion approved.

11. School Council New Business

- a. Teachers appreciation potluck Feb 4th
 - i. Looking forward to it!
- b. Bookfair on evenings of February 4th and 5th during PTIs
 - i. Need volunteers
 - ii. Chelby to run bottle drive again during the bookfair. Thank you Chebly!

12. **Adjournment**

- a. Tawnia McQueen adjourned the meeting at 7:44pm
- b. Next meeting on March 13, 2025 at 6:30pm