

## Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary School Council Meeting May 21, 2025

### OUTSTANDING FIRST-YEAR TEACHERS

The Board of Trustees recognized two outstanding first-year teachers:

- Janna MacLelland, a first-year kindergarten teacher at Ardrossan Elementary; and
- Kyle Hagens, a first-year Grade 5 teacher at Strathcona Christian Academy Elementary.

Both were recognized for their commitment to education and innate teaching ability. Janna MacLelland is also this year's Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS) Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee, an annual awards program organized by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) to honour first-year teachers who demonstrate excellence in the *Teaching Quality Standard*.

### COLLEGIATE PROGRAM: SCHOOL NAME AND CODE

The Board approved a school name for the Division's new collegiate program—Campus EIPS. Now approved, the Division will submit the school's name to Alberta Education for inclusion in the Provincial Education Directory and the Provincial Approach to Student Information. Starting the 2025-26 school year, Campus EIPS will offer programming to students at secondary schools throughout the Division, including Ardrossan Junior Senior High, Bev Facey Community High, Fort Saskatchewan High, Lamont High, Salisbury Composite High, Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary, Vegreville Composite High and Next Step.

More information about RAP, Collegiate Pathways and the new Campus EIPS is available on the [EIPS website](#).

### 2025-26 KEY BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS

The Board approved the key budget assumptions for the 2025-26 school year (see pg. 24, "[2025-26 Key Budget Assumptions](#)"). The assumptions are based on the Board's mission and belief statements, EIPS' [Four-Year Education Plan](#), Alberta's Budget 2025 and the provincial *Funding Manual for School Authorities 2025-26 School Year*. EIPS will use the approved assumptions to develop its 2025-26 spring budget, which helps schools and departments plan for the upcoming school year. As with all assumptions, changes such as funding, reserve usage, enrolment numbers and standard costs can significantly affect the budget. EIPS will use a series of allocations and initiatives to support its key budget priorities, including:

*Literacy and Numeracy* – EIPS will support the priority through its Leveraging Student Achievement Reserve, the Reading Enrichment and Development Program, and the Literacy and Numeracy Grant funding.

*Collegiate and Career Pathways* – EIPS will support the priority through the new Campus EIPS, an ongoing focus on building and expanding Career Pathways opportunities and continued efforts to pursue a collegiate school in Fort Saskatchewan.

*Complexity in Classrooms* – EIPS will support the priority in the following ways:

- Address learning gaps using the Leveraging Student Achievement reserve funds.
- Build capacity through a new collaborative learning structure, built into the 2025-26 calendar, taking place division wide every Wednesday.

- A specialized support allocation, which is largely consistent with the previous year. However, a change was made to the allocation, which reallocates some additional funds to classroom complexity allocations from system program allocations. Similar to last year, the Division will continue to use its complex classroom allocation to address classroom complexity needs equitably. The allocation is based on an algorithm that the Division updated to make improvements, considering several factors, such as provincial achievement and diploma results, levelled inclusive supports, special-education codes and socio-economic factors.

Curriculum and Resource Development – The grant funding for the priority is increasing by almost half to \$700,000. The reason: The new curriculum roll-out involves kindergarten to Grade 6 social studies. The year before, it only involved grades 4-6 for science and French Immersion language arts and literature. EIPS will use the funds for professional learning and resources.

Staff Retention and Equity – EIPS will support the priority by continuing to hire more permanent educational assistants, implementing the new classified compensation structure, offering the Educational Assistant Capacity Building Program, providing more leadership training, adding classified staff to the last operational day of the Division calendar and creating a Workplace Psychological Safety Group.

Early Learning – EIPS will support the priority by piloting two new full-day kindergarten programs—a French Immersion program at École Parc Élémentaire and a science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) program offered at Mundare School and Wes Hosford Elementary.

Education Technology and Artificial Intelligence – EIPS will support the priority by finalizing its artificial intelligence work, a strategic plan for the use of education and system software solutions in schools and developing the educational technology component for the new curriculum.

Equity for Rural – EIPS will support the priority through an allocation to help cover school programming, funding shortfalls for small rural schools, and travel allowances for rural-based school staff to attend meetings and professional learning in urban areas. It also plans to fund a symposium with rural families.

The 2025-26 spring budget will be presented at the public Board meeting on May 29.

## 2025-26 STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FEES

ELK ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOLS 2025-26 TRANSPORTATION FEE SCHEDULE		
DESCRIPTION	Early Incentive Rate (by June 30, 2025)	2025-26 Transportation Rate
<b>Eligible</b> - Students who meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education. (Includes full-time Kindergarten)	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$125</b>
<b>Ineligible</b> - Students who do not meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education. (Includes full-time Kindergarten)	<b>\$200</b>	<b>\$225</b>

<b>Kindergarten Eligible</b> - Kindergarten students who meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	<b>\$65</b>	<b>\$90</b>
<b>Kindergarten Ineligible</b> - Kindergarten students who do not meet the funding eligibility criteria as per Alberta Education.	<b>\$130</b>	<b>\$155</b>
<b>Additional Bus</b> - Additional stop required on a different bus route is non-refundable. (Includes full-time Kindergarten)	<b>\$130</b>	<b>\$155</b>
<b>Kindergarten Additional Bus</b> - Additional stop required on a different bus route is non-refundable.	<b>\$100</b>	<b>\$125</b>

Please contact me with questions or concerns.

Respectfully submitted,  
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