

## Elk Island Catholic Separate School Division

Minutes of the Public Board Meeting

Held on March 19, 2025 at 1:00 p.m.

St. Mary's Catholic School, Vegreville, AB

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

Board Members Absent:

Administration Present: Paul Corrigan, Superintendent  
Tracy Leigh, Secretary-Treasurer  
Brett Cox, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources  
Christina MacKinnon, Assistant Superintendent, Educational Excellence  
Darby Murphy, Principal, St. Martin's Catholic School  
Michael Di Massa, Communications Coordinator  
Lisa Wispinski, Recording Secretary

Public: 0

<b>Call to Order</b>	Chair Ewaskiw called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.
<b>Opening Prayer</b>	Keira, a student from St. Mary's Catholic School, led the Board in opening prayer. Chair Ewaskiw offered prayers of condolences for those that have lost loved ones, and offered prayers for Pope Francis.
<b>Singing of O'Canada</b>	The Board joined in the singing of O'Canada.
<b>Acknowledgement of Land and People</b>	Ethan, a student from St. Mary's Catholic School, shared a land acknowledgement with the Board.  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

	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>
<b>Approval of the Agenda</b>	<p><b>020/2025</b> Trustee Sarnecki moved that the agenda be adopted as circulated.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>CARRIED</i></b></p>
<b>Approval of the Minutes</b>	<p><b>021/2025</b> Trustee Charchun moved that the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the February 19th, 2025 Public Board Meeting as circulated.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>CARRIED</i></b></p>
<b>Presentations / Delegations</b>	
<b>Faith Formation</b>	<p>Darby Murphy, principal of St. Martin's Catholic School and a member of the divisional faith formation team, led the board in faith formation. Trustees were given the opportunity to reflect on Catholic history and social programs, emphasizing the importance of Christian charity and the care of the vulnerable and marginalized. Furthermore, discussions highlighted how schools have become more than places of traditional education, but also places of healing and support for students facing diverse challenges.</p>
<b>Human Resources</b>	<p>Superintendent Corrigan introduced Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Brett Cox, who introduced his team: Human Resources Coordinators Nicole McElhatton and Michelle Rishaug, and Human Resources Assistant Colleen Kniaz.</p> <p>Assistant Superintendent Cox outlined the department's efforts to support division staff, detailing how their work is integrated into the division's annual assurance plan. Key areas of focus included Faith Integration, Systems Wellness, and Community Engagement. Furthermore, discussions emphasized the priorities of recruitment and retention of qualified Catholic staff, recognizing their crucial role in upholding the division's mission.</p> <p>Chair Ewaskiw expressed appreciation and positive affirmation for the work that Human Resources does to support staff and students in the division.</p>
<b>Unfinished Business</b>	

<b>Policy 11: Board Delegation of Authority</b>	<p>Trustee Sarnecki introduced Policy 11: Board Delegation of Authority. The policy committee reviewed suggestions from the February 19th, 2025 public board meeting and made no further changes.</p> <p><b>022/2025</b> Trustee Sarnecki moved that the Board of Trustees approve Policy 11: Board Delegation of Authority for second reading.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>CARRIED</i></b></p>
<b>2026-2027 Strathcona County / Fort Saskatchewan / Vegreville Calendar</b>	<p>Superintendent Corrigan presented the 2026-2027 school year calendars for the communities of Strathcona County / Fort Saskatchewan / Vegreville for final approval, and shared feedback from staff and parents.</p> <p><b>023/2025</b> Trustee Stewart moved that the Board of Trustees give final approval to the recommended 2026 – 2027 Strathcona County / Fort Saskatchewan / Vegreville Calendar.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>CARRIED</i></b></p>
<b>New Business</b>	
<b>Policy 14: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters</b>	<p>Trustee Sarnecki introduced Policy 14: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters. The policy committee reviewed Policy 14, and recommends no changes.</p> <p>Trustees reviewed and discussed Policy 14: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters.</p> <p><b>024/2025</b> Trustee Sarnecki moved that the Board of Trustees approve Policy 14: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters for first reading.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>CARRIED</i></b></p> <p><b>025/2025</b> Trustee Sarnecki moved to proceed to second reading for Policy 14: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</i></b></p> <p><b>026/2025</b> Trustee Sarnecki moved that the Board of Trustees approve Policy 14: Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters for second reading.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b><i>CARRIED</i></b></p>
<b>2026-2029 Capital Plan</b>	<p>Secretary Treasurer Leigh introduced the 2026 - 2029 Capital Plan, prioritizing the short, medium, and long term strategic goals for the division.</p>

### **Short Term Recommendations (1 - 3 years)**

#### *Fort Saskatchewan Zone 2: 2 to 1 Consolidation*

As per the outcome of a value scoping session in early 2024, the Division requests design and construction funding for a new K-4 school on a new school site in Fort Saskatchewan. The division also requests demolition funding for Our Lady of the Angels School; St. John XXIII will become surplus for the division.

#### *Sherwood Park Zone 1: 2 to 1 Consolidation*

Pre-planning funds are requested for value scoping and public engagement to explore options aimed at reducing excess capacity in Zone 1, increasing utilization, and improving learning environments

#### *Vegreville Zone 5: 2 to 1 Consolidation*

- Funding to explore a right-sizing option involving a K-12 consolidation in either St. Martin's or St. Mary's School. Pre-planning funds requested for value scoping and public engagement. Planning and design funds are also requested to develop the best option.

**027/2025** Trustee Paszek moved that the Board of Trustees approve the 2026 - 2029 Capital Plan as presented.

***CARRIED***

### **Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Corrigan provided the Board with updates on the following:

1. OH and S Audit
2. Nutrition Funding Program
3. Transportation Update on Fly-bys
4. Budget Overview
5. Property Tax Letters
6. Bishop's Assurance Update
7. Lurana Shelter Update
  - a. Superintendent Corrigan shared that through our Faith and Wellness Day, we recently raised approximately \$3,000, contributing to over \$40,000 in donations for Lurana Shelter over the past year.

**028/2025** Trustee Charchun moved that the Board of Trustees receive the Superintendent Report as information.

***CARRIED***

## Secretary Treasurer Report

### Governance and Financial Reports

Secretary Treasurer Leigh presented the Financial and Governance Reports for February 2025.

**029/2025** Trustee Stewart moved that the Board of Trustees receive the Secretary-Treasurer's Report as information.

***CARRIED***

### Correspondence

No correspondence at this time.

### Trustee Reports

#### Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA)

No report at this time.

#### Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)

Trustee Boisvert gave a verbal report about ASBA Zone 2 /3.

**030/2025** Trustee Sarnecki moved that the Board of Trustees receive the Trustee Reports as information.

***CARRIED***

#### Board Meeting Evaluation

Trustees were encouraged to complete the Board Meeting Evaluation.

#### Closing Prayer

Trustee Makowecki led the closing prayer.

#### Adjournment

Chair Ewaskiw declared the meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

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Board Chair, Le-Ann Ewaskiw

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Secretary Treasurer, Tracy Leigh