

**Elmer Elson Elementary School Council Meeting  
October 28, 2024**

**Attendance:**

Nadine Szybunka	Deb Koloski	Jill Stoney
Leanna Feser	Nolan Andriuk	Dana Crossland
Meagan Black	Falon Boll	Christina Gilroy
Emily Wright		

*Meeting Called to Order @ 5:02pm*

**Correspondence:**

- None

**New Business:**

- None

**School Report:**

- Mini Handball Provincials
  - Oct 19/24 Grades 3&4
  - Oct 26/24 Grades 5&6
    - Grades 5&6 took home the Gold Banner for EEE!
  
- Retake Day & Class Photos
  - October 29, 2024
  
- Halloween
  - Parade in large gym at 9:15am
  - Grades 1, 2 & 5 will walk to Pleasantview and the Auxiliary to parade their costumes for the residents there.
  
- Book Fair
  - Nov 4-6/24
  - In person format only
  - To coincide with Parent Teacher Interviews
  
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
  - November 5&6/24
  - Phone or in person formats available
  
- PD Days/Day in Lieu
  - Nov 7 & Nov 8

- Remembrance Day Ceremony
  - November 6 @ 10:30 am
  - Mayerthorpe Legion members will be present for the ceremony.
  - All are welcome to attend.
  
- Author Visit
  - November 26/24
  - More information will be made available closer to the date.
  
- Christmas Concert
  - December 12/24
  - 1pm&7pm performances

**Trustee Report:**

Northern Gateway Public Schools

Trustee Report

Date of Report:                      October 28, 2024

Submitted by:                      Trustee Deb Koloski ([deb.koloski@ngps.ca](mailto:deb.koloski@ngps.ca))

Trustee Diane Hagman ([diane.hagman@ngps.ca](mailto:diane.hagman@ngps.ca))

Highlights from the Board Meeting - October 15, 2024

Bylaw No. 1-24 - Arrangement of Electoral Wards and Trustees: First Reading: This By-law introduces a re-organization of electoral ward boundaries to better align with transportation boundaries for the Division.

In Ward 1, Subdivisions 3 and 4 (Sangudo and Mayerthorpe area) are joined, with two trustees elected at large. A small portion of the Darwell subdivision is joined with the Onoway/Rich Valley/Alberta Beach subdivision. In Ward 3, the Valleyview and Valleyview Rural subdivisions are joined, with two trustees elected at large. A small portion of one area of the Valleyview Rural subdivision is joined with the Fox Creek subdivision.

The Board passed the first reading of the By-Law. The second reading is scheduled for the next Board meeting on November 5th. Meanwhile, this information is being shared with our communities and municipalities for discussion, input, and feedback.

Preschool/Junior Kindergarten Report: As requested by the Board, Superintendent Bird reported on preschool/child care and junior Kindergarten programs currently available in NGPS communities. Several new programs and childcare options have started up in our communities. These programs, centers, and day homes are all valuable partners in helping to prepare children for school. The availability of a Provincial Affordability Grant helps substantially to pay operational and staffing costs and Subsidy Grants are helping families better afford child care.

Traumatic Event Systems (TES) Model of Crisis & Trauma Response: On October 4, Bonnie Randall, a Psychologist with the Center for Trauma-Informed Practices, facilitated TES training for NGPS administrators and staff, representatives from the RCMP, Child and Family Services,

Recovery Alberta, Living Waters staff, and leadership from Valleyview, Fox Creek, Whitecourt and Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation. The nationally recognized training has become noted in communities and school systems for its practical, hands-on approach that aims to help community partners effectively prevent, intervene, and respond to crises and conflict through trauma-informed practices.

29th Annual Employee Recognition & Awards Evening - was hosted by the Board of Trustees on October 4, 2024 in Whitecourt. This year's event honoured 75 staff, 12 retirees, the Division's Edwin Parr Nominee, Ms. Josie Liske from Fox Creek School, and special award recipient this year, Mrs. Kelle Hansen, who was inducted into the Alberta High School Sports Hall of Fame.

Student Enrollment Report: Secretary-Treasurer Tamara Spong reported that the Division-wide enrollment is up 60 students so far this school year.

PSBAA 2024 Fall Conference and AGM - October 16-18 in Edmonton, AB

Some highlights - This year's guest speakers for the Lois Hole Dinner on Wednesday evening were Sandra Woitas, Her Honour, the Honourable Salma Lakhani, and Honourable Demetrios Nicolaidis, Alberta Minister of Education, all great champions for students and excellence in education. On Thursday, the focus was on infrastructure and school-build strategies. A panel made up of three School divisions shared experience and knowledge they gained through school builds and Jeff Willan, Assistant Deputy Minister and Senior Financial Officer, shared updates re the province's strategic plan for meeting the increasing need for new schools, modulars, and modernization of schools.

Next Board Meeting: - will be November 5, 2024, at the Division Office in Whitecourt @ 10 a.m. Members of the public are invited to attend.

**Other Business:**

- None

**Next School Council Meeting:**

- November 25/24 @ 5:00pm

*Meeting Adjourned @ 5:20pm*

