Attendees:

Neil and Sandy Rysavy

Alissa Ottahal

Krista Scott

Jeremy Teeuwsen

Aileen Bozic

Jon Elzinga

Trina Boymook

Nate Peters

Jaci Ramsden

Melissa Wall

Jacqueline Newgard

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Jeremy Teeuwsen opened in prayer.

None opposed to agenda.

Trina Boymook’s Report

The Board held numerous budget working sessions over the last month, as we prepare for April 22 Board meeting where we will approve allocations to schools and departments, as well as the use of reserves. The Board is set to approve a two-year reserve plan that addresses our transition to COVID recovery, COVID recovery plan, the Mission and Values of EIPS along with the Goals and Outcomes within Priority 1 Promote growth and success for all students and Priority 2 Enhance high-quality learning and working environments of our Four-Year Education Plan. The reserve plan has a value of $5.76M with $4.66M being spent in year one with the remaining $1.1M being spent in year two. Highlights from the reserve plan are:

$2.1M response to COVID costs (PPE and sanitization)

$500K Learning Loss (COVID recovery)

$500K Student Social Emotional Support (COVID recovery)

$130 Career Pathway’s Consultant

$393 K Consultants (Numeracy, early leaning and assessment)

$175K New Curriculum

$20K Junior High Honours

$116K Home Education

$250K Modular Year 3 Mechanical Cooling program

It should be noted that EIPS will not be providing an out of school learning option for the 2021-22 school year. EIPS fundamentally believes that it is the best for students to be physically present in school. As we transition to COVID recovery EIPS will be offering a Home Education option that will only be offered to those currently registered in out of school learning and will be offered through Next Step. Those that choose the Home Education option will be committed to the program for the full school year and will not be offered an opportunity to transition back to the classroom during the 2021-22 school year.

April 22 the Board will also be approving Administrative fees and School Fees. I would like to advise you that the Board will not be considering a Technology Fee this year. The Board has deferred these conversations for another year while Senior Administration updates the Division Technology Plan.

The Board held a special meeting on March 25 to approve a motion to update our modular request to move two additional modulars from ecole Campbelltown that will be relocated to Ardrossan Jr/sr. This will result in a total of 4 modulars being removed from ecole Campbelltown and 2 from Pine Street.

At the special meeting we also approved the use of To Be Allocated funds to hire three full time Family School Liaison Workers to connect with identified out of school learners that we have had limited connections with as part of our COVID Recovery support. This work will start early April and continue until the end of June.

March 29 Board Chair’s and Superintendents met with the Minister of Education to be debriefed on the release of the draft Curriculum. Over the next few months, the Division will review the curriculum with groups of EIPS teachers. The Board of Trustees will use the outcome of this review to form our official feedback to the Minister. We encourage parents to take time to review the information that is available and complete the survey that the Minister has set up to collect feedback on Alberta Education website.

April 18- 24 is Volunteer Appreciation Week. I would like to thank the many volunteers that support and enhance student school experience. I would like to thank you for all that you do to support your school through your involvement with school councils.

Comment from Krista

In case you ever wanted to know what the board does... ALL that! I would like to thank the board for the burden of responsibility they have carried this year in navigating education and learning in a pandemic. I recognize that this burden will extend into CoVid recovery and want to acknowledge the continued pressures on the board. I am grateful.

Society report

SCA Secondary Administration Report

1. Alex Russell Presentation - We are very excited to host this evening and hope that it is a

blessing to our community. A big thank you goes to Matt Matheson for all his work

putting the logistics of this event together!

2. Mr. Matheson - As you may have heard, Mr. Matheson has accepted the position of

principal of Fort Saskatchewan Christian School. We are very excited about this

opportunity for him and we know that he will do a tremendous job leading Fort Christian.

The search for a new Assistant Principal will begin later this spring. Please pray for

wisdom as we select the right candidate for this important role in our school.

3. Quarter 4 began today! It is hard to believe that we are 75% through this school year!

Students’ schedules are mostly finalized at this point of the school year, however, there

are still a few small changes that can be made this week. If your son or daughter needs

to make adjustments, please email Mrs. Khajavi as she will be working from home for at

least the next week.

4. Junior High Timetable - Before we begin the process of creating the junior high

timetable, we would like to examine the idea of keeping the junior high core courses in a

semester format. There have been a few junior highs in our division that have had this

type of schedule prior to COVID and the superintendent has given us his approval to

examine this idea at SCS. Throughout the year, we have heard from parents, students,

and staff that they have enjoyed aspects of junior high core courses being semestered

such as fewer courses to focus on at once, fewer transition times during the day, and

more time in class to learn, digest, and practice material. However, before a decision is

made, we want to hear from you! A short survey will be coming out to all junior high

families to gather feedback regarding the pros and cons of both types of schedules. Stay

tuned for more information regarding this process.

Question from Krista

Is replacing Mr. Mattheson budget dependent? Jon says yes, should know by Friday.

Question from Aileen

Will the junior high timetable be more balanced?? Jon says yes.

Aileen: Grade 8s had an option course that was missing in registration (same for Grade 7). Jon says catalogue being corrected as we speak.

Aileen: Letter of support for Sherwood Heights is written and attached below.

Meeting adjourned for Dr. Russell.

April 13, 2021

As parents from Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary School Council, we are writing to express our solidarity with the students, parents, staff, division and community on the concerns of Sherwood Heights Junior High School. We were very disappointed to hear that Sherwood Heights School replacement/ revitalization was once again not included in this years budget. We realize that finances are restricted with COVID and Alberta’s economic status, however we believe as a community replacing this school is of extreme importance.

Everyone has the right to be in a learning and work environment that is safe and efficient. Sherwood Heights school has needed replacement for nearly a decade and they were again passed over and not approved for a replacement school. This is such a devastating loss to our community regardless of whose children attend the school.

The community at Sherwood Heights School never know what issues they may have to deal with that day due to mechanical, electrical, plumbing and ventilation systems and equipment that is well past the end of life capacity; where parts are no longer available to fix problems as they arise. No child should have to try to learn in an environment where they need to wear their winter jackets and gloves in the classroom due to lack of heat. No teacher should have to come into work each day hours early to open the doors to their class in hope that some heat from the hallway can warm their classroom, or worry that their classroom may be flooded from a water leak again. These conditions make for a learning environment that is not only unsafe but will have negative impacts on individual students learning outcomes.

As parents we are aware of the economic concerns our province is currently facing however we are also aware that our community needs to have this school replaced for the safety of those attend and work there. Every child matters and our school community expects that our legislative representatives will advocate for the replacement of this school as it is in the best interest of the community they serve and the community we live in.

 Aileen Bozic ( School Council Chair)

 Strathcona Christian Academy Secondary School Council