

# **Lamont Elementary School Council**

Hybrid Meeting held on Feb 27, 2025

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **In Attendance:**

Heather Rideout, Krista Skinner, Colleen Holowaychuk, Jacy Froland, Jessie Ouellet, Kirby Oshust, Breanne Martz, Leslie Pavan (A.P.), Marlis Marler (Principal), Mrs. Vandelannoite (teacher rep)

### **1. Call to Order:**

Heather Rideout called the meeting to order at 6:01  
Minutes taken by Krista Skinner.

### **2. Approval of Agenda:**

Jacy moved to approve the meeting agenda. Jessie seconded.

### **3. Approval of Minutes:**

December Meeting Minutes approved by Heather and seconded by Jessie.

### **4. Principal Report (Presented by Marlis)**

- School fees proposal (costs could be up to:)
  - Noon supervision keep at \$25 kindergarten & \$50 grades 1-6
  - Basketball keep at \$11
  - Young Author's Conference keep at \$30
  - Track & Field \$63
  - Swimming \$83
  - Ski trip \$53 - this is a significant potential increase that may not need to be charged but covers the cost of the actual trip (\$48) plus a subsidized bus cost (\$5)
  - Field trips:
    - Kindergarten \$71
    - Grade 1 \$71
    - Grade 2 \$71
    - Grade 3 \$71
    - Grade 4 \$80
    - Grade 5 \$66
    - Grade 6 \$63
- RSR update: so far registration is lower (anticipating 292) down from 335
  - small grade 6 group (41) next year will likely lead to another combined class
  - Grades 1 - 5 are healthy numbers for 2 classes each
  - One kindergarten so far
  - Andrew Academy could bring our numbers down too
- Valentine carnival was a huge success

- Skating this month going really well
- Black History Month - we've featured both historical & contemporary people making a positive impact
- New librarian
- New literacy funding for at-risk students in grade 1 & 2 for 12 weeks
- Relay races - our teams were spectacular! Both qualified for finals. The girls placed 1st in their heat & the boys placed 3rd in their heat.
- Champion hoop dancer today
- Water drainage plan. Working with both the Town & EIPS to address the "lakes".

Clearing the clogged culverts, steaming the frozen ice blockages, pumps going. Looking at a skid steer to remove the ice & snow at the front of the school for a short term fix then regrading & pouring new cement OR mud jacking the existing sidewalk to slope away from the school.

- March Book Madness starting next week
- Math is for everyone - Week of Inspirational Math - March 10 - 14
- Report cards come out March 14th
- Spring break March 21 - 30th

## **5. LUBA Report**

Presented by Breanne Martz

Will be starting eggs with grades 1-6 Mar 12/13

Paska starting April

Breakfast coordination happening for end April

## **6. Trustee Report:**

Lamont Elementary School Council Trustee Report – Feb 27, 2025

ASCA Virtual Conference April 26-27, 2025

That the Board of Trustees approve up to \$5,000 to sponsor the registration fees for school council members to attend the ASCA School Councils Virtual Conference and Annual General Meeting on April 26-27, 2025. To qualify, members must be part of a school council with an active ASCA membership and apply before the registration deadline, April 7, 2025.

This year's event will be offered virtually only, encompassing keynotes and approximately 12 breakout rooms offered in 2 time slots (6 in each).

The pricing will reflect this shift in format, and ASCA will charge 'per school council',

instead of per person similar to the scheduled learning opportunities, which opens it up to several people from each school council to attend all or just specific parts of the conference and AGM.

The ASCA School Councils Virtual Conference and AGM is scheduled to take place April 26-27—Saturday 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Start and end times to be confirmed.

The theme will center around “resilience” providing opportunities for school councils to share experiences, challenges and growth.

As the AGM is entirely virtual, the ASCA Board will ‘absorb’ most of the expenses associated and it will be free for ASCA Member School Council parent delegates. We are only allowed to purchase one link per school council. Might be a good idea to have the school open for the council to come together for the keynotes. No separate links for the breakouts which poses a problem. Councils would have to attend the same break out.

\$95.54 +GST for ASCA member school councils. All our schools are members.

#### Transportation Eligibility

- o Alberta Education amendment to the current distance eligibility funding criteria of 1.0 km for kindergarten to Grade 6 students to 1.6 km effective September 1, 2025.

Been changed in the Funding Manual but not in the Student Transportation Regulation.

- o Grade 7-12 will remain at 2.0km

- o Can only claim for students who are accessing the bus (registers and pays)

- o Key Concerns:

1. Impact on Families: Over 686 students within EIPS will be affected by the 1.0km distance criteria change effective the 2026-27 school year.

We bus over 11,000 students

2. Financial Implications: The amendment is projected to result in a funding shortfall exceeding \$415,000 for EIPS. This deficit may lead to reductions in transportation services or increased fees for families. Even a substantial increase in fees will not recoup the loss of funding.

Go from paying \$100 to \$150?? But that only makes up about \$34,000 in revenue

Will see significant increases in transportation costs.

3. Service Disruptions: If we choose to no longer provide transportation service to students who do not meet the distance eligibility criteria, this will pose significant challenges for families who rely on transportation services for access to education.

Students need to be registered and paid in order for EIPS to receive the full funding, even if the student only rides part time.

4. Trust and Policy Consistency: The initial reduction to 1.0km was a commitment to improving accessibility. The revision to 1.6 km undermines this trust and raises concerns about the government’s commitment to its policy objectives.

The amendment to the distance eligibility criteria for grades 1 to 6 students has significant implications for families and EIPS Student Transportation services. A significant reduction in funding to EIPS, the inability to sustain the current service level, and a significant increase to transportation fees for parents may all be a result of this change.

Transition funding for the 2025-26 school year will provide temporary relief

but this change will need to be addressed for the upcoming year.

Education Act Section 55 and School Councils Regulation

Reminder for school councils to look at it and ensure they are meeting their requirements as

per the Act and Regulations.

Education Act link <https://search.app/Xbj6zPXFC3s7ec2o6>

School Council Regulation link <https://search.app/sk7Q3CF1wzwHzhScA>

**7. Town of Lamont Report:**

Lamont Elementary School - Town Council Report February 2025

Councillor Resignation

Dave Taylor resigned at the end of February 2025 to pursue a new career opportunity.

We will continue to operate with 4 councillors and the mayor.

Election October 2025

For anyone interested in running for town council, nomination packages are now available at town office.

Free Public Skate and Shiny

See the schedule on the website or Facebook.

Upcoming Council Meetings

Second and fourth Tuesdays of the month 7pm. Always live streamed on Facebook.

Next meeting is March 11, 2025.

Budget discussion meetings are scheduled for March 13 and 18, 2025.

The Town of Lamont FB Page is always a great place to look for information.

**8. Old Business**

None

**9. New Business:**

None

**11. Date of Next Meeting:** as previously scheduled, April 24, 2025 at 6:00

**12.** Meeting adjourned by Heather Rideout at 6:34 pm