**Rudolph Hennig Junior High**

**Parent Council Minutes**

**January 27, 2025**

* **Call to order:**
	+ In attendance: Dawn Ferguson, Sara Secrist, Lynn Shannon, Crystal Hudson, Shelley Carter-Schofield, Lisa Penno, Glenda Grey, Greg Cruickshank, Ralph Sorochan, Amy Hoffman, Maegan Larocque-Walker
	+ On-line: no attendees
* **Review of agenda:** Motion Shelley, Second Dawn Approved
* **Approve minutes from last meeting:** Motion, Approve, Second Maegan, Approved
* **Yearbook discussion:** rep sharing information about ConnectMe program for the yearbook. Looking for a parent to help with the yearbook. Web-based to build. More than one person can edit at the same time as long as they are on different double pages. Discussion about parent-run school club to work on the yearbook.
* **Standing Business:**
* COSC Update
	+ board report- new jr. high curriculum piloting Sept 2025, all schools Sept 2026. Rolling out all grades.
	+ Trustee election October 2025.
	+ New ATA rep- Maxine Holmes.
	+ PowerSchool data breach discussion.
	+ Annual Education Results can be viewed. Assurance reviews completed.
	+ ASCA- virtual conference April 26. AGM also at this time. $100/school council. School board has passed a motion to cover the cost.
	+ Caregiver Education series in January. Virtual sessions for supporting students' mental health.
* Teacher Wish List- no asks at this time
* **New Business:**
	+ Engagement Survey- Greg spoke to the results of the Parent Engagement survey
	+ Fee consultation 2025-26- Greg shared current fees. Discussion of fees next year at the February meeting
	+ ASCA Engagement Grant- Raising Accountable Teenagers- David Irvine. 6:30-8:30 online at Bev Facey. Discussion about having it at RHJ for viewing to entice more parents. Using $1500 of our grant. The remaining $500 of the grant will be for an ASCA course on the purpose of school councils, in May, online. Dawn suggested attending the April conference to breakouts and then decide on the ASCA course based on breakout interest.
	+ Maegan shared that there was a speaker from the Bridge who spoke to the Fort Football Club about mental health. She will find out his name and share it with Crystal and Sara for Fort High.
* **Administration Report –** Greg Cruickshank
	+ Went over important dates
	+ Yearbook update
	+ Semester 2 starting this Thursday
	+ Personal Mobile Device plan discussed
	+ Returning student registration starts February 10th
	+ Basketball is up and running
	+ Skitrip- 76 students going
* **Trustee Report –** Ralph Sorochan- see attached report
* **Adjournment:** at 8:04 p.m. Next meeting: February 24, 2025

**Rudolph Hennig Junior High**

**Parent Association Minutes**

**November 25, 2024**

* **Call to order:** at 8:05
* **Review of agenda:** Motion Maegan, Second Lynn Approved
* **Approve minutes from last meeting:** Motion Shelley, Second Crystal Approved
* **Treasurer’s Report-** corporate registries have all our documents. Everything is up to date. Online banking is set up.
	+ - **Account Update** $505.03. **Casino-** $1043.81
* **Casino** April 13-14. Volunteers needed
* **Old Business**
	+ **RHJ Ski Trip 50/50** -Crystal did the online draw. Lisa Penno won $795
	+ **Ski Trip funds for financial barriers (Transfer of funds)**- planned on 5 students covered by Parent Council. One student is no longer attending. Crystal made the motion to use that money already covered to pay for 2 students to attend band camp. Maegan seconded the motions. Voted all in favour. Approved.
* **Adjournment** at 8:18 p.m.

**RHJ School Council – January 27, 2024**

**Ralph Sorochan**

1) APPRECIATION – Thanks to everyone for your contributions!

2) POWERSCHOOL SECURITY BREACH – Elk Island Public Schools was recently advised of a widespread data breach of PowerSchool client information, which has impacted school divisions worldwide--including students and staff. The Division is working with the vendor to determine the extent of the data accessed and the number of people affected. In the meantime, we've been assured the data accessed during this cybersecurity incident did not include individuals' financial or banking information. There has been no disruption to the daily operations of schools or classroom instruction. Please follow this link for the latest updated information. We appreciate your patience as we work through this issue.

* 1. 3) STUDENT TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY CHANGE - In response to feedback from school authorities regarding resource and capacity challenges, Alberta’s government has revised the 1.0 distance eligibility for kindergarten to Grade 6 students to 1.6 kilometers, effective September 1, 2025. The criteria for grades 7 to 12 students remains unchanged at 2.0 kilometers. To mitigate transitional difficulties, Alberta Education has committed to providing one-year transition funding during the 2025-26 school year for school authorities maintaining the 1.0 kilometer criteria. Impact on Families: Over 686 students within EIPS will be affected by the 1.0-kilometre distance criteria change effective the 2026-27 school year.
	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.
	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.
	4. Trust and Policy Consistency: The initial reduction to 1.0 kilometres was a commitment to improving accessibility. The revision to 1.6 kilometres undermines this trust and raises concerns about the government’s commitment to its policy objectives.
	5. 4) AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: 2024 - The Board approved the Audited Financial Statements for Aug. 31, 2024. MNP LLP, a national accounting firm, audited the statements and overall, the Division ended the 2023-24 school year with an operating surplus of $3.2 million—revenues and expenses were greater than budgeted because of increased enrolment, changes in grant funding and a one-time sale of non-capital assets. Click here to access the Audited Financial Statements.

5) AUDITOR REAPPOINTMENT - The Board approved reappointing MNP LLP, a national accounting firm, as the Division’s external auditor for EIPS’ year-end financial statements for Aug. 31, 2025.

6) EIPS 2024-25 FALL BUDGET - The Board approved the EIPS 2024-25 Fall Budget Report for the period of Sept. 1, 2024 to Aug. 31, 2025. The Board originally approved the 2024-25 operating budget on June 6, 2024. Every fall, the budget is updated to account for current information regarding enrolment numbers, revenue changes, actual carry forward amounts, expenses and budget provides stability for schools and maintains essential services (see pg. 189, “2024-25 Fall Budget”).

Highlights from the Fall Budget Report

* *Budget priorities –* complexity in classrooms, curriculum and resource development, the

mental health strategic plan, collegiate and career pathways, equity, staff retention,

 and artificial intelligence and digital tools considerations

* *Operating budget –* $213.15 million, which includes a $2.11-million draw from operating

reserves and $390,000 from asset retirement obligation amortization

* *Student enrolment –* 17,949, as of Sept. 27, 2024
* *Employees (full-time equivalent) –* 1,367, as of Sept. 30, 2024
* *Operating reserves projection –* $10.59 million, as of Aug. 31, 2025
* *Capital reserves projection –* $210,000, as of Aug. 31, 2025
* *Instructional spending –* 78% of the total budget, equating to $9,518 per student

7) UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT: SEPTEMBER TO NOVEMBER 2024 - The Board received for information EIPS’ Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2024, to Nov. 30, 2024—prepared by Financial Services. As of November 30, revenues exceeded expenses, resulting in an operating surplus of $639,000. The operational revenue for the three months is $51.28 million, which represents 25 per cent of the budget. Similarly, total expenses are $50.64 million, also representing 25 per cent of the budget. The primary reason for the surplus is timing differences, meaning expenditures are not incurred evenly over the year. EIPS expects these to resolve themselves by the end of the school year—after all expenses are incurred (see pg. 75, “Unaudited Financial Report for Sept. 1, 2024 to Nov. 30, 2024”).

8) SCHOOL FEE PARAMETERS: 2025-26 - The Board approved the school fee parameters for the 2025-26 school year. For the upcoming school year, fees can increase by two per cent—in 2024-25, the allowable increase was five per cent. Highlights of the 2025-26 school fee parameters include: *Optional-courses fees, Noon-supervision fees, Activity fees, Extracurricular fee,s Non-curricular travel fees, Non-curricular goods and services fees* – two per cent allowable increase. Schools must set all fees at a cost-recovery rate. If fees are over-charged by more than $10 a student, schools must refund that amount to the student. Additionally, if any fees exceed the listed parameters, the school must submit an explanation for EIPS’ Superintendent and Secretary-Treasurer to review. With the fee parameters now approved, schools can begin establishing their 2025-26 School Fees Schedule.

9) DIVISION CALENDAR - The Board approved the Division calendars for the next two school years—2025-26 and 2026-27. For the most part, the calendars resemble previous years. However, a change was made to early dismissal days. In previous years, early dismissal days occurred on the first Wednesday of every month—students are released from school one hour early to allow for staff meetings and collaboration. Going forward, early dismissal days will now occur weekly, every Wednesday. On these days, after students are released, school staff will take part in structured collaborative learning opportunities to ultimately enhance student achievement. Before making the calendar change, the Division surveyed the school community—the weekly early dismissal aligns with feedback heard and, also, the Division’s needs (see pg. 36, “2025-26 and 2026-27 Division Calendars”).

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| **Calendar highlights include: 2025-26**  | **2026-27**  |
| * First day of school – Aug. 28, 2025
* November break – November 10-14
* Christmas break – Dec. 22 to Jan. 2
* Second semester starts – January 29
* Teachers’ Convention – February 5-6
* Spring break – March 23-27
* Last day of classes – June 23, 2026
 | * First day of school – Aug. 31, 2026
* November break – November 9-13
* Christmas break – Dec.21 to Jan. 1
* Second semester starts – February 1
* Teachers’ Convention – February 4-5
* Spring break – March 22-26
* Last day of classes – June 28, 2027
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