

EPS School Council Principal Report

Nov. 20, 2024 – 6:30 p.m. [Click here to join the meeting](#)

agenda

Discussion Items -

1. CBE Budget and School Fees –

- a. Provincial (and CBE) Education Budget
 - i. Fraser Institute conducts provincial school rankings report
 - ii. Fraser reported Aug 22/24: [Education Spending in Public Schools in Canada, 2024](#)
 1. Per-student spending [across Canada] adjusted for inflation (price changes) increased by 5.1% nationally from 2012/13 to 2021/22.
 2. Three provinces saw **declines** in inflation-adjusted per-student spending—Alberta (17.2%)
 3. Alberta went from third highest to **tenth (lowest)**.
 - iii. Trustees across AB are advocating for additional \$1 billion to AB Ed budget to meet Canadian average needed (CBE's share would be \$180 million - that's over 1500 teachers in CBE alone). CBE Board of Trustees (<https://www.cbe.ab.ca/about-us/board-of-trustees/Pages/default.aspx>) meeting agendas, reports and minutes.
- b. Fees Report to Parents 2024-25 (www.cbe.ab.ca/elbowpark on the About Us > Our School tab)
- c. Parent reminder to please pay your current school fees:
 - i. supplies (\$40/child, Kindy = \$20)
 - ii. noon supervision (\$305/child)
- d. Also, field trip fees are to be paid when the student attends the trip.
 - i. School does not have a cash account to pre-pay for students.
 - ii. Example, as of Nov.19, 32 families (of 63) have not paid for the Gr.5-6 Museum field trip that was on Nov. 4 and Mrs. Hodgson emailed parents on Nov.8 as a payment reminder.

2. School Improvement Results Reporting (SIRR): <https://elbowpark.cbe.ab.ca/school>

- a. **Literacy (2023-24)** - Increase functional writing skills (non-fictional, newspaper, business letter):
 - i. On the “writes to express information and ideas” report card stem:

Writes...	1	2	3	4
Feb'24	2.8%	26.3%	60.3%	10.6%
Jun'24	0.6%	18.0%	55.6%	25.8%

- ii. Using a standardized writing assessment: Highest Level of Achievement Test (HLAT):

HLAT	Absent	1	2	3	4	Totals
Nov'23	2.4%	23.2%	57.7%	16.1%	0.6%	100%
Mar'24	6.3%	1.7%	33.9%	50.0%	8.0%	100%
Jun'24	3.4%	1.4%	24.5%	52.4%	18.4%	100%

- b. **Numeracy (2023-24)** – Increase complex problem solving skills (used the CBE Mathematics Problem Solving Rubric):

- i. Rubric results:

Math PS	Absent	1	2	3	4	Totals
Dec'23	2.9%	18.8%	44.1%	30.6%	3.5%	100%
Mar'24	1.3%	0.6%	26.6%	55.2%	16.2%	100%

- ii. Resilience - CBE Student Survey and Alberta Education Assurance survey from last year to this year in relation to their ability to persevere in the face of challenge (resilience). Results improved from 73% of students in 2022-23 that kept working when encountering problems to 88% in 2023-24
- c. **Wellness** – Students will improve their sense of resilience when facing adversity.
 - i. grades 4-6 students' perception on the CBE Student Survey and Alberta Education Assurance survey from last year to this year in relation to their ability to persevere in the face of challenge (resilience).
 - ii. Teachers note room for growth when faced with complex learning tasks in the classroom

3. 2024-25 School Development Plan Goals:

- a. **Holistic Goal:** Students' demonstration of resilience and risk-tasking at school will improve.
Outcomes: Students' report an increased feeling of connectedness within school through demonstrating a greater willingness to take social and academic risks.
 - i. Academic Goals:
 - 1. Develop structures to support connectedness between classes, grades
 - 2. Support students in undertaking productive struggle in math problem solving by offering thought-provoking prompts, spaced practice, and encouragement.
 - 3. Offer explicit instruction and specific feedback throughout the writing process to empower students to take risks and to leverage new techniques in functional writing

4. Staffing Update:

- a. Hiring an Early Childhood Practitioner to replace our School Assistant in Kindergarten who had to resign for family reasons
- b. Hiring a fifth Lunch Supervisor due to increased student numbers

5. Fundraisers & Residencies –

- a. **School funds:**
 - i. Received \$7500 stipend from EPPS for first semester residencies of around \$16,000.
 - ii. Education Matters Funds were requested by EPS on Oct. 2 and 4 (takes 6-8 weeks to process grants):
 - 1. \$2268 (Birthday Books)
 - 2. \$6100 (Parent Fundraiser)
 - iii. Remaining funds as of Nov.18 will be requested by Nov.30:
 - 1. **\$410.12** for Birthday Books
 - 2. **\$1,215.90** for Parent Fundraiser
- b. **Technology Update:**
 - i. Evergreening funds (credit for end-of-life hardware) for 2024:
 - 1. Decommission 14 iPads and 27 MacBook Airs
 - 2. Evergreen buys back 9 Macbooks, 40 Chromebooks, 13 iPads. We also requested \$4500 from Society for new iPads to top up our cart after Evergreening. Actual cost is only \$3354 for six iPads (\$559 each includes cases)

Sept 2024	Jan 2025
Orange Cart: 30 Chromebooks	Orange Cart: 30 Chromebooks (same)
25 iPads	11 old iPads, 14 new iPads (EPPS paid for 6)
Blue Cart: 30 MacBook Airs	Blue Cart: 13 MacBook Airs (old & new) + 13 Chromebooks (new) = 26 Total
	Yellow cart: 27 Chromebooks (new)

- c. **EPPS Society expressed an interest in more academic-based sessions. Scheduled:**
 - i. MadScience & Teacher's Pet workshops for grade-specific topics (ie. Dinosaurs = K, Natural Science for Gr.1-6)
 - ii. Author / Writer workshops: functional writing in alignment with our SDP (Dec & Jan)
 - iii. Junior Achievement – Gr.5-6 financial literacy has already been in
- d. **James Short Memorial** - \$3000 dance residency with SoundKreations paid by EPPS
DanceCOMBO! *Hip-Hop, Latin, and Afrobeats come together in one dynamic program!*
Let's dance across the world together! This year we visit West Africa in our **AfroBEATS** Program, Latin American and NYC in our **CubaNYC** Program and we go skip across USA to get down with the grooves in our **Real-TOK Hip-Hop Program**. Explore each culture through music & dance & embody the themes of cultural diversity, empathy and community!

6. Upcoming Events:

- a. **Parent/Teacher Interviews**
 - i. Parents with students in Grades 1-2 and 5-6 may need to book with two teachers (Literacy 1-2 + Homeroom and/or Math 5-6 + Homeroom)
 - ii. Do not book back-to-back time slots
 - iii. If more than 10 minutes is required, your teacher will reach out and book extra time with you after conferences
- b. **Winter caroling concert - Dec. 12, 2024:**
 - i. Daytime dress rehearsal at 9:00 a.m. (for extended family)
 - ii. Evening 6:30-7:30 with 2 seats per family
 - iii. Room Parents to organize volunteers for accessories and/or props
 - iv. Format:
 - 1. Each homeroom sings one song
 - 2. Each Grade Team recites cultural poem
 - 3. Whole-school song at end