



Edmonton Society for Christian Education
Spring Society Meeting
Monday May 29, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton Christian West School
14345 McQueen Road-Main building

You are invited to attend this important meeting! This is one of the primary ways that you can support, provide input to and celebrate the work of the Board and Administration.

Agenda items include:

- ★ Election of new board members
- ★ Approval of the 2017-2018 budget
- ★ Presentation from the Principals and Executive Director
- ★ Introduction to West School Building Project
- ★ Celebrating long term employees and retirees

Celebration reception to follow!

Supporting documents for these items are attached. Please take some time to go over these documents. Feel free to contact us in advance of the meeting with your questions.

You must be an active member of the Society to cast your ballot. If you are not sure you are an active member, please call the Society Office at 780-476-6281 before the meeting!

If you cannot attend and you are an active member, you can still vote via one of the following options:

1. You can vote on all of the motions presented at the meeting by giving your proxy to a member in attendance (*see attached form*) or
2. You can vote on only those motions specified on the absentee ballot (*attached*) which can be forwarded to the Society office prior to the meeting.

In the Lord's service,

Peter Buisman
Executive Director
peter.buisman@edmchristian.net



**The Edmonton Society for
Christian Education**
Spring Society Meeting
Monday, May 29, 7:30 PM
West School Lion's Den
14345 McQueen Road-Main Building

Agenda

7:30 PM	Welcome and Opening	Scott Segger
7:45 PM	ESCE Business:	
	Approval of May 30, 2016 Minutes (<i>attached</i>)	
	First call for nominations for board members from the floor	
	Executive Director's Report: West School Building Report	Peter Buisman
	Second call for nominations for board members from the floor	
	Election of new Board members (<i>Biographies attached</i>)	Tony Vandermeer Paula Heinen
	Presentation and approval of the 2017/2018 Proposed Budget (<i>attached</i>)	Jared Harmata
	Administrative Highlights	Darren Oskoboiny Krista Mulder
8:30 PM	ESCE Celebrations:	
	Thank-you to retiring board members	Scott Segger
	Long-term service, retirements and a farewell to several bus drivers	Various Presenters
	Question Period	
9:00 PM	Closing	Scott Segger

The Edmonton Society for Christian Education
Society Meeting minutes - Summarized
Monday, May 30, 2016, 7:30 PM

7:30 PM - Welcome and Opening Devotions (Steve Vriend)

ESCE Business: Approval of May 25, 2015 Minutes

First call for nominations for board members from the floor: None made.

Presentation and approval of the 2016/2017 Proposed Budget (Peter Buisman)

- No program fee increase, but there is a 10% increase in transportation fees in order to lower the subsidy of the transportation fees by the Society
- Budget based on increase in student number: 1388 students (K-12), we are projecting 1425 for next year.
- School support: most categories are fairly similar to last year. There will be an increase to Christian curriculum development. (Investment in Teaching for Transformation). This will encompass teacher training.
- Transportation: budgeting and decrease due to the combining of 2 routes into one.
- Increase in Development and Recruitment due to our involvement with CARDUS.
- There will be a report on CARDUS findings that will be made available to the community.
- **Facilities:** We have added the interest on the loans for the portables at NE School
- We added \$25,000 to begin with concepts surrounding the rebuilding of West School. Findings will be available to community in January.
- We have been making significant headway in paying down the debt. This is reducing our interest payments on mortgages.
- Administration expense: automation of our registration and payment system.
- Capital levy is staying the same: \$245/ family
- Mortgages have come down to about 2.8 Million dollars. (One mortgage is around \$350,000 - we expect to have this paid off in 2016 fiscal year). We would like to have all of our mortgages paid off by 2019.
- We had a generous estate gift which allowed a large debt payment.
- \$564,300 this year - largely due to the 2 new portables at NE.
- Cash flow position. We are using some of our cash surpluses to pay for the new portables.
- Cash surplus of around \$175,000 this year

Motion by Peter Buisman: On behalf of the Finance Committee, we propose that the 2016/17 budget is accepted as presented. **Seconded:** Rob Sinclair. **Motion carried.**

- **Why are transportation costs increasing?**
 - **A:** Reduction in Ridership.
- **From the floor:** Suggestion that transportation can be outsourced in Edmonton Public Schools
 - **A:** This is an ongoing discussion
- **Note from the floor:** Maintenance of the busses is actually going down.
- **Question from the floor?:** Will any of the kids be left without bussing?
 - **A:** We will do the best we can. The difference will likely be in the length of a ride that a student will have to take.

Second call for nominations for board members from the floor

Election of new Board members - Tony Vandermeer/ Paula Heinen

Motion to accept Absentee Ballots according to the bylaws by Bob Bruinsma.

Seconded. Motion carried.

- Presentation of those willing to let their names.

Executive Director's report: Peter Buisman

- Focus on the Strategic Plan
- Board is overwhelmed by the support of the community on a regular basis. We raised \$100k through our fundraising efforts
- Thank you to the staff of the Society Office. Great work and support for the school.
- Fostering relations with Edmonton Public Schools: we continue to reach out to them regarding the needs of Edmonton Christian Schools: specifically caring for the uniqueness of Edmonton Christian Schools. Developing new agreement/ new lease agreements/ specifically Principal selection process
- Reviewing and revamping Bible program
- Marketing and development: we have hired a marketing group - with a focus on our High School. We are increasing in every part of the school enrolment except the HS, where we see a decline in enrolment
- Hiring of the Storyteller: Brian Doornenbal. - Brian's role is to tell the stories of how our students are living out the throughlines. Also, as a reflection of how students are playing their role in God's story. We believe that many more parents are becoming involved in the school. We are looking to increase connection with Alumni.
- 100,000 people have viewed our Facebook since October. 9,000 people have read blog posts, 4,000 unique viewers of the Blog
- Becoming a Restorative Practice School.
 - Committee met to explore this
 - New policy of dealing with Student Discipline
 - We will be rolling this new practice out to the schools
- Appointing a Building Committee for reconstruction of West - Spring of 2018 or 2019.

- Touring of several facilities
- Remove modular buildings on the East side of West
- McQueen: making shops in that building?
- Hiring architects to help with the visioning of these buildings
- Requested proposals for architects - deadline for proposals is the end of this month. Decisions will be made over the summer.
- Feasibility report. May 2018 we will be seeking support from the community regarding moving ahead.
- Bussing is a big part of the budget: we have been struggling with declining ridership.
 - We have tried to reduce routes to make bussing feasible
 - Transportation is unsustainable in its current form
 - We have been researching a partnership with Edmonton Public Schools
 - What is the point at which it is still responsible to offer bussing at great financial cost to the Society?
- We welcome feedback from Society Members

Steve: The Society Board is grateful to have such a strong leader in Peter Buisman. He recently had a very positive review by the board.

Administrative Highlights - Darren Oskoboiny/ Krista Mulder

- Just over a year that Darren and Krista have served as principals.
- Thankful for support. New principals have been made to feel very welcome by teachers, administrators, board, society, and parents.
- District: there's a genuine support and understanding for alternative Christian Education in Edmonton Public.
- Positions Created: Spiritual Care leaders at both schools - Prayer/ Chapel are peaceful places within school. Pauline and Myrna have been great at connecting with students at the school.
- HS Chapels: related to monthly throughlines. (have had past Alumni come back and tell their stories).
- Professional Learning: TFT: embedding spiritual aspect into every aspect of the curriculum. Project based learning models. Real-world audience for their projects. Pedagogical shift in Education.
- Giving students opportunity for experiential learning. (Working with the Prairie Centre on this initiative).
- Principals decided to look at the Bible curriculum. Committee created to look at revamping the curriculum
- Working in the community. Service learning opportunities. PD Days: 7 different organizations were visited. K-Grade 3: 13 different projects (some are repeats). Div 2: 7 different organizations, Div. 3 - individual service learning projects, HS: 15 different projects. Focus on reaching out to the community through the school.

Steve: At least one Administrator is present at each of our Board Meetings. Thank you for that time that you put in.

ESCE Celebrations:

- Thank-you to retiring board members: Rod Robertson, David Paszek, Julie Day

Election of New Board Members. Elected are:

- Jim Hummel
- Jeremy Thiessen
- Larissa Vogan

Long-term service and retirements

- **Five year** - Karen Bellous, Carol Boonstra, Jose Jiminez
- **Ten Year** - Cam Befus, Jody VanEssan, Marco vanGelder, Fred Woudstra
- **Fifteen Year** - Alda Knibbe, Darren Klein, Joel Kleine, Carolin Visscher, Dorothy McGillis, Marcia Stiksmma
- **Twenty Five Year** - Laurie Zylstra, Sharon deMoor, Elaine Junk,
- **Thirty Year:** Marcia Kwolick
- Vicki deHaan: moving on to become Assistant Principal of Argyll Centre

Steve: Motion to destroy the ballots. Seconded. Motion carried.

Question Period

1) Is there an example of what Restorative Discipline is?

A: Providing an avenue of discussion

2) Is there is any way we'd be open to working with the Family Literacy Centre? (Assessing dyslexia). (No cost for classroom accommodations.)

- **A:** Admin willing to continue this discussion. Admin has access to support team in order to help students (Inclusive Learning Teams)

3) Can we remove bars from the windows off the school?

4) AB Government - Stop funding of charter schools? Does this affect us?

- **A:** Not at this time.

5) Legal status of the tax receipting of program fees?

- **A:** CRA is looking at this issue right now. CRA would like to avoid the court.

9:00 PM: Closing in prayer - David Paszek

Board Nominees – 3 to be elected

Paul Burdett

My wife Jessica and I are Edmonton Christian School Alumni and high school sweet hearts (1993/1995 grad class). Jessica and I were married in 1997 and are happy to be celebrating our 20 year wedding anniversary this summer. Jessica and I have three lovely children Abigail (Grade9), Hannah (Grade 7) and Oliver (Grade 5) all of which attend West Edmonton Christian School.

Our family attends Beulah Alliance Church and is heavily involved with their programming. Jessica and I volunteer regularly with various school activities throughout the year and strive to play an active part in our children's education.

Since graduating from Edmonton Christian High school I have been working in the Building Engineering Field. I am currently an owner in a full service engineering firm located here in Edmonton with a branch office in Saskatoon. My title with the firm is Principal/Senior VP of Operations, this role entails managing our staff of 70 employees to deliver over 600 building designs per year.

I have many fond memories of my time spend at Edmonton Christian and look forward to the opportunity to participate in its direction for the future.

Dave Dejong

My wife Jacquie and I have been Society members 12 years when we moved here from Calgary. Our two children Lauren and Ryan currently attend Edmonton Christian High School and Edmonton Christian West School.

I graduated from the University of Calgary and am a civil engineer by profession. I currently work as the Director for Engineering & Construction at Michels Canada, managing our engineers and contracts group who are responsible to construct pipelines, tunnels, and civil infrastructure projects across Canada. Working previously for Enbridge and TransCanada Pipelines has afforded me opportunities to be involved in many different roles including large scale business improvements, contract administration, human resource challenges and policy development. It has helped me develop many leadership skills including decision making, collaboration, teambuilding, communication and change management.

We are active members of West Edmonton Christian Assembly where I have served in different capacities including marriage ministry and Boys Club. In Calgary, as a member of First CRC, I served on the management team, church council (chair), and fundraising team for our capital building campaign.

Christian Education and the community that is intrinsically a part of it has been part of the fabric of my upbringing and my own family. My wife and I both attended Christian schools from K-12 at Edmonton Christian and Calgary Christian respectively. My wife later taught Jr. High at CCS for five years and currently teaches half time at Meadowlark Christian School and regularly substitutes at Edmonton Christian School. Through all these experiences I always have, and continue to have a strong appreciation for the importance of Christ-centered education and recognize it as a blessing we need to continue to protect and not take for granted. As parents, teachers and a society of believers we all have a role to play as I consider it a privilege to serve for something I truly value.

I am thankful for the opportunity to be able to support the staff, administration and our students as we collectively invest in providing a Christian foundation for our kids and generations to come.

Harriet Eskiw

My name is Harriet Eskiw and I am an Edmonton Christian School Alumni. My husband Kevin and I have been married for 17 years and have been members of the Edmonton Society for Christian Education for the past 8 years. We have 2 children who have both attended Edmonton Christian School West since kindergarten. Emily is in grade 7 and Nathan is in grade 4. Our family attends Beulah Alliance Church.

I attended Capernwray Bible School for one year before obtaining my Bachelor of Science in Nursing at the U of A. I worked as a pediatric nurse at the Stollery Children's Hospital for 8 years until Nathan was born. Since then, I have had the privilege of staying home with my children while working casually at a pediatrician's clinic. Being a nurse is a blessing to me as it allows me to use the gifts God has given me. I have strong organizational skills, a caring and compassionate heart and a great love for people. I have also enjoyed using these gifts to serve the women on the streets of Edmonton as a volunteer on the People At Risk Salvation Army van for the past 2 years. This van provides the women with items they need for their physical and spiritual well-being as well as offering assistance in securing shelter and counselling. I love meeting the women, chatting with them, listening to their stories and praying with them while providing for their physical needs of food and clothing.

I particularly love working with children and find myself gravitating to areas of service that involve kids! I taught Sunday school at Beulah for many years and most recently served as a GEMS leader at WECA. Working part time has afforded

me the luxury of spending a lot of time in my children`s classrooms and volunteering on field trips giving me a firsthand glimpse into the awesome things that go on at our school! Participating in the weekly parent prayer at school has provided an amazing opportunity to grow closer with other moms as we support the staff and students through prayer.

I loved my years at Edmonton Christian School and feel so thankful and blessed that my own children have the privilege of a Christ-centered Education. I would be honored to serve on the board and use the gifts that God has given me to serve Him and our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Margie Patrick

I have spent most of my life in Christian education and have experienced it as a student, a teacher, and a teacher educator. My student experiences profoundly shaped me and in turn I seek to pass on what I learned to my students. From my K-12 Christian school in northern BC I learned that we are called to serve God in every sphere of life. The King's College (now University) and Calvin College impressed on me the importance of Christians speaking into public issues. Not surprising then, that when I became a high school social studies teacher at Abbotsford Christian in southern BC, I emphasized the importance of public and political life. Now as an associate professor in the faculty of education at The King's University I stress how faith impacts the decisions teachers make. My current research investigates how secondary social studies teachers in public, non-faith based schools teach about religion.

My work at King's provides me with the big picture of education, such as educational systems and trends within education. It also enables me to see what is happening at the ground level in classrooms, as I supervise student teacher practicums in various classrooms. It is in this supervisory capacity that I know Edmonton Christian best, having supervised student teachers at all three campuses. I have been deeply impressed with the quality of education I see at each campus, the dedication of the teachers, and the support that so many teachers provide our students and grads who have had the privilege of teaching at Edmonton Christian. It would be an honour to serve on the board.

Glenn Vandeborn

I would be grateful to be part of the board of the Edmonton Society for Christian Education, having previously served from 2012-2015. My family and I are active members of First Christian Reformed Church of Edmonton where I have experience on church council and other committees. Our three daughters currently attend the northeast campus, where I enjoy opportunities volunteering in the classroom. I have been employed at Dow Chemical for the past 18 years as a chemical engineer, where I lead a group of engineers on design projects. I am a graduate of the Edmonton Christian High School.

I strongly believe Christian education is an important part of children learning and growing in a faith rooted in scripture. I am eager to be a part of ESCE which acts as a beacon of Christ in our communities.

Steve Vriend

I appreciate the nomination to serve a successive term on the board of the Edmonton Society for Christian Education. For the past 3 years, the last two as chair, I have had the privilege of serving with a great group of committed board members and Society staff, all with the common passion to pursue the Vision and Mission of encouraging students to actively play their role in God's story.

My wife Irene and I have been Society members for about 17 years. We have three children who all have attended Edmonton Christian Schools. Meagan and Cole have graduated and Janae is currently in grade 11. We appreciate very much the positive impact of Christian Education for all our students and its impact on the greater community.

I have had the opportunity and privilege to serve in various leadership and administrative roles in our home congregation at West End Christian Reformed Church, including serving as co-chair for a major building fundraising campaign. I am currently on the Board of Governors at The King's University and also sit on the TELUS Dealer Advisory board, through my business as a TELUS Dealer.

The future is exciting for Edmonton Christian Schools. Enhancing our continued relationship with Edmonton Public Schools, working through a building proposal for the West Campus, and exploring initiatives to make Christian education a reality for even more families will keep the agenda full.

Serving for the past three years has been a privilege and a blessing, and I would be willing and excited to continue that for another term.

The Edmonton Society for Christian Education

2017 - 2018 Budget

Statement of Operations

	2015-2016 Actuals	2016 - 2017 Budget	2017 - 2018 Budget
Student Enrollment:			
Preschool	80	100	85
K-12	1,379	1,425	1,425
1. REVENUE			
1.1 Christian Program Fees	1,525,473	1,540,840	1,548,665
1.2 Preschool Fees	64,397	76,950	68,400
1.3 Transportation Fees	358,716	394,850	138,400
1.4 Facilities Lease	808,671	812,800	812,800
1.5 Memberships & Donations	147,873	150,000	100,000
1.6 Church Collections	12,960	18,000	15,000
1.7.1 Special Fundraising - Thrift Store	0		
1.7.2 Special Fundraising - Auction	40,596	50,000	50,000
1.7.3 Special Fundraising - Golf Tournament	44,764	50,000	50,000
1.8 Miscellaneous Income	10,254	2,000	2,000
1.9 Senior High Cafeteria Revenue	36,760	40,000	40,000
1.10 Contributions Deferred to Future Periods	0	0	
1.11 Amortization of Def. Cap.Contributions	147,909	150,750	146,000
TOTAL REVENUE	3,198,373	3,286,190	2,971,265
2. SCHOOL SUPPORT			
2.1 School Staff Christian Prof. Dev. and Curriculum Dev	293,866	342,000	339,800
2.2 Memberships in Christian support organizations	101,551	102,824	102,824
2.3 Preschool Expenses	66,197	76,950	66,000
2.4 Senior High Cafeteria Expenses	45,164	40,000	45,000
2.5 Other Christian Program Expenses (i.e. Grad gifts)	19,247	20,000	20,000
2.6 Christian Program Learning Resources	16,019	15,000	15,000
2.7 Furniture, Equipment, Computers under \$1000	28,808	32,000	32,000
2.8 Amortization of Furn., Equip., Comp.	153,701	158,600	158,600
SUBTOTAL	724,553	787,374	779,224
3. TRANSPORTATION			
3.1 Salaries & Benefits	283,367	291,818	114,831
3.2 Licences & Insurance	28,232	31,000	11,000
3.3 Fuel & Oil	71,692	80,000	28,000
3.4 Maintenance	139,328	120,000	45,000
3.5 Cell Phones	4,140	4,200	1,000
3.6 Bus Loan Interest	1,308	2,160	0
3.7 Amortization of Buses	53,395	55,000	35,770
SUBTOTAL	581,462	584,178	235,601
4. DEVELOPMENT & STUDENT RECRUITMENT			
4.1 Salaries & Benefits	93,308	92,984	95,000
4.2 Advertising & Promotion	57,504	55,000	30,000
4.3 Society Expenses related to development	20,751	18,000	30,000
SUBTOTAL	171,563	165,984	155,000

5. FACILITIES			
5.1 Maintenance	141,470	224,000	210,500
5.1.1 Salaries and Benefits	104,437	88,466	110,376
5.2 Utilities	270,764	260,000	270,000
5.3 Insurance	36,359	44,000	44,000
5.4 Mortgage Interest	113,684	87,694	53,123
5.4.1 Interest on the portable loan		24,115	20,470
5.5 Amortization of Buildings & Portables	469,505	474,310	508,761
5.6 Amortization of Vehicle	5,413	5,726	5,726
5.7 West School Building		25,000	
SUBTOTAL	1,141,632	1,233,311	1,222,957
6. ADMINISTRATION			
6.1 Salaries & Benefits	211,818	221,998	222,301
6.2 Office Expenses includes equipement leasing	32,540	36,500	36,500
6.3 Insurance	6,730	6,705	6,705
6.4 Memberships & Dues	10,162	10,688	10,688
6.5 Professional Fees	23,681	23,000	23,000
6.6 Bank Charges, Discounts, Interest	15,496	17,000	17,000
6.7 Computer Systems Support	44,575	38,300	40,300
6.8 (Gain) Loss on sale of Equipment	-2,834	0	-49,000
6.9 Bad Debt	14,753	35,000	35,000
SUBTOTAL	356,921	389,191	342,494
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,976,131	3,160,038	2,735,275
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES - OPERATIONS	222,242	126,152	235,990
Capital Levy	199,868	196,000	196,000
Total surplus	422,110	322,152	431,990



PROXY BALLOT

I, the undersigned and **active member** of the Edmonton Society for Christian Education appoint

(name of another active member)

to vote as my **proxy** at the Society Meeting to be held on May 29, 2017 for the transaction of any business which may come before the meeting, and for me and in my name, to act as fully as I could do if personally present.

Name **Signature**

This Proxy ballot must be registered at the meeting prior to proceedings.



ABSENTEE BALLOT

In regard to the votes that will take place at the Spring Society Meeting on May 29, 2017, I vote:

Motion - To accept the 2017-2018 budget as presented: **Yes** **No**

Election of Board members. Please indicate your choices by circling **up to 3 names**:

- | | | |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Paul Burdett | Dave Dejong | Harriet Eskiw |
| Margie Patrick | Glenn Vandeborn | Steve Vriend |

NAME: _____ **DATE:** _____
(Please print)

SIGNATURE: _____

Please return this ballot to the Society office by 4:00 p.m. May 29, 2017