



MINUTES
REGULAR SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Date: December 14, 2021
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: St. Elias Community School (Room #9) or via Zoom

In Attendance

Members: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cassandra Wheeler (Chair) – in person• Amy McKinnon (Treasurer) – in person• Marsha Sparvier (Councillor) – via Zoom• Tracy Kane (Councillor) – via Zoom• Tinha Chambers (Councillor) - via Zoom	Staff (in person): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nicholas Vienneau (Principal)• Brian Eleniak (Vice-Principal)
Regrets: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• John Fingland (Councillor)	Guests: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• None
Minute Recorder: Laurette Sylvain (Secretary) – via Zoom	

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:38 p.m.

2. Approval of the Agenda

It was moved by Amy McKinnon and seconded by Marsha Sparvier that the agenda be adopted as amended with the addition of in-camera under “correspondence”. All approved.

3. Approval of the Previous Minutes

It was proposed that changes be made to:

- 7.a) regarding the fall gathering and noting that C. Wheeler attended one day.
- 8.b) that the action item be amended.

It was moved by Amy McKinnon and seconded by Tracy Kane that the minutes of the November 23, 2021 meeting be adopted as amended. All approved.

4. Community Input (welcoming of guests/others from the community)

N/A

5. Principal's Report

Further to the Principal's reports emailed to Council members on December 14, 2021 (see link below), Nicholas Vienneau shared additional information as follows:

- Christmas Concert – concert to be held at noon on Dec. 16th is posted on website.
- Mural Art Project – project was updated based on feedback from M. Chiblow and draft was sent to School Council for review today. All agreed it was ready to be submitted.
- Outdoor Learning Space – has gone to Property Management and they are in initial planning.
- Graduation update – first grad meeting was held last week. June 9, 2022 is the tentative grad date.
- Reading and Math Levels – The Principal shared a screen with a Grad Assessment report and information about reading and math levels and comparisons to Robert Service School, Watson Lake, and other rural schools. The literacy scores are lower than other schools in Yukon. We are looking at ways to improve these results. Staffing allocations are making things difficult.
- Scheduling issues – Discussion took place about ways to schedule classes. A teacher is teaching 2 courses within the same class; e.g. Grade 10 pre-calculus class and Grade 10 Workplace Math; Math 11/12; English 9/10; which is affecting students' results in a negative way. By splitting classes, we would have to give up some other classes such as Drama 11/12, Foods 11/12, or Metals 11/12. We have not figured out a way to split Math 11/12. A teacher is assigned to the WISE program which runs every year in one semester. Grade 8 students are not affected.

N. Vienneau asked for Council's input. Discussion took place and options included:

- splitting Science 9/10 into 2 classes but we would have to drop either Foods or Drama
- splitting English 9/10 but would have to drop Metals 11/12.
- Math 11/12 cannot be split.
- consulting with teachers for input, and parents and students about optional courses, although students have previously submitted their preferences.
- asking for extra staff for one semester – this was done.
- combining Foods and Drama in one class - there would be 25 students in each of those classes which is not manageable.

- reshuffle Food program to be offered elsewhere.
- offer Foods class twice per week during lunch.

Decision has to be made before Friday in order to plan for next year.

- The first day back after Christmas holidays is Jan. 4, 2022. Christmas break is December 20, 2021 to January 3, 2022. Exam week for high school is Dec. 17-21. The Second Semester starts Jan. 24th but it's a Professional Development Day so the first day for the kids is Jan. 25th.

[Principal Summary Report](#)

6. Treasurer's Report

Further to the Treasurer's report emailed to Council members on December 13, 2021 with link below, Amy McKinnon shared additional information as follows:

The School Council ledger account balance is **\$4,206.37**. A. McKinnon made arrangements for honorarium cheques to be picked up for those who had not yet received them.

[Treasurer Report Dec 14 2021](#)

7. Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

a) Standing Action Items

- **All members:** brainstorm how to make use of our professional development (PD) funds. It was suggested that the funds could be used towards:
 - *Meetings for Discussions about First Nation School Board (ongoing)*
 - *Special meeting to discuss School Growth Plan (pending)*
- **All Members** - should read the *Inclusive and Special Education Review, including Child and Youth Advocate Attendance* reports on their own time and this item should remain on the agenda for discussion. The reports were emailed to members and can also be accessed on YE's website. (ongoing)
- **N. Vienneau** – to provide Council with DART SWW and Math results for November's meeting. (done)
- **C. Wheeler** – will provide the AYSCBC's school council manual guide to members. (are now available and will be handed out)
- **L. Sylvain** – to email Cindi O'Rourke to extend an invitation for 1 or 2 representatives from the student council to attend our next regular meeting and place them at the beginning of the agenda. (done)
- **E. Pauls** – will schedule a tentative date **after Oct. 30th** to bring individuals together such as the Superintendent, newly elected Mayor and Councillors, Elders, teachers, parents, etc. (done)
- **A. McKinnon** - will send the email with her messaging of draft communication to School Council members for their review and approval and then forward it to Erin Pauls. (done)

- **L. Sylvain** – will request information from K. Campbell re: rural EA allocation (done but no information was provided as of yet); will draft a letter to the Minister and copy the Superintendent, ACYE and AYSCBC requesting more EA positions for the school and send to members for their review. (done and submitted but no response yet)
- **C. Wheeler** - will email the application form received by M. Chiblow to members. (done)
- **L. Sylvain** – will invite the Superintendent and School Liaison from Yukon Education and ensure the date and time works for them. (done)
- **C. Wheeler** – will provide AYSCBC's school council guide to members. (being done)
- **C. Wheeler** - to follow up with M. Bennett and E. Pauls on mail out on community information sessions. (mail-outs being distributed to HJ residents)
- **C. Wheeler** - will prep opening remarks for the first Zoom meeting (done – C. Wheeler at the Nov. 30th meeting and A. McKinnon on Dec. 9th)
- **M. Marquis-Forster** - to follow up on My Math Path order. (there's an online version and Nick sent off to kindergarten and grades 1 & 2 teachers; however Yukon only allows 12 people to be online at the same time in the entire territory so they are not currently using it in the classrooms. Hard copies will soon be available).
- **A. McKinnon** - to draft communications and send to School Council for review. (done)

Action: **L. Sylvain** – to email Cindi O'Rourke to extend an invitation for 1 or 2 representatives from the student council to attend our next regular meeting on January 18th.

Action: C. Wheeler will email out the literacy and numeracy results.

Action: All – to determine who will give opening remarks for FNSB Zoom meeting on Jan. 5th at 6:30 p.m.

Action: C. Wheeler to send the information on the Review of Inclusive and Special Education focus groups and Shelley Moore's podcasts.

- b) Monica's Art Project – C. Wheeler will sign and send the updated package to YG tomorrow.
- c) Literacy and Numeracy – results will be provided to parents.

Action: L. Sylvain to draft a letter to the Minister of Education regarding teacher and EA allocation and send to School Council for review.

8. New Business:

- a) First Nation School Board – Both public sessions were both well attended. Council members shared some of the feedback raised during and following these meetings; e.g. explanation of sections of the Education Act. A joint letter providing information

was sent to all council members, and then distributed to all residents. The YFNED will be including it in newspapers. In addition to the meeting on Jan. 5th, we will invite Melanie Bennett and Ryan Sikkes to attend an in-person meeting during the polling period to increase awareness. Proposed dates: Jan. 10th, 12th or 13th.

Action: C. Wheeler will invite M. Bennett and R. Sikkes to attend a meeting and ask the Village if the Convention Centre has Zoom capabilities, if needed, and if we can book that space.

- b) Grad 2022 Update – A. McKinnon shared that the grads prefer to go back to a more traditional grad. They only want to do a parade if it's required and have asked for a separate cap and gown ceremony. They asked if School Council could provide hoodies as their gift.

Action: A. McKinnon will inquire at Computec Embroidery in Whitehorse to obtain costs for hoodies for 12 graduates.

9. Correspondence

Motion to go in-camera at 6:04 p.m. was moved by Amy McKinnon and seconded by Marsha Sparvier. Motion to come out-of-camera at 6:14 p.m. was moved by Amy McKinnon and seconded by Tinha Chambers.

Action: C. Wheeler will draft a letter to be reviewed by Council members.

10. Next Meeting

Date: Jan. 18, 2022
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: St. Elias Community School (in room 9)

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cassandra Wheeler, Chair