



MINUTES

REGULAR SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING

Date: October 20, 2021

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Location: Alsek Renewable Resource Council (ARRC) Office and 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• Tinha Chambers (via Zoom)• John Fingland (via Zoom)	Staff (joined in person at the ARRC Office): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nicholas Vienneau (Principal)• Brian Eleniak (Vice-Principal)
Regrets: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tracy Kane (Councillor)	Guests (via Zoom): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Marilyn Marquis-Forster, Area Superintendent• Erin Pauls, Director of Education, CAFN• Margaret Chiblow, CAFN Education Support Worker• Monica Primozic, Kindergarten teacher
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 Cassandra Wheeler that the agenda be adopted. All approved.

3. Approval of the Previous Minutes

It was moved by Cassandra Wheeler and seconded by Amy McKinnon that the following minutes be adopted: regular meeting minutes of September 9, 2021; special meeting minutes of September 27, 2021; and special meeting minutes of October 1, 2021. All approved.

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

C. Wheeler introduced guests and presenters and suggested moving to item #8.c) and 8.d) on the agenda to hear the presentations from M. Chiblow and M. Promozic.

5. Principal's Report

Further to the Principal's report emailed to Council members on October 20, 2021 (see attachment below), Nicholas Vienneau shared additional information as follows:

Principal Monthly Report

1. Food program update – looking at having it onsite in the second semester with morning snacks and cold lunches such as sandwiches and wraps.
2. The school van is back which is timely for field trips.
3. Renovations for K4/5s are on hold until next summer. DOE is aware of current dilemma.
4. Bathroom issues – proposal is to:
 - remove the first set of doors to see and hear any occurrences of vaping and graffiti.
 - convert a female bathroom into a gender-neutral bathroom which we are supposed to have in our school.
5. Permanent Structure for outdoor classroom. Refer to 8.d) below.
6. Acknowledgment Sign – It was proposed that an acknowledgment sign be created in Southern Tutchone, English and French to acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of CAFN, and we have funding for that.
7. Art Project Idea with CAFN – see 8.c) below.
8. DART SWW and Math Results (Grades 1-9) – finished those. They were lower than what was hoped. The School Growth Plan is math-focussed so they are looking at improving those results. NWT and B.C. had examples of great successes in programs too.
9. Had fire, earthquake, and lockdown drills. It was discovered a series of doors were not locking properly. Property Management have been fixing those and dealing with it.
10. Secondary report cards go out November 3.
11. Parent teacher interviews for elementary and secondary went well. Today's meetings are being rescheduled.

12. Starting grad meetings and getting ideas for fundraising. MaryJane Leger and Monica Primozic are teachers taking the lead on that.
13. Halloween celebrations will happen on Friday, October 29th. Elementary will be in the gym and others will rotate through activities.
14. School Photos will be on October 28th.
15. EA allocation and classroom needs. An emergency meeting to discuss EA needs; teachers are working tirelessly. There are students needing help and there is a lack of EA support.

In-Camera began at 5:36 p.m. and meeting resumed at 5:40 p.m.

Discussion:

Due to the addition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation statutory holiday at the end of September, a PD day was moved to the last day of the year which was Friday, June 10th.

There is no date scheduled yet for grad.

Action: Council requested the results for DART SWW and Math as it would provide a great baseline. N. Vienneau to provide Council with results for the next meeting.

Action: C. Wheeler will provide the AYSCBC's school council manual guide to members.

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 and place them at the beginning of the agenda.

J. Fingland will be able to attend the AGM in person if it's held between Nov. 2-14, otherwise it will be via Zoom.

J. Fingland left the meeting at 5:50 p.m.

6. Treasurer's Report

Further to the Treasurer's report and 2020-21 Income Statement emailed to Council members on October 16, 2021 and attached below, Amy McKinnon shared additional information as follows:

The School Council ledger account balance is **\$5,331.37**.

The Treasurer will be issuing cheques including those for past honoraria not yet issued.

[Treasurers Report Oct 20 2021](#)
[Income Statement](#)

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 (ongoing)*
- **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 for those who have not yet had the opportunity to review*).
 - *C. Wheeler will attend the meeting on Nov. 12th.*
 - The fall gathering will be held on Oct. 28-30 either online or in person. Amy McKinnon can attend. Some travel costs are covered as per registration information.
- **L. Sylvain** - will prepare two (2) resolutions: one to move ahead with requesting the Minister of Education to conduct a vote of electors to establish a First Nation School Board and the other to have local community representation through a community committee. (done and amended by Council members and submitted)

b) Advisory Committee on Yukon Education (ACYE) representatives – C. Wheeler/L. Sylvain – Amanda Daub emailed the Secretary on Oct. 18th informing that the Committee has been meeting regarding the review of inclusive and special education and has been inviting C. Wheeler to those meetings. Council members agreed that C. Wheeler could continue acting as representative. A. Daub also noted that an alternate can attend in C. Wheeler's absence. The next meeting is scheduled for **Nov. 12th**.

c) Treasurer's role – Expression of Interest – A. McKinnon offered to continue fulfilling the Treasurer's role until her term expires.

d) First Nation School Board –

E. Pauls provided an update regarding the First Nation School Board and informed everyone that Council's resolution was sent to the Minister. Before communicating to all citizens, they are waiting to see if any other Nations submit a resolution, therefore a press release will only be sent after October 30th. YFNED is working on messaging to be sent to all communities. E. Pauls shared that the principal would support a community gathering in the school's gymnasium. She expressed thanks to School Council for all their work and offered support which might be required, including coordinating online zoom or "Go To" sessions/meetings and inviting experts.

It was suggested and agreed by E. Pauls that messaging should be sent out jointly with SESC, Education and CAFN. E. Pauls will include SESC in the email chain when draft communications are prepared.

Action: E. Pauls offered to schedule a tentative date **after Oct. 30th** to bring individuals together such as the Superintendent, newly elected Mayor and Councillors, Elders, teachers, parents, etc.

E. Pauls left the meeting at 5:08 p.m.

Action: 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.

8. New Business:

- a) EA Allocation – Information prepared by Eleanor Charlton and Nicholas Vienneau was emailed to Council on October 19th. The formula is based on student numbers, IEPs, needs, and then specific criteria. The school received an allocation of 12 FTE EAs to support 17 complex needs students requiring 1:1 support, and yet 27 students require 1-on-1 support. Requests for shared EAs were declined.

Action: L. Sylvain will request information from K. Campbell re: rural EA allocation and 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.

- b) Yukon School Councils' Fall Gathering – Oct. 28-30 – Yukon Inn - representatives can join either in person or online. Some highlights are:
- Oct. 28th - a public presentation with Dr. Katharine Smart, Pediatrician and President of the Canadian Medical Association
 - Oct. 29 - Education update by DOE; School Council Roundtable Updates; Public Presentation by Dr. Nicole Racine; and reporting requirements in the afternoon.
 - Oct. 30 - Public Presentation: First Nation School Board; Student Wellness: Youth Panel Presentation

M. Sparvier and A. McKinnon will be attending. C. Wheeler is hoping to attend on October 29th. T. Chambers is unable to attend.

- c) Monica's Art Project – see attached presentation by M. Chiblow and M. Primozić

Mural Art Project - The presenters requested that the St. Elias School Council assist them in completing and submitting of an application form to access the Yukon Arts funding for a Mural Art Project. The idea is that a local artist would be hired to create the vision, which would be similar to the fish in the fence at the Whitehorse Elementary School but would be broader in scope and incorporate teaching. All students would be involved in creating the art, it would be completed during class time, and the mural would be based on Southern Tutchone art, culture, and language. Students would learn connections to the land, animals, and language. It would be a partnership with the school, School Council and CAFN. The location proposed would be the Kindergarten K4 playground area (the new fence built this past year). A mural would be created behind the fence. The application form is available online through the Arts Fund at: [Apply to the Arts Fund | Government of Yukon](#). The deadline is December 15, 2021.

A budget will be required to cover costs for artist(s) and material and will need to be included when submitting the application form. The budget is yet to be determined. It is hoped that CAFN could contribute 25% towards the project.

E. Pauls expressed support for the project on behalf of CAFN.

If the project receives approval, the project could begin any time after it's accepted and possibly continue into the fall.

Council will notify the presenters of their decision by tomorrow.

M. Marquis-Forster and M. Primozic left the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Action: C. Wheeler will email the application form received by M. Chiblow to members. The reporting requirements required by GY will need to be reviewed.

d) First Nation's Structure (Outdoor Classroom) – presentation by M. Chiblow.

M. Chiblow proposed a project of building an outdoor classroom on the school's property for students, similar to the smokehouse on the Da Kų property. Students currently have to travel back and forth to get to Da Kų to attend cultural events which takes the little ones about 40 minutes. The Department of Education (DOE) has talked about different ways of incorporating ways of knowing and doing into the curriculum. It's the ideal project to have on St. Elias community school grounds and it can be used year-round during the school year. She read a project description which she had prepared (*see attached*). She added that it gives First Nations' students the pride and honour to showcase their language and culture.

N. Vienneau expressed that he fully supports Margaret's proposed project.

Are there any other schools in Yukon that have one and could be used as examples to help move the project forward? FH Collins has an outdoor classroom, Mayo has a small smokehouse, and Dawson City has an outdoor classroom.

How do we get the funds? The Shop Class could help build it. The principal said we will find funding. M. Chiblow added that she has funding in her project and there's also a cultural inclusion fund. She hopes that CAFN can support them and provide some in-kind service. M. Chiblow budgeted approximately \$7500 which includes human resources, materials, and supplies. It was suggested to speak with Richard Smith for information. M. Chiblow had spoken with R. Smith and he recommended that it be important to have an Elder for guidance. The vision was that we could have classes such as Carpentry who could help with the build. M. Chiblow is in the planning stage with the goal of getting it going in April 2022. Members and staff thanked M. Chiblow for her project proposal and fully supported the idea.

M. Chiblow left the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

9. Correspondence

None.

10. Next Meeting

Date: November 23, 2021
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: St. Elias Community School Library

It was decided that the AGM will be held on **November 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.** in the St. Elias Community School's gymnasium.

Action: L. Sylvain will invite the Superintendent and School Liaison from Yukon Education and ensure the date and time works for them.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cassandra Wheeler, Chair

Approved at the Nov. 23, 2021 meeting