

ELIJAH SMITH SCHOOL COUNCIL
Minutes of Regular Meeting
December 6, 2022
MPR/Zoom

“School Council would like to acknowledge that we are on the lands of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and Ta’an Kwäch’än Council and would like to thank them for allowing us to live and work on their traditional land.”

Present:

Council Members:	Administration:
Andrew MacLeod: A/Chair	Jim Snider: A/Principal
Doris Anderson: Zoom	Peter Grundamanis: A/Vice Principal
Haily Bill: Zoom	
Linda Moen: Zoom	
Rachel Sutherland: Zoom	
Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer, Zoom	

Regrets: Megan Cromarty: Council Member, Chair
Lauren White: Council Member

Guests: Marilyn Marquis-Forster: Superintendent of Schools,
Christine Pottie: E.S.C.

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:34PM

2. **Meeting Etiquette:** Council presented the following:

“ESES Council welcomes participation at our meetings and encourages all attendees to express their opinions. However, it is expected that this be done in a respectful and professional manner, if any participant is seen as being disruptive or acting disrespectful during the meeting they will be asked to leave. If you are asked to leave you will be given the opportunity to schedule a separate time to discuss your concerns with council. It is expected that this is also done in a respectful manner.”

3. **Adoption of Agenda:** Moved by Doris, seconded by Linda, THAT the Agenda be adopted. CARRIED

4. **Adoption of Minutes:** Moved by Haily, seconded by Doris, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting, November 1, 2022 be adopted. CARRIED

5. Parent Concerns:

Linda inquired into the dance group which used to be held at the school. Administration advised that a dance and drum group has resumed in the Multi-Purpose Room every Thursday. Diana Hawkins and Sean Smith do it with students.

As well, Linda inquired into the announcement made by YG regarding the First Nations School Board.

Marilyn advised that a resolution to dissolve as a council would need to be done and then a referendum would be held.

A referendum is where the community, 50% plus 1 decide to join the FNSB.

Elections Yukon looks after the referendum process.

Doris asked about the benefits from joining the FNSB for the school and to be cautious at this time. To be discussed further in January.

Linda brought up the recent report from the Privacy Commissioner with respect to cameras at schools, and that they should be removed.

Marilyn advised that YG does not agree with the report to remove the cameras and the Dept. of Education is waiting for direction on how to proceed next.

The plan at this time is to have outside cameras installed at Elijah Smith in the spring and this is still on course.

6. School Administration Report:

- Enrolment: 279
- Chris Shipley – has been hired to be the new Principal, Jim to go back to VP position
- K- Gr. 6 staff participate in Mathology program
- Primary Lit. Committee meets – Nov. 15
- Staff meet to discuss “Different ways to work with students – Nov. 18 DIR – floor time
- All EA’s meet Nov. 24 – Autism Best Practices
- All EA’s meet Nov. 25 – to discuss support plans, Best Practices (This is EA led.)
- Various field trips, activities throughout the month: such as:
Pizza Hot Lunch, Gr.7 Volleyball, School Assembly held, - Belonging,
Principal/Student Lunch, Beach Day, Teacher student Conferences,
Every Tuesday: PINK EAGLES (led by YFNED),
Every Thursday: Boys Club
Every Thursday: Beading Club

Every Tuesday: ACTUA-STEM

Every Wednesday: Indoor Basketball Club

- School purchased more snow gear for students that need it
Linda asked if the school would be interested in “gently” used winter clothing for students that may need it. The school would greatly appreciate it and YES!
- Discussions on the high cost of busing students to various events.
Using Public Transit, or walking, or using the bus from the fleet
- Meeting with Chris Kenny: Health Inspector re: Mice issue at school. Measures in place are working to eradicate the issue.
- Windows to be replaced: Dec. 16 -22
- PA-System – outside has been fixed!
One Classroom speaker is not working and is being worked on.
Linda is upset that the PA system is still not working and would like to see it resolved.
Jim is working on and pushing for it. The hope is to update/replace/correct wiring when siding is being done. Will put another work order in tomorrow.
Doris would like to create an urgency for the repair of the PA System and would like to see a timeline be provided. Linda echoed this. This is a health and safety concern.
Marilyn advised that she has only been aware of this issue since May. Suggested the school put in a work order for a new system/repair of system.
- Lockdown drill to be done this week and school will advise school council if it worked
- Staffing: A request for 2 staff was put in. Received 1.0 LAT and requesting another to assist with a student with Autism.
- Family Night: Thursday: 5:30PM to meet at theater to watch “Elf”
Anyone interested to come and hand out tickets.
- Doris advised she has a gift card from Lumel Studio and would like to donate it to the school. As well, can volunteer herself to help with beading if needed. Will contact Jim with more info and to set things up.
- Mice: Met with Chris Kenny – Health inspector: There has been a definite decline in the activity of the mice at the school.
- Orkin has been in weekly. Mike Hawkins, custodian, comes in every morning early and sends reports if he sees anything. I.e.: droppings, etc. It is hopeful over the Xmas break the issue to be resolved. Staff have been advised to make sure there is no food left anywhere at the school over the break.
- Parking lot lighting has been fixed, lighting outside of school needs to be fixed there is temporary lighting out back until renovations are completed

- Sensory Circuit- has been set up in third area. Needs to be installed outside MPR

7. E.S.C:

Christine provided a report:

- Tutoring has mainly focused on K-3 over lunch hour. Gr. 4 – 7 accessing by request. KDFN has posted a new position for a Learning Support Coordinator
- Christine picked up 11 Kick Sleds from RPAY on Nov. 26th. 3 more kick sleds came Dec. 5th and are being kept until Jan. 13th. Unfortunately the weather has been slow to cooperate
- Bryan is working with Mrs. MacArthur to utilize the Koyote Ski Club. First outing was Dec. 1 with a fire and introduction to appropriate use of the facility.
- Christine is continuing to work in partnership with Duska and is providing a Literacy night for KDFN parents on Dec 8
- Bryan and Christine attend the Ready to Learn info session put on by the Dept. of Ed. at the Beringia Centre on Nov. 15th. Great presentation on the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics that is being utilized to inform the Ready to learn schools in the Yukon. Bryan was invited to participate with Takhini School teachers as they utilized the mappings tools provided and discussed in the workshop
- As per request from School Council, Christine follows up with KDFN to request that they match the donation from Ta'an Kwäch'än Council re: Flag poles.
- Attendance is the biggest challenge. There seems to be widespread sickness throughout all schools at this time.

8. Reports:

8.1 Transportation Committee: Mtg. to be held in January

8.2 School Growth Plan: No update

8.3 Health and safety:

Orkin: Has provided a report. There is still some evidence that mice are still in the kitchen area. School is to ensure that NOTHING is left that is edible in the building over the Christmas break.

9. AYSCBC: Meeting called for Chairs/representatives for January 5th, 6:30 – 8:30PM. To discuss some topics brought up at the conference. Such as Capital Planning and the recent announcement regarding timelines for Yukon Schools considering joining the First Nation School board.

Location of meeting to be announced.

10. Treasurer's Report:

Balance in account \$7,163.55.

11. Old Business and Correspondence:

11.1 Flag Poles: Update:

ACTION: Letter to be written to KDFN with info from Ta'an re: donation and providing funding towards installment of flag poles at the school.
Doris would be happy to support this with KDFN.

11.2 School Admin. update:

Lighting: parking lot: completed
Flooding in back: in 2018 piping was causing this. Insulation wasn't adequate and caused a caved depression, resulting in flooding.
Solution: cleaned up, pipes insulated, lines have been replaced in summer in 2022, depression has been filled. Results will not be known until 2023.

12. New Business and Correspondence:

12.1 Communication: From School Council to parents.

Andrew prepared a couple of templates for review to Megan. To be advised.

12.2 School Maintenance updates:

Plug in spots for staff members: can more be added while reno's are being done at the school?
To be looked at and advised.

ACTION: Andrew to email Marilyn and inquire.

12.3 School Council Insurance:

ACTION: Andrew to email Marilyn and inquire into insurance coverage for school council members.

And inquire into timeline for PA system to be corrected as well.

13. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:06PM

Next regular meeting, January 3, 2023.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Andrew MacLeod:
A/Chair

Jerry Zahora:
Secretary Treasurer