

ELIJAH SMITH SCHOOL COUNCIL
Minutes of Regular Meeting
March 5, 2024
School Library

“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 thank them for allowing us to live and work on their traditional land.”

- Present:**
- | | |
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| Council Members:
Andrew Macleod: Chair
Lauren White
Jessie Dawson
Doris Anderson
Haily Bill
Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer | Administration:
Jim Snider: A/Principal
Tyler Bradford: A/Vice Principal |
|--|---|
- Guests:** Krista Strand: KDFN
Karin Unreau: Staff
- Absent:** Linda Moen: Council Member

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:33PM

2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Moved by Jessie, second by Lauren THAT the agenda be adopted with the following additions:
 - #5.1 Family Night
 - #11.1 School Calendar, 2024-25
 - #11.2 Policies
 - #11.3 Flag
 - #11.4 Wing Name
 - #11.5 Lottery License CARRIED

3. **Adoption of Minutes:** Moved by Lauren, second by Doris, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting, November 7, 2023 be adopted. CARRIED

Moved by Lauren, second by Andrew, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting, December 5, 2023 be adopted. CARRIED

Moved by Lauren, second by Andrew, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting, January 18, 2024 be adopted. CARRIED

Moved by Lauren, second by Andrew, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting,

February 6, 2024 be adopted.

CARRIED

4. Parent Concerns:

5. School Administration Report:

- Enrolment: 289
- Numeracy PD Day: Feb 15, 16: 3 staff attend territory-wide Numeracy training
- Student Led Conferences: Feb 21PM and Feb 22 AM: Went well
- Feb 19: Teegatha Oh Zhee Art Collective w/Gr. 5/6 (Bielz): Great success
- Feb. 26: Ready to Learn Caregiver Info night
- Polar Games Dance: Feb 7: Whitehorse Wide Gr. 6 dance Success
- Polar Games: Feb 7, 8: 2 day event where students play and are introduced to a variety of sports. Skating, curling, tennis, swimming, wrestling and soccer.
- Feb. 13 – 16: every class gets 2 Science based workshops led by an instructor from UBC- O; School wide
- Feb 16: Gr. 7 Valentines Dance: Whitehorse wide Gr. 7 dance
- Feb. 16: Elder Tea: Elders invited into school for tea in Library. Served by students. Approx. 30 attend. Great success!
Looking at doing again, and will do as well at Copper Ridge Place in future
- Feb. 21: Lunar New Year Celebration: Release lanterns in AM, lunch feast which features Chinese traditional food
- Feb 24: Fundraiser for Gr. 7 trip: Rendezvous Rummage Sale
- Feb. 28: Pink shirt and Anti bullying activities – school wide
- Ongoing facility issues:
 - PA System
 - Construction ongoing: roof issue fixed
Leak in Library ceiling, Atrium area (same as last year)
 - Lighting outside needs to be fixed
 - Cameras recommended for outside by RCMP
- Blinds for lock down have been installed
- Staffing allocation:
 - K – 3 predicting loss of 20 students or
 - K – 4 if live in Whistle Bend, will have to attend school there
 - This year: 27.6 FTE's
 - Next year: 27. FTE's (2 positions from CASA agreement)
 - EA allocation: not received yet.
 - EA: K – 4 every classroom will get an EA.
- Parent/Teachers interviews: Hold on one day into evening, suggested all schools in city to do.
- Spring Culture Week held at the school
Students go to Takhini River Road camp
- Applied to Fish Game for \$'s: \$5,000. Received this year and purchased tent
- Naming Ceremony for Tent to be held in April

- Application to Fish Game proposal to be done. This will be for another tent to have an outdoor classroom
- Gr. 7 trip to Calgary, June 3 – 7
- Every Student Every Day application discussions on what to apply for:
 - SWAG: provide shirts or caps to students as a sense of pride
 - Bring an Elder to do songs, etc. at the school

5.1 Family Nights: coming up:

- MOU signed for Family Night (Approx. \$23,000.)
- Looking at Eagle Explosion celebration at end of year
- Bouncie castle

Some activities done at Family Nights:

- Bowling,
- Movies
- Games

6. E.S.C:

Krista Strand provided a report:

- Cody, Kelly and Christine are working on a time to bring students from ES to PC for a site visit
- short on staff at this time
- KDFN Charlene Brown reached out to have students go to KDFN
- Learning together program at ES - would like to see more come (Krista will look into)

7. Reports:

7.1 Transportation Committee: Meeting was held in February. Waiting for minutes to be received

7.2 School Growth Plan:
 Working on bullying at the school. As well emotional growth for staff and students. Ready to learn.
 Provide more support to teachers, more training and differentiate in classrooms
 A survey was provided to teachers and parents:
 “School Growth Plan – Teacher Scanning & Focusing Questions, and
 “School Growth Plan – Parent Scanning & Focusing Questions”
 Link to complete survey is provided in the newsletter.

7.3 Health and Safety:
 Lock down blinds were installed.
 Lighting in front needs improving

ACTION: Andrew to contact Raymond with reference to lighting in the front

ACTION: Andrew to contact Taylor Eshpeter at the City, to discuss the crosswalk lights, which need to be brighter.

- 8. AYSCBC:** Association met with Minister of Education on March 4 to discuss Communication, capacity issues, staffing. Once minutes are available Jerry will share.

Andrew received minutes and questions from the Council Chairs' meeting which were shared with council members for review and response.

ACTION: Council members to advise Andrew their info/answers by March 14, so he can respond to AYSCBC.

- 9. Treasurer's Report:** Balance in account: \$6,742.66

10. Old Business and Correspondence:

- 10.1 Hiring Process: Update:

ACTION: Andrew to contact Trevor re: status of hiring

11. New Business and Correspondence:

- 11.1 School Calendar, 2024-25:
Discussions on adding 2 minutes a day so staff can get extra day off (Mental Health)
Discussions were held.

MOTION: Moved by Doris, second by Lauren, THAT the ESES Council makes a Motion in support of adding extra 2 minutes per day to support giving staff an extra day off. CARRIED

- 11.2 Policies: to be discussed at next meeting;
(Cold weather cut off)

- 11.3 Flag Poles:
KDFN has contacted YG to see if they will install. No response at this time.
Looking at perhaps getting temporary poles to be attached to side of building .

- 11.4 Wing Name: Discussions on renaming wings are being held.
Perhaps name one "Thunder Bird". Council supports.
Once more names are suggested council will be advised (there are 3 wings left to be named)

Discussions on clothes for ESES to represent both FN Clans: Wolf/Eagle so they are equally represented.

