

**ELIJAH SMITH SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Regular Council Meeting**  
**March 7, 2023**  
**School Library/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.”*

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Council Members:</b> Megan Cromarty: Chair Andrew Macleod Lauren White Haily Bill: Zoom Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer	<b>Administration:</b> Chris Shipley: Principal Jim Snider: Vice Principal
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**Regrets:** Doris Anderson: Council Member  
Linda Moen: Council Member

**Guests:** Taylor Eshpeter: Manager, Engineering Services, City of Whitehorse  
Marilyn Marquis-Forster: Superintendent of Schools  
Christine Pottie: ESC, KDFN

- 1. Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:35PM
- 2. Adoption of Agenda:** Moved by Lauren, seconded by Andrew, THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED
- 3. Adoption of Minutes:** Moved by Andrew, seconded by Lauren, THAT the Minutes of February 7, 2023, be adopted. CARRIED

**Welcome Guests:** Council welcomed Taylor to the meeting. Taylor introduced himself. Attending meeting due to the safety concerns around the traffic circle.

In 2018 city partnered with the Dept. of Ed. and looked at school zones. This was an informal program.

Taylor will share the 2018 School plan with council.

There have been some improvements done since then, such as:

Zebra markings (black and white stripes at the crosswalk)

However these are not visible during the winter months.

Speeding has seen near misses in the past. There was an internal audit done of the treatment in the area. It is a roundabout and there are pedestrian safety flashing lights there. However, the lights are not up to the standard and are now going to be LED enhanced. These will be very bright (similar to the ones installed by FH Collins, 4<sup>th</sup> avenue and Walmart) They will install these once they are received. They are on order and should be here within 5 weeks, (3 ½ weeks as of now). Arcrite to install these once they are received.

They will keep the overhead beacons in place, and put in the side ones in.

Council advised Taylor that we did the “Black Cat” program which did provide data on the speed at the circle. Megan will share data with Taylor.

There were roundtable discussions with some suggestions, such as:

Put in “Rumble Strips”, or  
perhaps put in a cart which shows the speed

Taylor will check into obtaining the speed cart

Council also asked about the McIntyre Traffic study which is progress at this time and can it include the traffic circle. Taylor will check into.

As well, education about safety. The City will do what they can. School has been educating students and parents alike about the safety at the crosswalk in the traffic circle.

Other suggestions were, perhaps have a Crossing guard there again. This was done in the past. This position was filled with a KDFN Elder, however at this time there is no one available.

Council thanked Taylor for attending and providing information.

#### **4. Parent Concerns:**

Appropriate footwear during Phys. Ed. classes was discussed. Administration to advise students of this. There was an incident where student was not wearing appropriate footwear and broke her foot.

#### **5. School Administration Report:**

- Enrolment: 283
- There are still lots of sicknesses among students and staff
- VITRA (Violent Threat Assessment) was discussed due to a student threatening another student. KDFN Support Services, Superintendent and parent were contacted and are working on getting student back safely to the school. There are interventions in place.

Bullying is an ongoing issue

There is training for staff to be provided by Tamara Neufeld Strijack and Hannah Beach, on May 1, 2, 3.

There will also be a session held with Hannah on understanding bullying.

Ready to Learn is being used at the school now as well. "What Happened to You?", which is understanding behaviour, i.e.: trauma, etc.

Code of Conduct meeting at the school was held as well, where discussions were on minor to severe incidents. Tracking issues and where, in classrooms, playground. As well, once it has been dealt with, and parent has been contacted should be checked off the report. Staff were invited to contribute input on Incident Referral form

Chris discussed what is being worked on at the school as well:

If a student leaves classroom, teachers are to advise administration, and if the student is gone for a longer period, then admin is to look for students

- Sink to be installed in classroom during spring break!!!
- School Growth Plan: Hannah Beach and Tamara Neufeld Strijack are in discussions on how to help staff here at the school. "Ready To Learn" was discussed. Jan Terrence and Andrew McKenzie authors.
- Books on trauma available: "What Happened to You"  
Looking at ways that make people react to certain things and what can set them off, such as perhaps the smell of cologne, etc.
- Leadership in Learning was held in February
- Various field trips and activities held throughout the month, K – 4/5 visit the Yukon Arts Centre
- Feb 14: Opening Fire Ceremony and speeches held to celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Elijah Smith travelling to Ottawa. Sean Smith did song, speech, drumming. Held for all
- Feb 28: All grades: Celebrating Generosity
- March 2: Spelling Bee: Robin Murphy Gr. 7 student, did great
- Feb: 17: Valentines dance held
- Mice: has been quiet, however, some doors were left opened by construction crew. Have been advised to make sure doors are closed at all times.
- PA System: Still on-going issues: Trevor Justason emailed Feb. 27 advising he reached out to Spectrum, however no update has been provided yet.  
Some days it is in, other days not; or "cracking", or really loud.  
Backup system is not working: Phone system has a PA function, however, that was not working either.

ACTION: Andrew to write letter on behalf of School Council to follow to Trevor Justason for an update.

ACTION: Administration to put in Work Order in

- Kindergarten numbers are up
- Staffing projection is based on 305 enrolment

## **6. E.S.C.:**

- KDFN hosted a Graduation information session Feb 2. Parents and students were invited to Potlach house for Pizza dinner. Educ. Support Coordinators were in attendance, along with Post-Secondary Coordinator and Manager of Education
- Graduation booklets were shared, and each family had time to ask questions about high school and beyond. Mr. Shipley attends event
- Crosswalk safety: KDFN created a post on Facebook, "Push, Stop, Look". Requests were made by KDFN and Property Management to clear sidewalks to and from the crosswalk
- Bryan Laloge continues to provide classroom support for Skiing at Mt. Sima and Koyote Ski Club for a variety of classrooms at ES and Takhini school.
- Christine is working to ensure all KDFN Kindergarten families are registered and assisting parents with online registration, and providing school tours when needed
- Providing classroom support at Dusk'a on Friday's
- Learning Support Coordinator has been hired. Bryan Laloge will step into this role and gradually over the next month or so, and a competition for Education Support Coordinator (ESC) will be posted
- Support students with transportation to school
- Continue to work on reengaging students with school and keeping students engaged
- Illness has affected ESC participation as both Christine and Bryan were out for several days this month
- Most families that are signed up with KDFN have been contacted and a parent/teachers interview time has been set up

Haily advised that during immunization for pre – k students, Healthy Babies will hold a little fair, bbq. celebration. Aiming to do this for May 17 at KDFN

## **7. Reports:**

- 7.1 Transportation Committee: Meeting to be held in April
- 7.2 School Growth Plan: Discussed under School Administration Report  
Next staff meeting to discuss using Fountas and Pinnell as an assessment tool.  
Collect data on reading, literacy and numeracy. Positive behaviour!
- 7.3 Health and safety: Discussed under School Administration Report

## **8. AYSCBC:** E-newsletter has been provided to all members.

Association is looking at May 13 to hold their AGM. More info will be provided when available

## **9. Treasurer's Report:** Balance in account is \$6,487.66

**10. Old business and Correspondence:**

10.1 Roles, Rules and Responsibilities: Accepted by council

**11. New Business and Correspondence:**

ACTION: Megan to work on “Every Student Every Day” grant application.

ACTION: Reminder: Evaluation for Jim to be completed and forwarded to Marilyn  
All to do individually.

**12. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:25PM

Next regular meeting: April 4, 2023

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Megan Cromarty:  
Chair

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Jerry Zahora:  
Secretary Treasurer