

**ELIJAH SMITH SCHOOL COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of Regular Meeting**  
**November 1, 2022**  
**MPR**

*“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 (Zoom) Lauren White Haily Bill (Zoom) Doris Anderson Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer	<b>Administration:</b> Jim Snider: A/Principal
<b>Regrets:</b>	Linda Moen: Council Member Rachel Sutherland: Council Member	
<b>Guests:</b>	Marilyn Marquis-Forster: Superintendent of Schools Chris Kenney: Environment, YG Craig: Environment, YG Christine Pottie: ESC, KDFN Brian, ESC, KDFN Robyn Lopushinski: Parent (Zoom) Kendra: Parent (Zoom) Donna Burns: Grandparent (Zoom) Lesley Hogan: Gr. 2 teacher (Zoom) Stephanie Young: K Teacher (Zoom)	Shelley Cyre: Parent (Zoom) Ashley Burns: Parent (Zoom) Sara: Parent (Zoom) Kari Unrau: Gr. 2/3 Teacher (Zoom) Kelsey: Teacher (Zoom)

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:35PM
  
2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Moved by Lauren, seconded by Doris, THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED
  
3. **Adoption of Minutes:** Moved by Andrew, seconded by Doris, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting October 4, 2022 be adopted. CARRIED
  
4. **Parent Concerns:**
  - 4.1 Rodent issue:  
This issue has been brought up from parents and staff.

Craig and Chris from Environmental Health provided an update on the situation. There have been 3 separate visits to assess.

1<sup>st</sup> visit looked at where the holes, droppings were and at evidence of mouse infestation.

2<sup>nd</sup> visit which happened the following week to see if several recommendations which were put in place were working. There was a reduction noticed.

3<sup>rd</sup> visit, on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>, was to assess and identify any remaining problem areas.

There was one mouse specimen sent to the vet for an “autopsy”, to identify the species and if there was the threat of hanta virus.

Species are the house mouse species. The Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) advised that there is a very low risk of the hanta virus.

Marilyn advised that the dept. was notified of this problem 2 weeks ago, mid Oct.

It was to identify as to why there is this issue at the school and to have a rodent prevention at the school put in place.

A number of things were identified, such as, there being:

- A food program at the school
- Recycling – composting
- Construction at the school

In place now is a 3 month contract with the Pest Control company.

Environmental services have come and helped to clean and sanitize the school.

The area under the stage has been cleaned, sanitized and steam cleaned. To this date, 6 classrooms have been done, over the weekend.

The bait used on the rodent is not dangerous to the health of students.

The path will continue at this time to eradicate the rodents at the school

Donna Burns: Does not feel this was done promptly enough, this is shared by other parents in attendance as well.

Megan advised that most schools have mice issues.

The school has sent multiple requests to HPW with the issue.

Oct. 17 - Environment was notified, who came to the school on Oct 18.

There were work orders sent to HPW mid Sept.

The Pest Company, Orkin, visited the school on Sept.28, Oct 13, and Oct 26.

Bait stations were set up, however, all these measures will take a bit of time to work.

Council feels that what needs to be done at the school is being done to resolve this problem.

Marilyn suggested that work orders be cc's to Chris Hanlin and to the Superintendent so that they are aware of any issues and speed up the process.

There were roundtable discussions with reference to communication, i.e.: what is being done, and is it enough, and why weren't parents notified sooner of this problem.

Measures are being taken to make the school safe!!!

Council thanked all visiting guests for their input and attending.

There was a concern brought up from admin. with reference to flooding in the back of the school. There is a large amount of water. This is to be brought up to facilities attention. Water is frozen at this time.

**ACTION:** School Council to write a letter to Superintendent so that it can be brought to Chris Hanlin's attention.

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

- Enrolment: 278 at this time, 10 more coming
- From the Ground Up fundraising, p/u Oct 20
- Book Fair held Oct 19 – 21
- Picture Day: October 6- 7
- Various activities and field trips:  
Oct 19 – Salmon in School for gr. 2/3 Ku, 3SS  
Forest school
- Phil Bastian Digital Media discussions re: Digital Media in the School
- Mtg. with Environmental Health Inspector: Oct 18, 24, 28, 31
- Meeting re: Bilateral Agreement, KDFN MOU Oct. 27
- Discussed having a Wheel Chair at the school; request to be put in
- Mice: ORKIN in on Oct. 13, 26. Spray foam used to close up any holes found
- PA System: Gr. 3 has no PA
- Parking lighting: not fixed and is becoming dangerous. Request put in to correct
- Lighting outside of schools needs to be fixed. (temporary lighting out back until renovations are complete)
- FOB system is being installed on staff door, not yet completed
- Staffing changes:  
Rosie Innuaq, EA  
Stephen Toews, EA  
Yukon U Elder until mid December

- Xmas Fair: Dec. 3, tables for rent, at \$20.00 each
- Communication from HPW:

**ACTION:** Marilyn to discuss with Chris Hanlin so that there is a follow up and requests are acknowledged. And provide a report on the process and where it is at for next Council meeting.

**ACTION:** Jim to provide updates at council meeting

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

Christine provided a report and introduced Brian.  
 Brian is working with P. Dawson with P. Dawson at Takhini Elementary and the FNSB.  
 Is supporting teachers. Providing more culture, language.  
 RPAY which has been used to obtain kicksleds/skis. These are used to connect with the students. Mrs. McArthur has taken over this initiative.  
 Christine is working on attendance issues; bus issues; and working on barriers to make sure kids come to school.

**7. Reports:**

**7.1 Transportation Committee:**

There was a meeting held last week. Discussions were on:  
 GPS's on buses, MLA's have heard this from their constituents  
 Buses are being passed when red lights are flashing!  
 Bus awareness month was discussed, communication, etc. Longer arms on the buses are to be mandatory on all new buses.  
 Communication to parents if the bus is late is a concern.  
 Issue with Bus #3: Last week bus did not come to the school and parents nor school were notified of this.

**ACTION:** Marilyn to check into APP issues and advise

**7.2 School Growth Plan:**

Focus to be on Writing instruction and attendance. As well, continue the sense of belonging.

**7.3 Health and safety:**

Crosswalk safety; lighting, no sink in Gr. 1 classroom.

Their next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 10.  
 To reach out to Liaison from the RCMP.

City to work on the flashing light at the crosswalk. Doris to check into.  
 Parking Lot lights: Marilyn to check into.

**8. AYSCBC:**

Fall Gathering to take place at Yukon Inn, Nov. 3, 4, and 5<sup>th</sup>.

There will be a public presentation on Nov. 3, 6:30PM to 8:00PM at the Beringia Interpretive Centre with a guest speaker: Dr. Debbie Pushor who is working to create a place and voice for parents in their children's schooling.

Next day(s): there will be remarks by the Honourable Minister Jeanie McLean, Minister of Education, discussions on Victoria Gold Every Student Every Day Initiative, School Councils and Parent engagement  
Special And Inclusive Education Panel presentation,  
School Council roundtable discussions.

Breakout sessions to include:

- Conflict Resolution and Communication,
- Ed. Act 101
- School Growth Planning
- School Councils and Policy Making

**9. Treasurer's Report:**

Balance in account, \$7,457.62.

Fire smart funding received: \$7,500.00.

**10. Old business and correspondence:**

10.1 Flag poles: A letter has been received from Ta'an Kwä'an Council with an approval from them for \$2,000.00 to install flag pole.

ACTION: Haily to check with Education Co-ordinator and follow up on request from KDFN for flag poles.

ACTION: Marilyn to inquire into the total cost for installation of flag poles/posts.

ACTION: Christine will check with Manager of school age children at KDFN as well.

10.2 Update: Security Cameras and Lighting:

Andrew provided info:

Cameras required will need to be for day and night. To provide face recognition at all doorways; if system goes down, to be up and running within 48 hours. A notification to be sent if it is down.

Marilyn advised that this is to go out to tender to the public. Facilities does support this project and would like to move on this quickly. (it is a \$50,000.00 - \$60,000.00 project)

To be put out to tender in March (Close in the new year – April)

Marilyn to discuss with Chris Hanlin as to what can be done as an interim measure.

10.3 PA System update:

The part for the amplifier is on back order. Should be in Whitehorse the week of Nov. 4.

Will look at coverage and where it is working and where it does not.

ACTION: Jim to let Marilyn know where the rooms which do not work are.

**11. New Business and Correspondence:**

11.1 Communications: Deferred to next regular meeting

11.2 School Needs Assessment: School Council Insurance: Deferred to next meeting

**12. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 8:45PM

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Megan Cromarty:  
Chair

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Jerry Zahora:  
Secretary Treasurer