

ELIJAH SMITH SCHOOL COUNCIL
Minutes of Regular Meeting
November 3, 2020
School Library

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

Present:	Council Members: Jeff Hunston: Chair Rosemary Waugh-Wilson Megan Cromerty Jessie Dawson Sean Smith Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer	Administration: Jeff Cressman: Principal Jim Snider: Vice Principal
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Regrets: Rachel Sutherland: Council Member
Amanda Leas: Council Member

Guests: Geraldine VanBibber: MLA, Porter Creek North
Currie Dixon: Leader of the Yukon Party
Christine Potty: CELC, KD
Ryan Sikkes: A/Superintendent of Schools, Dept. of Ed.

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:36PM
2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Moved by Jessie, second by Rosemary, THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED
3. **Adoption of Minutes:** Moved by Sean, second by Rosemary, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting, October 6, 2020 be adopted. CARRIED

4. **Parent Concerns:**
There were some concerns from parents with reference to the amount of snow on the roads; parking lot; As well, the lack of information from the Dept. and confusing information. Frustration was shared with the wording from the Dept., and authorities. The message about schools being open came too late (@9:30). Parents wanted to know why the communication was too late, and there was no direction provided. They would like to see more direction and leadership if an event like the big snowfall happens again.

School checked with families if students were not at school to make sure all was good.

Communication needs to improve!!!!

There were discussions about another entrance into the school. This is an issue which has been discussed in the past. The congestion in the traffic circle if there was an emergency is not acceptable.

5. School Administration Report:

- Enrolment: 254, projected enrolment was at 237.
- various field trips happened, such as:
 - Forest school
 - Food Drive
 - Students participated in a Fish Camp: Next week they will be shown how to cut up fish (salmon)
 - Arts Centre
 - Biking/walking
 - Fire Smart
 - Haunted walk – was held on Oct. 30th
- Sept. 25 – Oct 7: Teachers contact families via Email/phone calls to inform parents on how students are doing
- Oct. 19 – Oct. 23: Book Fair
- Oct. 30: Haunted Forest: was done out back behind the school by the Gr. 7's
Enjoyed by all
- Fire Drill: to be done in November
- Roof tender is going out for completion date of Summer 2021: this includes windows and doors as well
- Lighting outside: has been rectified for the most part – lights to be put on back of school when it is resided
- 2 windows were broken over the weekend at the school
- 1 FTE has been approved for the school year, Gr 2. Teacher is now permanent for the year
- .8 FTE for the arts, visual position to be done tomorrow
- Gr.4 teacher is off until Jan.
- 2 FN Teachers: 1 – D. Bunbury is off until Jan.
- Whole Child Funding: Is a safe program starting at the school to help students, families. Provide breakfast, beading is done, was more involved prior to COVID
- Elders Room: Provides traditional foods
- Elders wall is being redone at the school
- School is trying to get pictures of the Chiefs of Kwanlin Dun to hang on the walls
- Looking at indigenous games
- Whole Child Initiatives: school is looking at ways to do things differently since Covid 19 has hit.
Looking at doing FN traditional dance and drum making
- Upgrade of Kitchen: It is felt this is a great need at the school so that there are

NO hungry students. Feed them so they can be successful!!! Students need to eat in order to learn!!

There were roundtable discussions on the setting up of the kitchen. Needs to be upgraded so it is a commercial kitchen. Costs are a factor. Discussions on getting someone to come and see what needs to be done and how much it will cost.

- Discussions about staffing at the school were held.
There are over 75 students who are on a plan at the school
Over 50 students are in care
The staffing formula does NOT work for Elijah Smith School!
It is felt this should be done as a Needs base formula
- Catchment areas discussions were held as well. Council would like to continue to engage with the Department to address these issues.
- Elijah Smith School will be participating in an online school perception survey for students called the OurSCHOOL Student Survey.
This will be done Nov. 2 – Nov. 6. at the school
Survey can be found on: www.thelearningbar.com; More info can be obtained from David McInnes, at: david.mcinnnes@gov.yk.ca;

6. CELC:

- Meeting on Wednesday with admin
- 2 classes will be making traditional mitts
1st Class: Gr. 4.
2nd Class: will start shortly
- Meeting with teachers, spending time in classrooms so students get use to Christine
- Russell Burns came and visited school on Oct. 22
- There was some fish cutting shown to students
- Providing support and picking up students for tutoring when possible
- Challenges: working on building relationships with the community, which is difficult at this time during COVID 19

7. Reports:

- 7.1 Transportation Committee: Megan will be the representative of school council on the transportation committee. Meeting to be held late November or early December.
- 7.2 School Diversity: No report
- 7.3 School Growth Plan: Meeting was held on Oct. 14, 2020. Whole Child was discussed.

8. AYSCBC:

- 8.1 Spending of \$2000. Funding received.
Discussed under #11.2

9. Treasurer's Report:

Balance in account \$1,494.84 (does not include \$2000. From AYSCBC)
Contribution Agreement has been signed and forwarded to the Dept. for processing.

10. Old Business and Correspondence:

11. New Business and Correspondence:

11.1 Appointment of Chair: Vice – Chair

E-MOTION: Moved by Amanda, Second by Rosemary, THAT the Elijah Smith School Council makes a MOTION to appoint SEAN SMITH to the position of Chair for the 2020-21 School Year. To be revisited and discussed in June, 2021 further. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

11.2 School SWAG:

Megan provided a list of 3 distributors with cost estimates who could provide products to the school such as T-shirts, sweatshirts for youth and adults. The school's name would be put on them as well. They would then be available at the school to be purchased. This would a fundraising initiative at the school. The initial funding from the AYSCBC would be used for this.

School council decided to use Yukon Built to provide us with products.

ACTION: Megan will contact and advise administration and school council of the outcome of discussions and the costs associated with it.

Design to follow. There were discussions on what should be put on the shirts, sweatshirts. It was decided that using the Schools Name and ``Eagles` would be put on. Megan to advise.

11.3 Speaking with media: There were discussions on who should speak with the Media if council members are contacted.

It was decided that: The chair and/or Vice Chair would be the ones. If it is not a school council issue, then they will be advised to contact the Dept. for info.

- 12. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:08PM
Next regular meeting: December 1, 2020, Via ZOOM

Jeff Hunston: (Outgoing chair)

Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer

Sean Smith: Chair