

ELIJAH SMITH SCHOOL COUNCIL
Minutes of Regular Meeting
November 7, 2023
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 thank them for allowing us to live and work on their traditional land.”

Present:

Council Members:	Administration:
Megan Cromarty: Chair	Jim Snider: A/Principal
Andrew Macleod	Tyler Bradford: A/Vice Principal
Lauren White	
Doris Anderson: Zoom	
Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer	

Absent: Haily Bill: Council Member
Linda Moen: Council Member

Guests: Gary Morgan: Principal, Takhini Elementary School

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:35PM

2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Moved by Andrew, seconded by Doris, THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED

3. **Adoption of Minutes:** Moved by Lauren, seconded by Andrew, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting, October 3, 2023 be adopted. CARRIED

3.1 Welcome Guests: Gary Morgan:
Gary introduced himself and provided information re: Ready to learn. He explained on what it can do and what it cannot do. The term, concept, and acknowledging, developing the child at the moment, a development response.
This is trauma informed perspective.
The neurosequential model, based on Bruce Perry’s model is used.
Neurosequential Model:
Training – brain mapping – subjective approach to see where child is working from in their brain.

Bruce Perry: is the brain researcher of the world.

The focus should not be on the child's behavior, but where they are developmentally. Behavior compliance, development response building, emotional capacity is also the focus.

Behavior consequences: punishment. This is teaching how to behave appropriately, however, the brain is not fully developed until they are adults.

Training the adult to see things differently is also used.

Hope is to have all schools using this model. Intensive training for staff and supports are in place.

Escalating Child:

First, the child should be regulated. Re-establish relationship, this will reach the front part of the brain.

Come along soft, to calm the child. How to show they are sorry?

Doing things rather than saying things, "sorry", which doesn't mean anything to them.

Behavior approach:

Ross Green, another author of this as well as Bruce Perry. Look at the need of behavior. Results: "Ready to Learn"

Child feels safe, accepted. Provide an environment for the child, consistency, for the child to be able to move to the next level

Questions:

1. Intense on staff: How do you manage if child escalates – this approach will shorten this. Builds capacity in the child, and relationship is very important.

2. How to deal with changes:

Hold them accountable, work through; why and how will it change.

Code of Conduct: the student sets their conduct.

Expectations: Respect: - acknowledge
- honour

There were roundtable discussions held on this important subject.

Books: Beyond Behavior – is based on this theory and what it means, it teaches.

Council thanked Gary for his presentation

4. Parent Concerns:

Parent reached out inquiring why there is no crossing guard at the crosswalk. This was done in the past and crossing guard was provided by KDFN. However, has not been done in recent years. The lights have been upgraded, but are not as bright as is felt they should be.

ACTION: Jerry to invite Taylor Eshpeter, from the City of Whitehorse to attend Dec. mtg.

Parking lot Safety: A letter is to be prepared to forward to all parents re: respectful behavior in the parking lot.

ACTION: Andrew to prepare letter and forward to Jerry to put on letter head.

5. Principal's Report:

- Enrolment: 288
 - Pam Booth: .25 reading recovery:
Will be 1.0 LAT – Literacy lead in the new year
 - LAT Position: unfiled
 - Jim Snider, Tyler Bradford have signed on to be A/Principal and A/Vice principal for the remainder of the year
 - Hosted Literacy Pod for 4 different schools
 - Hosted Math Pod for 4 different schools
 - Ready to learn: All staff, available to pre engagement schools
 - Hannah Beech activities
 - Interactive whiteboards in some classrooms.
 - there are 4 staff members working on their Masters
 - Various special events throughout the month
 - Cultural week – kicked off
 - Earthquake drill: October 19 – went well
 - Computer for PA System still an issue
 - Construction – ongoing: fixed the roof issue cause of leakage in ceiling
 - Lighting outside of school needs to be fixed. Temporary lighting out back until renovations are complete
 - Council to meet with staff to have discussions, anytime
 - Communicating student learning timelines – 2023-2024:
 - Oct 6: Informal pre conference check list
 - Oct 19/20: Teacher led Conference
 - Dec. 20: Written Progress report
 - Feb. 21/22: Student Led Conference
 - May: Celebration of Learning
 - June: Final Summative Report Card
- There is on-going between home and school. There are more formal ways that teachers share info with families. Phone calls, e-mails, and other face to face interactions are also being used to communicate

important information, observations or to address specific concerns.
Communication is a two – way endeavor.

6. **E.S.C.:** Deferred to next meeting

7. Reports:

7.1 Transportation Committee: No meeting held. There are issues with Bus 28 and where to stop. Lauren to check into.

7.2 School Growth Plan: Andrew to support.

MOTION: Moved by Lauren, seconded by Doris, THAT School Council supports Administration in pursuing developmentally responsible approach to growth. CARRIED

7.2 Health and Safety: Earthquake drill was held on Oct. 19. It went well.
Window coverings: Took measurements and to be done over xmas break.

Speed bumps access to access building.

8. **AYSCBC:** Conference was held and was a success. Minister of Education and Deputy Minister Cameron attended.
Chris Hanlin provided info on capital planning.
Trades in schools was discussed.
TOC's and the issues in having enough in schools was discussed.
Andrew chaired the conference.
Minutes from conference will be available on AYSCBC's website.

9. **Treasurer's Report:** Balance in account is \$9,108.66. Contribution agreement has been received.

10. Old Business and Correspondence:

11. New Business and Correspondence:

11.1 Hiring Process:

Acting Principal Mr. Snider and Acting Vice Principal Mr. Bradford agree to stay on until end of school year. Process to hire new principal is on-going.

11.2 Code of Conduct: Deferred to SGP.

Megan Cromarty resigns from School Council effective tonight's meeting.
Andrew Macleod will become the chair.

ACTION: Jerry to notify department of change.

12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 9:50PM
Next regular meeting: December 5, 2023

Megan Cromarty:
Chair (outgoing)

Jerry Zahora:
Secretary Treasurer