

ELIJAH SMITH SCHOOL COUNCIL
Minutes of Regular Meeting
October 6, 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.”

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

Regrets: Richard Bradford-Andrew: Outgoing Council member

Guests: Christine Potty: CELC

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:37PM

2. **Adoption of Agenda:** Moved by Amanda, second by Rachel, THAT the agenda be adopted. CARRIED

3. **Adoption of Minutes:** Moved by Rosemary, second by Sean, THAT the Minutes of Regular Meeting, September 15, 2020 be adopted. CARRIED

4. **Parent Concerns:**
A parent brought up a concern with reference to the Parent/Teacher interviews. Will this be done virtually or face to face? Council and administration held roundtable discussions on this. To be advised

Traffic Circle issues: Council and administration held discussions with the safety of the traffic circle and the speeding in it and on Hamilton Blvd.

ACTION: Jeff C. to contact City re: Speed advisory boards

5. **School Administration Report:**
 - Enrolment: 257
 - Gr. 2: Temp. Pos’n: Position is being worked to be permanent. If this does not

happen, then there will have to be an adjustment to most classrooms to make students become part of the other Gr. 2 class and there will be more split classes as a result of this. School is requesting this to be a permanent position. School has requested a permanent FTE to be added. Waiting for a response from the department

- PD Day: Oct 2
- There are a lot of outdoor classrooms being done, such as Forest School, Field trips to: Grey Mtn. Range, Paddy's Pond, Hillcrest Park, Poplar Flats Berry picking, etc.
- Oct 6/7: Field trip to Arts Center
Oct 6: Field trip for Gr. 4/5 to Helens Fish Camp
- Various meetings held during Sept: School Based Team, Health and Safety, PBIS, School Growth Plan, CELC Mtgs.,
- Reading specialist at school 3 days a week
- Fire drill held, Sept 15/20: Was done under 5 minutes!!!
- Locks have been changed on the portable doors
- Exterior painting, to be tendered in summer of 2021
- Roof tender to be going out for completion in summer 2021
- Lighting outside of school has been fixed
- Staffing:
J. MacArthur (Gr 4) on leave until Dec. 31, 2020,
A. Soudack to replace until Jan 5, 2021
M. Knispel on mat leave from Sept 25, 2020,
C. Lee to replace until return
- Fundraising: School council was encouraged to look at any ideas on fundraising for the school.

6. CELC:

As Christine has just assumed her position, has been meeting and learning.

Was an educator at the school in the past, teaching Learning Together program for a few years

7. Reports:

7.1 Transportation advisory: (Busing)

Committee held a meeting on Sept. 30. Items discussed were:

- Bus passes, working well for the most part. Colour loops indicate if the students is to be met at stop or not
Tags and distribution to be improved for next year, with key stakeholders being involved with the redesign
- Late registrations: Would like to see firm cut off dates for registration
- Communication: frustration with lack of timely responses
To be improved for next year
- In Jan. 2020 there were 1200 students registered for a school bus who were eligible for transportation,

With COVID restrictions, the total capacity across all school buses is approx. 1800, (44 students per bus, times 41 buses)

To date, 1750 seats have been assigned, with approximately 500 which are to students who are not eligible as per Ed. Act

Priority is given to students in K-3 who reside within the 3.2km

- Shortage of bus drivers: Standard has started this school year with 8 fewer drivers than is needed. Currently 4 of the 44 routes are without a regular driver. Standards administrative staff (i.e. dispatch and mechanics) are frequently driving buses
- the 3 additional buses that could be put in service, are not due to a lack of drivers to be able to increase the number of routes
- Attendance sheets on buses are working well for the regular drivers, however, not for the substitute drivers who are finding them difficult
- “My School Bus Monitor” app has been distributed through the schools and via bus drivers, and is working well in communicating about late or combined buses

Next meeting of the committee to be held in November. TBA

7.2 School Diversity: No report

7.3 School Growth Plan: Whole Child: Is on hold due to COVID at this time. School is reaching out to make sure students attend school.

8. AYSCBC:

8.1 Spending of funds received (\$2000.)

ACTION: Megan to look into the SCHWAG, and advise.

9. Treasurer’s Report:

Balance in account \$2,324.34 (does not include the funding from AYSCBC)

10. Old Business and Correspondence:

11. New Business and Correspondence:

11.1 Appointment of Chair, Co-Chair: Deferred until next meeting as new members are required to complete their Oaths

12. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:49PM

Next Regular Meeting, November 3, 2020. To be advised whether in person or via Zoom.

Jeff Hunston: Chair

Jerry Zahora: Secretary Treasurer