

J.V. Clark School Council

January 4, 2024 Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** 6:40pm
 - **Present:** Doug Cooper, Teresa Samson, Terra Blanchard, Ashley Churches, Ian Spencer, Sarah Paschuk, Chelsea Dolan
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Addition of School Building Maintenance
 - Agenda moved: Teresa Samson
 - Second: Terra Blanchard
 - a. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** November 2, 2023
 - Minutes moved: Terra Blanchard
 - Second: Ashley Churches
3. **Reports:**
 - a. **Principal:**
 - i. **Attendance, monthly average?**
 - Total of 51 students in the school
 - Attendance averages: September 74%, October 76%, November 75%, December 74%
 - Education department does not track overall attendance at schools; they only track students who are chronically late.
 - JVC has 10 students who are chronically late
 - Goal is to provide intrinsic motivation for students to attend school. Making school a place where students want to be; seeing its importance for future learning/career building. The school is doing this by providing opportunities for sports, Heritage and cultural learning, offering a variety of extracurricular activities (shop, tech, mechanics, welding etc.), and on the land/experiential learning opportunities.
 - In order to participate in the above mentioned activities students must participate in class on a regular basis.
 - ii. **Staff – job postings (Admin, Kindergarten)**
 - Kindergarten: Ms. Hardy started January 3, 2024, as the new Kindergarten teacher until the end of the year.
 - The kindergarten teacher position will be posted (as a permanent position) in February.
 - Admin position available as a temporary position.
 - Would like to hire an experiential teacher – someone who can run outdoor education, or some other skill based courses, e.g. welder, mechanic, trades based skills.
 - iii. **Heritage block updates:**
 - Currently Heritage block is on Wednesday's for 1 hour in the afternoon, and the whole school participates in a heritage/cultural activity. However, this model is not working well, as it a confined schedule and too many students at one time.
 - Staff have been working to re-vamp this time to ensure Heritage/cultural activities are still included in the school, but in smaller groups.

- The idea going forward, is that activities will be scheduled on a variety of days (not just Wednesday) and students will be broken into two groups (elementary and high school).
- Upcoming activities include: Donny Germaine – snowshoe art, and Normand – Dogsledding introduction.
- Focus on bringing more language into the school.

iv. Other

- Pro-D Day on January 19. This is a department lead day. Some teachers will participate via zoom, others will be going to Whitehorse for in person training.
- Logo update: working with Eileen Peter will be helping to design the new school logo, big moose. Once we have a logo the school can start to order swag!
- Idea to get a mascot costume. Estimated cost \$2000 - \$3000

b. School Council Financial report (standing item)

- No change in finances. Still working with bank to get new cheques ordered. Should be arriving soon.

4. **Correspondence:** N/A

5. **Community Concerns/Comments:** N/A

6. **Old Business:**

a. School Growth Plan (standing item): N/A

b. Drafted letter for 7th street extension-reserve 3lots/houses for teachers.

i. Letter sent Nov. 10, 2023 – Response outstanding

- School council sent a letter, to community development, supporting the expansion of 7th street. We requested that 3 of the lots be purchased by the department of education in partnership with Yukon Housing, and developed into housing for teachers.
- The response so far is (Nov. 30, 2023): Community Development is talking with Yukon Housing, and the Dept. of Education to address the concerns raised and they will get back to us with more information.
- School Council intends to follow up on this letter if a response is not received by mid-January.

c. Every Child Every Day Funding

- School obtained funding to improve shop equipment and safety.
- May have left over money to purchase mascot, or other sport swag/jersey's
- Will be submitting a new application for 2024-2025 funding

d. Head lice policy for the school – motion to sign

- **Motion to sign new Head Lice Policy, to be effective January 4, 2024.**
 - Moved: Terra Blanchard
 - Second: Ian Spencer
 - Signed: Sarah Paschuk (chair), and Doug Cooper (Principal)
- School to distribute new policy to parents via notice sent home. As well it will be posted to the school website.

7. New Business:

- a. **legislature Topics:** busing (Safety & Scheduling), Creation of Yukon wide Parent Advisory Committee by YG Dept. of Education (when is it happening & how), Teacher staffing (TOC) – Do we have concerns or wish to raise anything else? Housing?
 - School Council will raise the housing issue in Mayo. Currently when the school fills a position at the school, potential hires decline positions due to a lack of housing. This issue has been raised with the department for years, and no actions have been taken to secure housing for teaching staff.
 - School Council also has concerns with the Bussing services in Mayo. There have been complaints from students regarding the schedule (inconsistent times at stops), and the driver missing stops. As well the Bus itself has not been working, unable to run, for a while. This needs to be addressed soon. Standard bus needs to provide proper, timely maintenance or replace the bus. Mayo is willing to have a smaller bus be provided as the number of students who ride the bus do not require a large school bus.
 - **ACTION:** School Principal to speak with Standard Bus regarding bus maintenance/replacement and staffing.
 - b. **School Council AYSCBC meeting Jan. 16, online 6:30-8:30. Topics:** Strategic Plan, engagement with school councils, and School Council General Election.
 - Sarah Paschuk will attend this meeting
 - c. **Motion: To reimburse Ian Spencer for the cost of golden shoe trophy, \$135.45.**
 - Moved: Teresa Samson
 - Second: Terra Blanchard
 - d. **Motion: To reimburse Sarah Paschuk for the cost of groceries for the pancake breakfast held on Dec. 15, 2023, \$201.88.**
 - Moved: Teresa Samson
 - Second: Ashley Churches
 - e. **School Building Maintenance:**
 - School has been having heating issues for a long while, what is the status of getting it fixed?
 - It is thought the issues is with the baffles, building maintenance department is aware of the problem and working on it.
 - School Council would like the issue to become more of a priority, staff and students should be in a functioning building, the issue has been around for a few years.
 - Dryer not working. Only two years old, probably just needs general maintenance (vents cleaned?). Can this be looked at? Yes
 - Old computer room is being turned into a culture activity space.
8. **Next Meeting:** Meetings have been put back to the first Tuesday of every month.
 - Next meeting is **February 6, 2024 at 6:30pm.**

Sarah Paschuk
Feb. 6, 2024

