

**J.V. Clark School Council**

February 7th, 2023

**Minutes**

**Attendance:** Council - Sarah Paschuk, Terra Blanchard, Ashley Churches, Ian Spencer, Teresa Samson, Mahshid Hassani (Principal)

Public - Chelsea Dolan, and Sandy Washburn

1. **Call to Order:** 6:30pm
2. **Approval of Agenda:** additions – Vandalism while YFNED visiting, and high school students be allowed to leave at lunch
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** Jan. 5, 2023
  - a. Moved by Ian Spencer
  - b. Second by Terra Blanchard
  - c. Approved and signed by Sarah Paschuk
4. **Reports:**
  - a. **Principal:**
    - i. **Attendance:**
      1. Stable and good in elementary end. High school end remains inconsistent. Student Advocate continues to reach out to students who are chronically late, building relationships and finding the root of the problems. Working with students to develop new paths forward, making it easier to come to school. Need parents to engage in school, show value in education.
    - ii. **Upcoming events:**
      1. Carlton – week of March 6<sup>th</sup> to continue shopify learning, sewing program at the Make Space (Yukon University), making kick-sleds, and participating in outdoor classroom design.
      2. Skiing Field trip planned for high school end. Due to recent vandalism at the school students will need to show improved behavior before being allowed to go. Students and staff have collectively discussed behavior expectations.
    - iii. **Staff/hiring/Job postings:**
      1. Hannah has been hired as the new ATSD/Art/Literacy support/Social Studies teacher
      2. Due to student enrollment projections for next year, JV Clark will be losing a 0.5 teaching position. The effects of this will be felt throughout the school due to a lack of Teachers On Call (TOC) dedicated for Mayo. Locally our list is very small, and the dept. Ed. Does not have a TOC list for Mayo/communities. This means we are short staff if someone is sick or away for various reasons.
        - a. If you are interested in being a TOC please come to the school to apply. Looking for both Teachers and administration support.

3. Principal is compiling job postings needed for next year so they are ready to be posted when possible.
  - a. Principal position is currently posted and closes on Feb. 20, 2023. Hopeful that a successful candidate could start at the end of this year, to provide overlap with current Acting Principal, and orientation to the school and community.

**iv. Vandalism:**

1. Recently there have been two incidents at the high school end where students have vandalized school property. One occurrence happened while YFNED visiting staff were supervising students in an event after school. The other occurrence, the timing is unknown.
  - a. The school is concerned as these events may lead to less opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular opportunities if their conduct continues to be poor.
  - b. School Council, School Administration, and FNNND Education Manager would like to host a meeting with students and parents to discuss events and value of education. This meeting would allow for communication and joint policy development regarding behavior expectations and possibly the ability to leave at lunch.

**v. Leaving the School at Lunch:**

1. Students who leave at lunch have been returning late, not at all, or under the influence. This is a safety risk for students and staff, and poses some liability concerns for the school. This behavior is unacceptable. Council and school administration are considering implementing a Sign Out Policy at lunch, or not allowing students to leave at lunch. Council and school administration would like to discuss this with parents and students before implementation.

**vi. BYTE:**

1. Coming Apr. 3-4 to run healthy minds/relationships program, and safer parting program. High school students
2. Blood Ties March 6-7 to teach a harm reduction program to high school students.

**vii. Other:**

1. Trevor Radcliffe was contacted several times by the student advocate regarding R.E.M and if this program was going to come back after COVID. No response has been received. The Rural Residential Consultant position (dept. education) remains empty.
2. Polar Games: has already happened this year. May look into participating next year. For gr. 5/6
3. Small bus is in for maintenance.
4. Deanna White (Health and Safety) came to school to look at kitchen ventilation. Everything works and is good to carry out all kitchen activities, providing it gets cleaned.

- a. School looking into who can clean it. Maybe a company out of Keno.
  - 5. **Yukon University:** helped to fix some machines in the shop
    - a. Some need to be replaced. Dept. of Ed. Will not replace shop equipment. School looking into fundraising to purchase their own equipment. Shop teacher is working with Peter Menzies at Robert Service School in Dawson, to see how they operate their shop.
    - b. Funding maybe available through every child everyday program.
  - 6. **Bike Track:** Ian Spencer is working with design/building crew. Looking for support from council to approach the dept. of Ed. Regarding permission to use school property to build the track.
    - a. Moved by Teresa Samson
    - b. Second by Sarah Paschuk
    - c. Council agrees that Ian Spencer can approach dept. of Ed. About use of school property for building a bike track.
5. **Correspondence:**
6. **Community Concerns/Comments:**
- a. After school Supervision: At times when after school programs have been cancelled, students (especially the elementary end) do not know where they are supposed to go and wonder town. There is a staff member outside with kids after school, but a reminder will go out to ensure kids are leaving with an adult, on the bus, or have permission to leave school property before letting them leave the school. This is for student safety so kids are not lost, or left in the cold.
  - b. 3d Printers are broken will they be fixed? Unfortunately the dept. of Ed. Will not fix or replace this equipment.
  - c. There are lots of opportunities and extra-curricular activities, presented by outside organizations, at the school throughout the year. This is great for students and staff, but can take away from needed classroom time to work on core curriculum goals. Is there a way to better schedule these activities to give teachers more notice and time to plan their lesson plans around activities?
    - i. To date teachers have been happy to accommodate, or have had enough notice that this has not been an issue raised. If it is an issue, staff need to raise the issue it can be better addressed.
    - ii. We don't want to limit student's access to these programs and activities as they present unique hands on learning experiences. Staff do fold these opportunities into the classroom, in order to meet the curricular needs.
7. **Old Business:**
- a. School Growth Plan (standing agenda item): No discussion
8. **New Business:**
- a. **Use of the Lunch room:**
    - i. The lunchroom is available for the high school students at this time. However, they often choose not to use it. During COVID the elementary students were moved out of the lunchroom and have been eating lunch in their classrooms.

- ii. The lunchroom provides a socialization time for students outside of their classrooms. Some students have been missing it.
- iii. There are challenges to providing supervision in individual classrooms as well as in the lunchroom.
- iv. Council would like to see a slow transition back to the lunchroom for the elementary kids. Again behavior expectations will be laid out ahead of time. Start with once a week slowly transitioning to 5 days a week.

**b. Creation of Middle School:**

- i. Council asked if a middle school could be created for next year. This would be gr. 6/7 combine in the high school end but with a designated teacher for all subjects.
- ii. This is a possibility if the designated teacher was there for core subjects (math, English, social studies, science), but the class joined with the other high school students for: gym, Northern Tutchone and Art; this maybe a good arrangement as these classes are more engaging with more people.
- iii. Some drawbacks maybe: younger students being negatively influenced by the older students, older students not wanting to socialize with younger students etc. It could also work that older students become positive role-models for younger students.
- iv. May also work to be a three grade split 6/7/8 as three grades at the high school level is easier than at the elementary level.
- v. Possible grade splits for next year if this goes ahead: Elementary K4&5/gr. 1, Gr. 2/3, Gr. 4/5, High School Gr. 6/7 (or 6/7/8), Gr. 9-12.

**c. Consistent EA placements in Classrooms:**

- i. A lack of TOC also makes it difficult to have EA consistent in each classroom. If short staff, then EA are pulled from their regular classrooms to act as a TOC somewhere else. This is not ideal, but useful when short staffed. Ideally EA are assigned to specific classrooms to maintain consistency.

**d. Support for YNTEP Students:**

- i. The school tries its best to give support for teachers taking courses to further their teaching skills and careers, including the YNTEP program. Issues arise when TOC are not available and staff are required to be in classrooms first.
- ii. The YNTEP program specifically is requiring all classes be in person next year. This will effect at least one person at JVC School. Council has been asked to write a letter of support advocating for classes to be available online for students in communities. Council has agreed to write this letter.

9. **Meeting Adjourned:** 8:35pm

10. **Next Meeting:** March 2, 2023

March 2/2023  
Sarah Pasch