

J.V Clark School Council

Meeting Minutes

January 10th 2022

I. Call to order

Sarah Paschuk, Chair, called to order the regular meeting of the J.V Clark School Council at Monday, January 10th at 6:30pm via zoom.

II. Attendance

Members Present: Kerri Ellis, Sarah Paschuk, Terra Blanchard, Ian Spencer, Teresa Samson, Lauren Baranik

Regrets: none

Others Present: Chrissie Bernhardt, Secretary

Chris Shipley, Principal

Donna Miller Fry

Lori Choquette

III. Approval of Previous Minutes

Moved by Kerri, seconded by Ian

IV. Reports:

Principal (sent around via email prior to meeting, placed in minutes)

Staffing update

1. Will James started January 4th as our new High School English, SS, Careers, 8/9 PE teacher
2. Stikia Reid began as an EA on November 8th and is working out fantastic!
3. Amy Noseworthy began December 6th as our new 3/4 teacher. Amy is an exceptional teacher and brings with her strong mathematics background and excellent teacher experience.
4. I am optimistic that Cresenthia will VERY shortly have her official placement within our school as our full-time NTL teacher. She has been a wonderful addition to the school.
5. I will be putting up an EA poster this week in the community.
6. We now have 2 TOC's in the community (better than some Whitehorse schools).
7. We haven't had any applicants for the PE/SHOP position. We are currently sharing PE coverage between myself and our two TOC's. SHOP credits will still be achieved through deep dives (such as the Carleton University visits, and work with Yukon University).
8. We did not lose any staff due to refusal to vaccinate! (some schools have lost up to 4 staff)

9. *I love this staff! It's beginning to feel like a solid team. Despite our initial struggles, we are very fortunate. Please take every chance you have to stop and celebrate our staff on the street and in the community, they are very deserving of the accolades.*

Review of Special and Inclusive Education

The Yukon Inclusive and Special Education Summit (PD day) consisted of lectures by two guest speakers, Dr. Nikki Lee and Shelley Moore. Communities of Inquiry have been established through volunteer staff in Yukon Schools. Mahshid Hassani has been working very closely, and very diligently, with the Department of Education as our schools representative. The four themes these communities are working through are (1) Understanding inclusive and special education, (2) Accountability and Consistency, (3) Providing Holistic and Comprehensive Services, and (4) Supporting students to learn.

Cell phones

I haven't really had cell phone concerns brought forward by staff. The odd time, students need reminding to put them away at the end of lunch to return to afternoon classes. My message to staff continues to be no cell phones during class time (unless teacher allows usage as needed for curriculum), phones are to be powered off and are not to leave the classrooms if students are going to the washrooms.

Attendance concerns

*Attendance concerns are **very** individual vs a school wide concern. We do have a small number of chronic offenders, each with their own unique circumstances. I have had meetings with some of these parents and we are working together to try and remedy the absences.*

Aurora Virtual School

I feel that we'll be able to avoid Aurora Virtual classes at this time after our new hire.

Reading Recovery

Our saving grace without Reading Recovery (RR) is our unbelievable student-teacher ratio and our very strong elementary staff (this ratio and the strength of our current elementary staff may be one of the best scenarios around). Our TOC, has a background in RR, and she is willing to help on her TOC days, so I'm optimistic we will be in very fine shape moving forward.

Mobile Assessment Unit

I have no news on the mobile assessment unit visiting Mayo.

IXL Funding

The school was able to find funds (\$1000) to purchase a school wide site license for IXL. All of our students will be able to access this once students are finally enrolled. I believe most of our elementary is now enrolled and we will have this available for our High School students very soon (good timing with the potential of online learning always looming).

Drug/Alcohol Prevention Programs

Tara McCauley (our schools social emotional counsellor) and Angela Jobin (Mental wellness and substance use services, Dawson, visits Tuesdays and Wednesdays) have been collaborating throughout the year already and have offered sessions on drug/alcohol prevention along with mental health issues. Tara McCauley now has a SEL (social-emotional literacy) block of 45 minutes in her schedule to meet with our grade 1/2 students in their classroom.

Bullying

Bullying reports from staff, parents, and students is very limited. Currently dealt with case-by-case.

Banned Substances Policy Discussion

Attached is a department document that we can review and discuss for development at JVC as we deem fitting. <https://open.yukon.ca/sites/default/files/edu-substance-free-schools-policy.pdf>

Covid Situation- 32% attendance, only 2 students on the older side

-75% out last week, could be greater this week.

-Would like to continue as things are on the elementary side, high school should go remote.

-Math is already set up for zoom. If high school students do go to class they can be part of zoom in their classrooms.

-Ways we are keeping the children and staff safe:

-There is an increase in sanitation

-Hand sanitizing when children are leaving or entering their classroom

-Custodian cleaning during the day and at night

-Masks are worn

Motion:

We want to ensure students are getting instructions. So high school (8-11) will do remote learning and elementary will be in person. This is the best solution right now and the recommendation will be sent to the Deputy Minister to be passed. **Moved by Kerri, seconded by Teresa**

-This will be reassessed on a daily basis.

-Recommendation is that remote learning is for one week, and reassess at that time.

-Staff already has the resources needed for online instruction as well as the students.

-Staff are unable to teach both remote and in person as per the collective agreement. However, if students do go to school during remote learning they can take part in remote learning in their classroom.

-The question to whether there should be outside programs for drug and alcohol such as Blood Ties coming to speak to the children. –See Principal reports above. There may be mixed messages with extra people. No plan at this time. Two staff that are already doing this have a great rapport with the students.

- V. **Teachers Retiring-** Need to get incentives to have teachers put their notice in earlier in the year. Right now the deadline is May. This gives little time to find a replacement.

- VI. **Referendum Vote**
There will be another information session on the FNSB. Sarah will post it on the various Facebook pages so that community members are aware and can take part. Vote to be held Jan. 11 – 27.

- VII. **Research Project-** This would be with Carlton University. Looking at reasons students succeed or not in our school. Looking at parental attitude, education, courses, supports etc., What effects kids' education? We want to be making decisions for the right reasons. Ian is looking to see if there may be an interest from the School Council before moving forward and gather more information. School Council interested, Donna is interested and would be happy help in any way. Ian will get more information. This would possibly be done as a graduate thesis study.

Next meeting February 1st 2022 at 6:30pm

Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.



Signed - February 1, 2022