**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

1. **Approval of Agenda:** Addition of School Building Maintenance

* Agenda moved: Teresa Samson
* Second: Terra Blanchard
  1. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** November 2, 2023
* Minutes moved: Terra Blanchard
* Second: Ashley Churches

1. **Reports:**
   1. **Principal:**
      1. **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 biases.
      2. **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.
      3. **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 be 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.
      4. **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 Peters 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
   2. **School Council Financial report (standing item)**
      * + No change in finances. Still working with bank to get new cheques ordered. Should be arriving soon.
2. **Correspondence:** N/A
3. **Community Concerns/Comments:** N/A
4. **Old Business:**
   1. **School Growth Plan (standing item): N/A**
   2. **Drafted letter for 7th street extension-reserve 3lots/houses for teachers.**
      1. 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.
   3. **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
   4. **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.
5. **New Business:** 
   1. **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.
   2. **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
   3. **Motion: To reimburse Ian Spencer for the cost of golden shoe trophy, $135.45.**
      * + Moved: Teresa Samson
        + Second: Terra Blanchard
   4. **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
   5. **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.
6. **Next Meeting:** Meetings have been put back to the first Tuesday of every month.
   * + - Next meeting is **February 6, 2024 at 6:30pm**.