J.V. Clark School Council

April 7, 2026

Minutes

Present: Ian Spencer, Teresa Samson, Ashley Churches, Denise Simons, Sarah Paschuk, Doug Cooper, and guest

Regrets: Taiya

1. Call to Order: 6:37pm
2. Approval of Agenda: no additions, moved by Teresa, second by Ian. Approved
3. Approval of Previous Minutes: February 10, 2026
    a. Moved by Ian, second by Ashley. Approved
4. Reports:
    a. Principal:
        i. Attendance:
            - February 66% average for the month. March 73% average for the month.
            - To consider, March break was 2 weeks
        ii. Staff:
            - The school, with the help of support from the Village of Mayo, has successfully retained a fulltime LET position. It was announced at the last meeting that this position would drop to 0.5 (halftime). Halftime positions are always hard to fill in communities, so this is a big win for JVC.
        iii. Upcoming events:
            - April 1, good news assembly
            - April 3, good Friday
            - April 6, Easter Monday
            - April 10, noon bake sale,
            - April 11, bridge build competition
            - April 20-23, hide tanning workshop
            - April 23-24, gr. 7/8 badminton championships in Whitehorse
            - April 27-28, BYTE workshops for gr. 7/8-equity & allyship, and Power to Prevent (more workshops in May will cover Healthy Relationships and exploring consent).
            - April 27, Heritage Fair for gr. 4/5/6, 1pm-3pm all are welcome
            - April 29, Amelia comes to teach fiddle lessons
            - April 30, Kevin & Ryan come for a musical performance
    b. School Council Financial report (standing item): Report at next meeting
5. Old Business:
    a. School Growth Plan (standing item): Report in June when results from year end assessments are in. Students will be assessed for literacy skills and numeracy skills.

6. New Business:
    a. Plans for Graduation:
        i. Graduation will be held on June 5th.
        ii. Extreme sports theme
        iii. Grad committee is currently looking for a caterer
    b. Bullying discussion, follow up:
        i. Bullying has been an on going discussion at school council over the last few meetings. The issues brought forward do not occur often and are dealt with individually and immediately. However, it is always hard to discuss and decide how to move forward. Community involvement is key, as these issues can occur anywhere not just at school. Council encourages parents and guardians to talk to your students openly about respectful behaviour.
        ii. Things discussed at school council:
            - The importance of reporting incidents. This applies to all people involved. It is important for students to come forward and tell a teacher or principal when they feel they are being bullied/or unfairly treated. It is also important for parents/guardians to come forward and talk about problems their student maybe experiencing at school. If the adults in charge do not know a problem is occurring, it is hard to provide help. As well, it is important for those who maybe accused of bullying to come forward and feel safe to tell their side of the event. Accidents or misunderstandings do happen and its important to understand all sides before deciding how to move forward positively.
            - Staff at the school do try and hear both sides and talk about issues as they arise immediately. Students are treated as equals, and each situation is addressed individually. Staff do not assume any particular students is at fault all the time. No students are Labeled. It is important to use positive language.
            - Serious incidents will be discussed with parents/guardians and consequences put in place. Suspension, is never a first choice, but maybe used if behaviour is repeated creating an unsafe environment for the other students (physically or psychologically). Other consequences might be: group talks with all involved, phone calls home, student separation, no outdoor lunch time.
            - Bullying is different from disagreements and accidents. In these cases, students are encouraged to talk to each other and problem solve. It is important for students to learn how to problem solve on their own, developing interpersonal skills.
            - It is important to understand relationships when issues arise. What is the relationship between the people involved, and with the adult trying to help address the issue? Is it good or bad? Is it a strong trusting relationship? Understanding relationships will help inform the approach to the situation or to understand why/how it happened.
            - Kids are often not mean on purpose, but act out because of poor impulse control or a lack of situational control. Kids are not seen as having a lot of control within their environment (e.g. rules to follow, go to school, do chores, need permissions etc.), so they may act out as a way to gain control. This can occur when things within their environment are difficult and they carry a lot of anger. Understanding

the kids involved may help to address behaviour issues over time.

- Tolerating differences. At school and in life everyone is different, and come from different homes. What is normal to some may not be normal to others. What is normal? Being able to understand each others differences and build tolerances also helps to build relationships. When we understand each other, there are less misunderstanding that can lead to misinterpretations about peoples intentions. People may not intend to be mean, but their actions could be misinterpreted. Being different is good. Understanding differences is key.
- Next year, Ms. McCauley's schedule will change so that she is available to provide more counselling to students. This is something that students seem to want. As well, FNNND is working in the school to determine what type of programs the students would like to have, in relation to counselling/character building, and where, the youth center at school or somewhere else.
- The school does have a bullying policy which is available on the school website. It is designed to be adaptable, as each situation will be different and there is no one way to approach each issue. The school and council encourage Parents and Guardians to read through the policy and provide feedback. We are working to develop a more straight forward and understandable definition of what bullying is.

7. Meeting adjourned: 8:35pm
8. Next Meeting: May 5, 2026