**J.V. Clark School Council**

October 7, 2025 Minutes

**Present:** Sarah Paschuk, Ashley Churches, Ian Spencer, Teresa Samson, Taiya Melancon, Doug Cooper, Jan, 4 parents

**Away:** Denise Simmons

1. **Call to Order:** 6:35pm
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Moved by Ian, 2nd by Teresa; all in favour
    a. Approval of Previous Minutes: September 2, 2025
        i. Moved Ian, 2nd by Ashley; all in favour
3. **Reports:**
    a. **Principal:**
        i. Attendance: 74% overall
4. **New Business:**
    a. **Bullying:**
        i. Bullying in the form of targeted name calling, teasing, and isolating have become a problem in multiple grades at the school. We had a discussion about what is happening and the seriousness of these issues, students are feeling like there is nothing they can do. Bullying behaviour commonly stems from a place of feeling bad about yourself and not in control. Acting out against others is common to make yourself feel not alone. Staff are trying to support both sides, consequences to actions are needed, but so is support for both sides to get to the root of the issue. All students need to feel safe at school.
        ii. **What is currently being done:** Staff cannot see everything all the time. Students need to tell them what is happening, when it happens. Teachers will speak with students involved and bring the issue to the attention of the principal. The principal speaks with students and parents and discuss consequences. In the moment a student maybe asked to leave the class and do work in the hall.
        iii. **Prevention Measures:** Discussed what types of things the staff can bring to their classrooms to educate students on bullying and work on prevention:
            - YFNED has a behaviour therapy unit we could look at introducing.
            - Talk to students in class about the consequences of bullying, what bullying does to another person, why we should be working together.
                - Bring in workshops to get these messages across.
                - Encourage students to speak up and tell staff members what's happening. Staff cannot do anything if they don't know what's going on. Students need to feel safe to speak-up, and like something will happen.
            - **Immediate consequences for students who are bullying others:** separate from friends (who maybe encouraging each other), remove from classroom to do work elsewhere, in school suspensions (students do not get to participate in extra curricular activities. Do work on there own under supervision of EA or other staff member), not be allowed to participate in field trips or sporting events, etc.
            - Ensure students are aware of the counseling supports available at the school for all students. YG dept. of Education provides a student counselor who visits once a month (Lucas), Tara McCaulley is our in-house counselor, and Laurant is available through FNNND.
        iv. **In the future:** going forward the staff will be discussing behaviour and anti-

bullying policies.

- Talk to parents. The school needs parent/guardian support at home to help support lessons at school.
- Class room management be made a priority, students should be focused on lesson activities.
- Keep staff records of student incidences so patterns can be seen over time.
- Develop a policy on paper and share with community, so that the community can support the school in efforts to address the bullying issue. Bullying can be talked about and addressed in a consistent matter all over the community. This behaviour is not isolated to the school. It is a community issue.

b. **Academics:** Parents are concerned that there may be too much downtime for students when workshops come to school, time that could be used for working on core subjects (Math, English, Science, Social Studies), so that these studies are completed adequately by the end of the year. For example: when drum making workshops are done over the week, students are often idle when waiting between steps. Instead of having a long break, students could return to class and work on core studies. Parents do not want workshops to stop or field trips to end, they are important and valued, but for time to be effectively managed.
    i. Staff can look to incorporate these ideas, will discuss.
    ii. Learning happens in various ways; school is trying to bring different ways of learning to the classroom. Students are held to appropriate academic standards.

c. **Visitors:** how are visitors vetted to be in the school. Do they undergo a vulnerable sectors check?
    i. Visitors come to the school through various sources such as YFNED, FNNND elders, or companies that work with students on a regular basis (e.g. lumel studios), the school trust that these individuals have been checked through their own employers.
    ii. Visitors are never left alone with students, a JVC staff member is always present.
    iii. The school will look into requirements from the YG dept. of Education.

d. **Event Communication:** how are events advertised. Can we send home reminders a few days before a big event.
    i. Emails, Facebook, monthly newsletter, and posters around town

Meeting adjourned at 8:45pm

5. **Next Meeting:** November 4, 2025

Sarah Pasch
Nov. 4, 2025