**Selkirk Elementary School Council**

**Regular Council Meeting**

**Monday, September 13th, 2021**

**6:30pm in person or Zoom**

**Join Zoom Meeting**[**https://yukonedu.zoom.us/j/85612842188?pwd=QlpwaWE3aUlDTmZIc3JkYkx6QVJkdz09**](https://yukonedu.zoom.us/j/85612842188?pwd=QlpwaWE3aUlDTmZIc3JkYkx6QVJkdz09) **Meeting ID: 856 1284 2188
Passcode: 716324**

**Call to order:** 6:35pm

**Introductions:** Sheila Cipriano-Miller (parent), Meagan Lang (parent), Zoe Morrison (parent), Amanda Allen (parent), Mellisa Murray (parent)

**In attendance:** Ian Parker (Council), Sue Glynn-Morris (Zoom - Council), Mel Davignon (Chair), Colleen Madore (Council), Laura Davidson (Council), Tamara Boiteau (Principle), Leslie Doran (VP), Sheila Cipriano-Miller, Meagan Lang, Zoe Morrison, Amanda Allen, Mellisa Murray, Marilyn Marquis-Forster (SuperIntendent)

**Regrets:** Minister McLean

**Approval of Agenda**- Laura made a motion to accept the agenda. All in favour.

**Approval of June 7th, 2020 meeting minutes**- Ian made a motion to approve the minutes. All in favour.

**Treasurer’s Report-** No money spent over the summer. Council committed up to $1000 to the 6/7 fall 2021 field trip (leaving tomorrow). Estimated total cost will be $900.

**Principal’s Report**-

Hiring. Two French Immersion classrooms were not filled for the start of the year, 2/3 and 5/6. The 2/3 has been filled with Maryse Lévesque and will be doing a week of transition with Meghan Adamsky from Monday September 13 to Friday September 17. We have recommended another teacher for hire for the 5/6 but are awaiting language testing results and is dependent on housing. We will continue to screen applicants as we get them until the job offer is made and accepted. EA we have one full-time position to December to fill and one full year. Michelle Rodriguez has been on leave but has submitted her letter of resignation leaving the full year vacancy. We have screened and will be booking interviews to fill those two positions.

YFNED. The nutrition program has started this year and we have two cooks preparing breakfast and lunches for students. We are waiting to receive opt-out forms which will be sent home to parents. The nutrition program is funded through Jordan’s Principle funding to ensure all Indigenous students have their needs met and will be happy to provide food to any student. Food for Learning continues to help us supply fresh fruit as a snack for students and lunches for any students who may opt out of the nutrition program offered by YFNED.

Southern Tutchone Language Teacher. A job poster went out last week and we are hopeful for candidates. The posters for all LT positions are uniform with the exception of language being taught based on traditional territory. First Nations Initiatives (FNI) at the department will be taking the lead on the hiring process.

Modular. The modular classroom is set to be complete by the end of September. The construction of the modular was slowed down due to backorder of windows and HRV system. The 6/7 class is using the learning commons for their classroom with Oct 4 as the date to start in the modular.

Sports. Lindsay Hutchinson took a group of our 6/7 students to Golden Horn for a round of disc golf. The students had a great time being able to learn the sport and to have some fun out in nature. Soccer fest was a huge success with multiple grade 4/5 classes taking part. The games were played here at SES and at CKES. Even the gray skies and scattered showers couldn’t stop the students from having a blast. Volleyball is next up on the list for sports with the first league game starting Monday Sept 20.

OutRide Riding for Focus Grant. We were fortunate to be the recipient of the mountain bike grant. This is the same grant Tahkini Elementary and Pelly Crossing received a few years back. We will have two champions trained on Sept 26 who will commit to 6 weeks of riding and providing data for on-going research. Southern Tutchone language and culture teacher (title change) will work in homeroom classrooms alongside classroom teachers, this could help with classroom management and will help to build capacity of homeroom teachers.

**Old Business (Updates):**

Parking lot/Selkirk St Safety update - Marilyn presented 3 new proposed parking lot designs on behalf of Trevor (YG) for School Council’s consideration and feedback. Mel will send comments from discussion to council for review and then will forward to Trevor. Zoe is a community planner and would love to contribute to this work.

This summer Colleen and Mel met with City of Whitehorse, YG HPW and Dept of Ed re: a trail on Selkirk Street. School Council, along with help from Zoe Morrison and Michelle Boleen, will apply to Ec Dev’s CDF funding through a not-for-profit (Riverdale Community Association). This group will discuss with the RCA after their AGM in two weeks, once their new board is chosen.

Playground update - equipment on order for north playground. Will arrive late Sept. On track to be installed by late October.

Modular update - 6/7 class currently using the library. Windows and HRV back ordered due to COVID. Target Oct 4 for students to be in the modular.

FI Kindergarten-CPF - Council could start now to advocate for only one French kindergarten at SES because the Council feels Selkirk School is at capacity (rooms, French teachers, EAs, resources, etc). We could involve Canadian Parents for French (Michelle Boleen might have just rejoined the board). Marilyn said each year ~100 families looking for FI. She confirmed that the decision is made at the political level and that there is an understanding for the urgent need to consult with community.

Transportation update - The Student Transportation Committee is seeking a rep from a Whitehorse school. The rep does not need to be a school council member. Tamara will add a note in the newsletter to solicit interest. Thanks to Colleen for her two years of service as the Chair.

Education for students at the school cycling/walking on roads - Mel has requested a quote from Terra Riders for ‘road safety’ (biking, walking, lights, crossing) training for SES students. Mel will report back. Tamara suggested we might consider collaborating with our two RCMP liaison officers, who could give the other perspective.

School Health sub-committee update - Four parents have expressed interest. Ian will set up a meeting. Looking to have seeking staff representation to keep it grounded in reality. Intention to play a support role.

Bike racks - Rack from Gadzoosdaa’s residence and one rack from intermediate side brought over to primary side. Tamara suggested a class could make a sign as a project to indicate the primary racks are for primary only. Flow has been greatly improved. Sky Peason runs the welding program at the University and will adjust existing racks to make different size bikes fit. Cost of materials only.

School Council funding criteria-vote? - Colleen will propose a weighting scheme to the Council.

Screens in the classroom guidelines (update) - Tamara will update the SES Parent Handbook. Guidelines regarding screens in the class have been discussed with staff and set at a maximum of two days a week and it must be purposeful and intentional.

**New Business:**

Next FSL advisory committee meeting - Mel is happy to attend.

School supplies for next year - Could the school come up with generic lists of supplies for each grade in May and make a bulk order to Staples and request ~$25/kids? This approach could result in significant time, effort, carbon, cost savings. Admin will look into this and talk with teachers. Council will bring it forward again in Jan 2022.

Timing for recruiting new teachers - Current process - principle submits a staffing plan in Feb to the Department which gets reviewed to confirm if a staff could be in a layoff position where there is a vacancy in another school. Some principles have gotten it done on time and others have held up the process. Moving forward if a principle does not have a plan submitted then the superintendent will do it for them.

Challenge - request for Leave Without Pay deadline (in the collective agreement) is after the staffing plan deadline (i.e., find out about vacancies after the fact).

Looking to change the hiring practice with the French Directorate (which does the assessments) for French teachers. They would like to have the French language assessment at the start of the process because if applicants pull out or don’t pass then administration has to restart the whole process., which sets the process back significantly.

YFNED lunch program - Food is available all day long. SES is waiting for opt-out form from YFNED to send home to parents. YG Health Promotion Unit (HPU) is questioning if the Food for Learning Program, which is now seeming redundant. Pivot away from providing food (unless schools need it) and focus more on tools and equipment (e.g., kitchen). HPU will be exploring the feasibility of a universal school food program in Yukon.

School Council AGM - October 4th, 2021 6:30 pm.

**Next School Council meeting:**

Monday, October 4, 6:30pm in person and via Zoom (following the AGM)