**Selkirk Elementary School Council**

**Regular Council Meeting**

**Monday, March 21st, 2021**

**At 6:30pm via Zoom**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://yukonedu.zoom.us/j/83254225528?pwd=SDgwamg4aUNaMlgvK0ZqSTlDM1lsQT09>

Meeting ID: 832 5422 5528

Passcode: 671229

**Call to order:** 6:38pm

**Introductions:**

**In attendance:** Melanie Davignon (SSC Chair), Tamara Boiteau (Principal), Leslie Doran (VP), Minister McLean (Education), Cheryl (returning officer for elections), Marilyn Marquis-Forster (Superintendent), Laura Davidson (SSC Member), Tina Busetto (parent), Ian Parker (SSC member), Nicole Morgan (DM Education), Pascal (French Programs), Sue Glynn-Morris (SSC member), Colleen Madore (parent)

**Regrets:** N/A

**Approval of Agenda**- Ian move to approve the agenda, Laura to second, all in favour.

**Approval of February 14th, 2021 meeting minutes**- Correction made – Chris “Hanlin”. Ian moved to accept minutes and Laura to second. All in favour.

**Minister McLean and Deputy Minister Morgan** - Kindergarten at SES – very popular. Programming is meant to reflect the population. 101 applications to attend FI kindergarten. WES can accommodate 66. Leave 35 students. Schools and Student Services Branch is recommending to the Minister two FI kindergartens for Selkirk for 2022-2023. Minister McLean is interested in learning more about SSC’s concerns. The Department is committed to continuing to work with the School Council and the French Immersion working group. The Minister acknowledges the space concerns.

Mel shared her frustrations. This is the 8th year for FI at SES and there has been no long-term planning. Space is a top issue. SES is a dual track school and French is taking over. We don’t have enough gym space or a classroom for a FN teacher. Intensive French programs are supposed to be allotted more EAs and SES has never had this allotment. We would like to see that greater allotment reconsidered.

Tamara shared English teachers’ sense of employment security. SES postings now are all bilingual preference for flexibility to meet the needs of both tracks. The school is an old building that has not been updated. The additional modules have reduced outdoor play space. We are looking at 397 students for 2022-2023. FH has indicated they won’t be able to accommodate the influx of FI students.

Minister McLean is looking forward to planning and working with the FI working groups. Open to looking at education reserve agreements for accessing space in other schools. Could have a temporary modular while construction of the addition is completed (currently being used at Hidden Valley). Communities of Inquiry with the Inclusive and Special Education is looking at the EA allotment right now. They will be making recommendations on need over enrollment. Yukon has the highest per capita of EA allotment.

Nicole shared that Pascal and Marilyn are on the working group and are future looking, planning for recruitment from K through high school. Recommendations forth coming (mid-term solution). In the immediate, difficult to turn families away. Space issues have a domino effect. The Dept wants to work together to address space issues. Raised the idea of the proposed addition on SES to accommodate another class without a module.

Marilyn shared that a fuel tank was discovered in the ground under the new addition which now needs to be mitigated. The addition will not be ready for fall 2022 (rather Nov/Dec)

Tamara – the new space is being repurposed to include an elder space, Learning Assistance, etc. Tamara has felt heard on the space front by the Dept regarding this new addition. The LA room at the front of the school will be repurposed for fall 2022. The past couple years has been troubling on the space front with classes taking over the library. All flexible learning spaces are currently utilized. Re: EA allotment, how can we better allocate EAs in Whitehorse to ensure SES has access to bilingual EAs who can support students in their language of instruction.

Colleen – SES is the only dual-stream school in the Yukon and we need to be careful not to lose track of the English stream. SES was a perfect fit for her family with one child who excels in French and another with exceptionalities who will study in English.

Laura seconded Colleen’s comment. Could we increase gym time by renting the French school’s gym?

Minister McLean has asked that SSC state clearly if we support or don’t support a second FI kindergarten. Mel clarified that she has faith that the SES administration will make it work with additional supports discussed tonight.

**Cheryl West** – School Council Elections April 11 till noon on April 21. Nomination packages available on April 11. Also available online and at Elections Yukon and at SES. Ads around town as well.

Tamara will share what Colleen drafted for principals to share with school community. SSC will merge it with what Sue drafted and send it back to Tamara asap to email out.

**Treasurer’s Report-**attached. Available balance $8332.94

**Principal’s Report-**

Staffing. French Immersion positions, for the 2022-2023, school year were posted and closed this past Friday. We will be screening and interviewing candidates as quick as possible. Other positions will be posted as other potential leaves (reduction in time, LWOP, Education Leaves) are approved or denied. We will be screening candidates for our two vacant EA positions. This has been an on-going poster and we have two applicants. Finally, we continue to do our best to find TOC’s to fill vacancies when staff are away.

Operational Plan – COVID-19. As per the updated announcement regarding COVID-19, masks are still required in school. Selkirk continues to follow our current operational plan. Major change that is positive is our sporting events will be able to resume with interleague play between schools.

Sports. Artic sports tournament will be going ahead this year and Brian MacDonald will be organizing how to attend. There are limited numbers and ensure we have TOC to cover missing teachers. Other anticipated sporting events will be floor hockey, badminton.

Health Promotion Week. Thank you to the Health subcommittee working with Nicole Schroeder to organize a fantastic week of presentations. Teachers had the opportunity to sign up for various presentations for their classes. The students and teachers loved it and hopefully we can do it again next year.

Reporting. Our next informal reports will be going home on Thursday April 14. They will focus on literacy and numeracy. Learning standards with current proficiency of each will be included with a general overview of assignments and projects corresponding to the standards.

**Old Business (Updates):**

**Parking lot/Selkirk St Safety update**-site visit and transportation master plan updates – no update

**Busing** – Bus 27 was an area of need. All rules and regulations will be reviewed with students on bus 27. A bus driver will come to the school 30 mins early. There will also be an assigned seating plan. Tamara will be sending a letter to all parents of students on bus 27. This could be a pilot and depending on how it goes we could role out a similar training model + seating plan for other SES buses.

**Application for funding bus and swimming lessons**-Every Student Everyday - waiting to hear

**New Business:**

End of year celebration – SSC think about options. Hot dogs are convenient but perhaps not the healthiest option. Tamara suggested the wall tent and fire pit at FH could be an option. Laura proposed Bannock and moose stew.

**Information Items:**

**Next regular meeting:**

Monday, April 11th 6:30pm in person? and via Zoom