Selkirk Elementary School Council

Regular Council Meeting

Monday, September 19th, 2022

Immediately following AGM in the library

Or via Zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

**https://yukonedu.zoom.us/j/63532052938**

**Call to order:** 7:17 pm

**Introductions:** Zoe Morrison (parent), Meagan Lang (parent)

**In attendance:** Nicholas Vienneau (principal), Melanie Davignon (Council Chair), Sue Glynn-Morris (outgoing Council member), Janna Swales (incoming Council member), Tim Kucharuk (incoming Council member), John Coyne (incoming Council member), Tina Busetto (incoming Council member), Marilyn Marquis-Forster (Superintendent), Zoe Morrison (parent), Meagan Lang (parent), Michelle Boleen (parent)

**Regrets:** Laura Davidson

**Approval of Agenda-** Janna moved to accept agenda as amended and John to second. All in favour.

**Approval of August 22nd, 2022 meeting minutes-**  Tina moved to accept minutes and Tim to second. All in favour.

**Treasurer’s Report-** approximately $4,100 in the bank (carried forward from 21-22, still waiting for this year's allotment of approximately $6,500).

**Principal’s Report**

* Welcome back open house was a great success. May do something similar again in the Spring.
* Food Program has been great – food hampers are available. Food for Learning money is available too. Sheila Whitehead was buying fruit for the school out of pocket. Food for Learning could be paying for this.
* All red files (students on IEPs, with assessments, etc.) have been reviewed by Jason and Liz.
* Field Trips –6/7 classes are going on their camping trips. Everything is going well.
* New addition did get slowed down a little do to fire safety concerns.
* Subs have been hard to find and Covid plus other illnesses have come through the school. We have been short staffed every day since school started. Sometimes we have no counsellor or LAT. Leslie and Nicolas have been covering. There are 130+ on the Education sub list. A parent expressed a concern that there has been an increase in the number of students in the red zone. Marilyn shared that the Department of Education would like to do more PD with teachers and EAs to gain the skills to recognize students are entering the red zone. Parents expressed concern about the impact of not having permanent classroom teachers (Selkirk is still short two teachers). Marilyn reiterated that the Department is aware and working hard on it. John asked if the Dept of Ed has forecasted Yukon's education workforce needs (continuity strategy). Marilyn said this database does not exist in the Yukon. A parent shared that was a YG employee who was interested in subbing last year, but was not able to take a leave without pay to do so. Marilyn said that the Superintendent can make exceptions.
* Connected with KDFN and YFNED to help support some vulnerable students. YFNED is starting a boys club every Wednesday at the school.
* Construction on Selkirk still a major concern – There has been concerns about crosswalk and equipment running while students are outside. Hopefully they finish on time.
* We are looking at all the SWW’s (School Wide Writes - writing assessments) to be completed by Oct 07. Darts (reading tests) are not required now.
* We have implemented a unified literacy program using Reading and Writing Power. A PLC (professional learning community) group will be started to support teachers in using this program.
* We are tracking our distance to Kamloops on field trips for Truth and Reconciliation Day.
* We are in the process of filling the last two EA positions. Sofie Maurice has accepted the LAT position, we still have to fill the grade 1 and 5/6 French Immersion positions.
* We have had students in the Red Zone quite often, once involving the police to come. We also had an allergic reaction which required an ambulance. Have had vehicle theft at the end of the day during parent pickup.
* SES is starting to track Blue Slips (for incidents). Data will come to School Council.
* Concerns from parents of young kids using the back door (#6 - by portables) because of all the big kids. Can look at them going out by the kitchen door.
* Congestion in the back parking lot (Selkirk Street). Parents are not parking well. A couple of teachers have been speaking to parents in the parking lot. Nicholas said they could send an email to parents as a friendly reminder.
* We have had some vaping and pot in the boys bathroom. FH Collins has told their students to use the sidewalk only so they are not going through the SSC playground.
* Sheila's retirement is on Fri, Sept 23 (6-10 pm) at Mt Mac. Adult only. Teachers and School Council are invited.
* It's not clear the status of the school flags. Nicholas will look into it.

**Old Business (Updates):**

**Parking lot/Selkirk St Safety and construction update-** discussed in Principal's Report

**Application for funding bus and swimming lessons-Every Student Everyday-** Received ~$11,000. There was a miscalculation in the proposal where insufficient bus trips were planned for. Council is short about ~11,000. Council may consider contributing financially in full or in part, in which case we could ask parents for some. Council will think on options and Mel will get Council actual numbers. Could possibly access money from the SES School Council.

**Sheila-Gift-** Janna moved to spend $500 to purchase something from Lumel's Northern Lights Collection and the rest of the money to go to a cash contribution (Mel will talk to Leslie). John to second. All in favour.

**Intensive French (0.5 position)-** There is policy that if a school has a post-intensive French program they should also have a 0.5 position allocated. Council could choose to write an inquiry to the DM or Minister quoting the policy and make our request explicit. Reference the meeting (fall 2021) when the minister attended the SSC meeting and the fact that Dawson has this position.

**Landscaping-** A parent expressed concern about general care of the school grounds at the start of school (long grass, exposed rebar, no basketball nets). Nicholas will talk to Trevor Justason/Chris Hanlin.

**Accommodation Request-** John shared that he would like to bring an amplifier into meetings to help with sound. The Council supports this request.

**Bussing-** Nicholas indicated that there continues to be some canceled buses. Council has not received any notification of canceled buses. It would make sense that Council is receiving notification via the Selkirk gmail.

**New Business:**

**Yukon First Nations School Board (YFNSB)-** SSC should keep their ears open for anything coming up with the YFNSB. Schools have the option to join the YFNSB 1 year after the Board was formed. When was the Board officially formed? Janna suggested a Council field trip to a Whitehorse YFNSB school (perhaps in the Spring).

**Information Items:**

**Next regular meeting:**

Monday, October 17th, 6:30 pm in person and via Zoom