# F.H. COLLINS SCHOOL COUNCIL

# Regular Meeting: March 2, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.

**FH Collins School – Room 122, Whitehorse**

**MINUTES**

***Present:***

***Chair***:Janet Clarke

***Members:*** Tracy McPhee, Erik Hoenisch, Sandra Henderson, Muhammad Javed, Amin Abdullah, Roxanne Vallevand, Sohail Magsi

***Absent:*** Jesse Dawson, Robin Smarch

***Guests:*** Simon Blakesley, Carol Coote

***Secretary-Treasurer:*** Tracy McPhee

***Administration:*** Darren Hays, Christine Klaassen-St. Pierre, Bruce Thompson, Mike Toews

**Call to Order**

## The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m.

**Agenda**

Moved by Muhammad, seconded by Roxanne

THAT the Agenda be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

**1**. **Minutes**

Moved by Roxanne, seconded by Muhammad

THAT the February 3, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes be approved.

**CARRIED**

**2. Presentation/Discussion of BCP Marks**

Simon Blakesley attended for this presentation. All in attendance introduced themselves. Mr. Blakesley’s comments included the following:

* BCP marks must be considered in context including the class/student make up
* BCP exams are only one source of data
* Must consider variations in students, teachers and course work
* Teachers know the students best
* One exam on one given day cannot tell us everything – it is just a snapshot
* BCP is only worth 20% of the final mark in the course
* BCP only given limited weight because there are so many variables that must be considered
* BCP is a standardized assessment
* Graduation rate last year in the Yukon was 72% - being those students at the start of grade 12 that completed grade 12
* FH Collins graduation rate was 94% - 111 students started grade 12 and 104 graduated
* Conference Board of Canada – released research regarding what future employers are looking for – “soft skills” are becoming the “hard skills” that employers are looking for.
* Schools cannot focus only on hard academics
* BCP statistics do not compare schools – cannot say if our schools differ significantly from BC schools
* There is no way to assess how our students are prepared to compete with students from other areas
* Department planning a school exit survey to determine what are their plans, with follow up one year out to determine how they are doing. Department can assume from the data how students will do but not with any certainty
* Department is doing a Math 10 item analysis which has not been done before and should be completed by the end of this school year
* Both Math 10 Class marks and BCP marks are low
* BCP’s must be done because we are part of the BC graduation program
* The Department wants to use BCP analysis to inform schools and teachers
* Why are the marks the way they are?
* Department wants to get the data back to help improve instruction for kids

Mr. Blakesley provided a handout of “ways of thinking about standardized test asssessments” and on from the Conference Board of Canada entitled “Employability Skills 2000+”

Mr. Blakesley was asked to email us regarding when/how French immersion testing has been done and the results. He said he was not part of the testing just the analysis. Janet suggested that she could contact Nicole Morgan to ask those questions.

**3. School Calendar:**

Proposal is that the 2016/2017 calendar be the same as this years format. Proposal includes 3 PD days being August 29 (common to all schools), September29 (common) and November 18, 2016.

**4. Teacher Reports to Parents:**

Complaint from a parent to a Council member. Discussion confirmed that if complaints come to individual Council members we should make sure that they have also contacted the teacher and Administration

All Staff are asked to send home an interim mark two weeks before parent/teacher/student meetings are scheduled. It was agreed that notification ws more important that the format of that notification. There has been mixed messages about using e-grade system and/or Aspen system. Administration says that most teachers have homework sites that parents can access. There were questions about why a standardized system was not required to be used by all teachers. Information available is that when the Aspen system is fully implemented, that this problem should be solved.

**5/6. Principal's Report and New School Update:**

Darren’s report was emailed to members before the meeting. Areas which were highlighted were:

* School attendance remains constant
* No accident reports
* 1 school suspension
* Students are adjusting well to the new school. 99% of things the kids are seeing and interacting with are now working.
* Training for administrators for certain building functions continues
* Janet has contacted Greg Storey to indicated the FH School Council supports the Administration having all the help they need to get the “list” completed
* 50 item list now down to about 15 outstanding items
* Destruction of old school to happen in the near future – Darren has a meeting tomorrow to confirm details and plans for the Tech wing
* School Growth Plan meetings will start again soon

**7.** **Treasurer’s Report:**

Lue has dropped off all of the Secretary Treasurer information to Janet but no bank balance is available tonight.

**8.** **Lewes Boulevard Crossing Update:**

Janet is staying in contact with Selkirk School Council and she will be meeting with Dave Pruden from the City of Whitehorse onsite. She will report back.

**9. Correspondence:**

No correspondence was received.

**10. New Business:**

* Tracy arranged for flowers and a thank you card to be sent to Lue from the FH School Council
* We will arrange for the posting for a secretary/treasurer to be sent out once more – email, facebook and newspaper ads
* Reminder of the AYSCBC Conference coming up in April (7-9). Each Council has been asked to respond to questions, by March 28, 2016, that will be presented at the Conference. Janet will email the questions around for response before our next meeting.
* New School Council elections will be on May 2, 2016
* April 11-21, 2016 is the nomination period
* KDFN is considering a new appointment for school council since Tara’s resignation.

**11.** **Next meeting is Wednesday, April 6, 2016**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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Janet Clarke, Co-Chair