# F.H. COLLINS SCHOOL COUNCIL Regular Meeting

**April 1, 2015 – 6:30 p.m.**

**F.H. Collins School, Fine Dining Room MINUTES**

***Present:***

***Chair***:Sandra Henderson

***Members:*** Jessie Dawson, Janet Clarke, Muhammad Javed, Amin Abdullah, Tara Goodwin-Chief, Roxanne Vallevand, Sohail Magsi, Erik Hoenisch

***Absent:*** Robin Smarch, Tracy McPhee

***Guests:*** Bob Sharp

Gerrard Tremblay and interpreter

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

Mike Toews

Secretary-Treasurer: Lue Forsythe

## Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

## Agenda

**Moved by Jessie, seconded by Tara,** that the Agenda be accepted as circulated.

**Carried.**

## Minutes

## Moved by Janet, seconded by Jessie, that the minutes of the March 4, 2015 Regular Council Meeting be adopted as presented,

**Carried.**

## Principal’s report

## Darren’s report was accepted as presented (copy attached).

## Items discussed were:

## Traffic flow issues and the City of Whitehorse response relating possible changes to the permitting process of the new school. Sandra and Janet will bring forward this topic at their meeting next week.

## New school siding being installed now

## Many activities took place during Culture Week. 20 teachers prepared food for all the students, which was very much appreciated by the students

## Be The Change bracelets to honour Mr. McNeill are being distributed to students. Council members each received a bracelet and thank you card.

## 2015-16 projected staffing has been increased by 1.2 fte over the current year.

1. **Treasurer’s Report**

## The current bank balance is $12,101.51 (includes YG payment of $825 for Members’ Fall Conference Honorariums)

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## Committee Reports

## Education Reserve Planning Committee

## Erik indicated the possible cost to upgrade the current school gymnasium is estimated to be approximately $4,000,000, including $1,000,000 for parking and greenspace improvements. The decision is to keep the old gymnasium in use until the new school is finished.

## The date for moving into the new building appears to be between Remembrance Day weekend or after the Christmas break.

## If/when the new French School is built, it will include another gymnasium. Three possible locations have been discussed. A decision is to be made on April 19th.

## With regard to the new school, Erik identified a need for a communication process to Val Royle (who has since left her position).

## Bus Transportation Committee

## Amin advised there is a suggestion that Grade 11 and 12 students should be using the City’s public bus system.

## Apparently some drivers are changing routes without prior approval from bus management.

## Also, there is concern that when the usual driver of a route calls in “sick” a random casual driver is used. These drivers do not know the younger children, who may not be sure of their bus stop.

## The security cameras on the buses appear to be functioning, which result in fewer incidents. The Principal is responsible for discipline on the buses, but can only act if a complaint is received.

## Amin felt the busing contract should be made public.

## 

## 

## Old Business

## Tour of New School

## Five members will be attending the tour at 1:00 p.m. on April 9th. Jessie will provide her own steel-toed boots.

MADD video

The video is being presented to students in May.

SHAD Valley Costs

Three students have been accepted to the SHAD Valley Program. In response to Sandra’s request, the Department of Education is providing $4500 to be shared among the three students.

Consequences for Bullying

A question has been raised as to whether or not cell phone removal is part of the consequences for bullying. School administration indicates that is already being done.

## New Business

## Invitation to Education Minister Doug Graham

## Council agreed to invite Minister Graham to their next regular meeting on May 6, 2015.

## It was also agreed to send a letter of Congratulations and Appreciation to Minister Graham.

## Students on Ice – July, 2016 – Antarctica The school is encouraged to provide information to potential students as fund-raising will be needed.

## Other Items

## Sandra attended the Porter Creek School Council meeting in March. Their April meeting is Wednesday, April 8th and she encouraged other members to attend.

## Bob Sharp spoke to council regarding a long term paper being presented in Rome on the effects of Experiential Sciences with its author Kevin O’Connor being in attendance. A copy of the paper has been requested.

## AYSCBC Spring Conference is April 17, 18 and 19th. It is important that members attend if they are able to. The round table discussions are useful.

## School Council Representation on YG Committees

## Since no follow-up information has been received from Bob Walker concerning our representation, and in particular Janet Clarke’s appointment, Sandra will send a letter to Bob as to the status of Council’s request.

## School Administrators left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

## New Business Continued…

## Student Financial Assistance Act Review

## The Department of Education has put forward questions and possible changes regarding the Yukon Grant, who it applies to and when. Council members reviewed the document and provided the following feedback:

## *Whether Yukon students can receive financial assistance from both the Government of Canada and the Yukon Grant?*

## Not from the Government of Canada. Financial assistance from First Nations is acceptable.

## .

## *Whether students who achieve high school equivalency in the Yukon should be eligible for the Yukon Grant?*

## Yes

## *Should there be a difference in the funding amount for students attending their post-secondary studies outside – versus within the territory.*

## No

## *Student eligibility categories as defined in the Act*

## Assistance should be as inclusive as possible. Eligibility should be based on residency in the Yukon – not necessarily high school attendance (e.g. 2 years in any of the last 5 years before applying for the Yukon Grant).

## A comment was made that the ability to use the Yukon Grant should be extended to 8 years rather than 5 for those coming out of high school as many students do not know what education they wish to pursue and may need to work a year before starting post-secondary.

## *The definition of ‘continuous residency’*

## Students should have lived in Yukon for several years – not necessarily with their parents as there are many other situations

## *Life-long learning*

## Eligibility for Yukon Grant funds should apply to life-long learning with access of perhaps a maximum of 4 years, assuming the applicant has lived in the Yukon for a number of years prior to applying for the Grant.

## As this is a complex matter, several other options and opinions were also expressed.

## Incoming Correspondence

## Two suspension letters have been received.

## 

## Next Meeting

## The next regular meeting of Council is at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 6th, 2015,in the Library.

## Adjournment

## The meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Sandra Henderson, Chair HH Lue Forsythe, Secretary-Treasurer