**Robert Service School Council Meeting**

**Minutes**

**Wednesday, April 28th, 2021, 6:30 pm**

**RSS Art Room**

**Attendance: Rhea L., Kylie VE., Andria O., Suzanne C., Brian L., Tanja W.**

**Via Zoom: Lisa F., Donna M., Brent M.**

1. Call to Order (Co-Chairs): 6:39 pm Rhea L. Chair.
2. Review and Approval of Agenda (additions or deletions): 1st Tanja W. and 2nd Suzanne C.
3. Review and Approval of Minutes (errors or omissions): 1st Suzanne C. and 2nd Andria O.
4. Delegations (limit of 15 minutes) – None
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
   1. Update on Child Advocacy Committee meetings in Dawson end of April

April 20th Yukon Child and Youth Advocates Office came to Dawson and met with RSS Council to discuss their role

* They deal with individual cases
* But will do a systemic review if there are many with the same issue
* Parents and students don’t know their rights and what services entitled to
* The Advocacy office reached out to parents, and only two parents attended.
* They would like to present it to the high school students next time they come. Council also suggested the option of having them give a presentation virtually to high school students at a start of year assembly
* There are pamphlets, and we’d like to get some and make them accessible to local parents and high school students
* It’s significant to students, as it’s another tool they can access

1. Update from Brian on Library Board actions regarding the use of Library as an after-school setting

* Brian L. talked to Library staff, and the issues seem to have alleviated with the onset of warmer temperatures
* The issue appears to be primarily a winter issue with a small group of students that will need to be looked at again in the fall.
* The school will keep parents updated with after-school extracurricular activities.
* Council emphasized the importance of an RSS, Dawson Rec, TH and Library meeting to see if there is a possibility of a drop-in after school, supervised and unstructured option that will help alleviate some of the after-school care issues

**Action Item**: Tanja W. will contact Dan D. at the Library to follow-up.

1. Update on the modular plan

BL – There was consultation at the beginning on the project. Hope to complete the new space for school use in August 2022. RSS Administration asks for School Council support to move forward with the new modular plan. This will be the first project to come with the new government.

Council discussed the need to have more input on the school’s needs discussion, and did not feel the process was acceptable. BL stated - that a lot of work has happened to get to this place with the committee along the way. Council is disappointed in the short time frames given and no consultation on the modular plans. We expect the next phase to follow through with all promises and feel the current building is a compromise and would like ongoing dialogue and on record commitments.

Admin stated that the school council was part of the planning committee. However, Council felt that they were excluded from committee invites.

**Action item** – Draft a letter to initiate dialogue, need a public commitment from Government to Dawson beyond the modular complex. Would like to know if there is room to tweak, in this budget?

**Action Item** – Letter of Support from School Council for RSS Administration.

1. Update on school painting and results of the student survey on school colours

Students choose the Ted Harrison colours (orange, red & yellow) by a landslide.

1. New Business
2. Discontinuation of recycling/composting at the school - consider co-signing a letter with CKS to reinstate

The tender has expired. The Department of Education has not renewed this initiative. There is no recycling and composting being done in the school at this time. Under the initiative, CKS picked up, sorted and processed the recycling and composting at the school, as well as provided recycling and composting education to the students. Could Community Services take on funding? How can the council support this? Other Yukon schools have had funding reduced for recycling programs. With the TH food program in place, it would be impossible for a student group to take on, as it’s a large project. We support finding funding to have recycling and composting back in place by next school year.

**Action Item** – Letter of support for Conservation Klondike for tender for school composting and recycling.

1. Grad alumni survey update

The School Council is putting together a High School Graduate Alumni survey. We are looking for trends in how well prepared grads feel for their first-year post-high school. The survey is anonymous, and we’d like it sent out early.

1. Nominating a School Council member for the RSS Data Committee

BL brought up that we could have a school council member on the school Data Committee. Suzanne is already doing some data collection on the standardized assessments at RSS, so she volunteered to be on this committee.

**Action Item:** BL will double-check about any privacy concerns and report back next meeting

1. Leaky Room

Water in the ceiling. Bubbles forming in the Gr. 5 boot room and by the display cases, and potentially, along the whole gym. Is the leak going to be dealt with? Do we have mold. Who is contacted about this issue?

**Action Item**: BL will send a letter to Property Management

1. School Council Contribution to Grad

There will be an outdoor graduation ceremony this year. Up to 4 people for each Grad. They may hire a videographer this year, same as last year. Last year, the School Council paid for the videographer and $100 to each Grad via Dawson Dollars.

In the past, the School Council had set a total of $500 to donate to the Grad Class toward what they wanted.

School Council also gives a $200 Bursary to a Tech Ed Student that the Administration chooses for us.

**Action Item:** Lisa F is a parent of a graduating student. She will find out if the Grads are interested in a videographer or wish to use School Council’s contribution for something else

1. Reports (5 minutes per report)
2. Principal’s Report - None
3. TH Report – Absent
4. Chair’s Report - None
5. Financial Report - Attached
6. Community Concerns (limit of 5 minutes or set as an agenda item at next meeting) - None
7. Correspondence – None

1. Upcoming Dates

Next School Council meeting – Wednesday, May 19th, 2021

12. Adjournment: 8:40 pm