

**Robert Service School Council Meeting
Minutes**

**Thursday, March 25th, 6:30 pm
RSS Art Room**

**Attendance: Brent McDonald (Chair), Kylie Van Every, Suzanne Crocker, Andria Oppen,
Lisa Favron, Donna Michon, Donna Miller-Frye, Brain Lewthwaite**

1. Call to Order: 6:31
2. Review and Approval of Agenda (additions or deletions)
 - a. Moved Lisa F., 2nd Suzanne C.
3. Review and Approval of Minutes (errors or omissions)
 - a. Review and approval of February Minutes
-Moved by Suzanne C., 2nd Andria O.
4. Delegations (limit of 15 minutes)
 - a. None
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
 - a. **Attendance initiative** - Application submitted - last year was to promote trades, this year is to help trades with ADST (Applied Design Skills & Technology). Will shift Mr. Menzies to engage younger grades with practice-based learning. Engagement to help increase attendance. This will help formalize what RSS has in place already. Technology will be spread out to other teachers. Help with more strategic programs to address attendance.

The Child Advocacy office in Whitehorse is interested in coming to address parents and let them know what they offer. Council wondered if they needed help with travel expenses. They would be here for 4 days. Julia Milnes and another person would come to Dawson in late April. Their office works with the school and talks to children about how they see the school and their place in it. In five years the Advocacy office has gone from 0 cases to 1000 cases.

Library concerns - Council sees this as a long-term issue that needs to be addressed. Our suggestions are for the Library board to connect with RSS Administration, the City Recreation Department and Tr'ondek Hwech'in Education Department to come up with solutions, such as after-school programming for this age group. Library Board was to draft an email to parents about the covid number limitations in the library during the after-school time and the issue it was causing. Admin agreed to send such an email to the parent community.

Action Item: BL to follow up with Dan at the Library.

- b. Literacy assessments - BL went over the literacy assessment data. The data is for Kindergarten, 5-6 years back. There are 2 assessments CDC and Bohem for children

entering Kindergarten. These help to identify concerns. Results used to flag potential issues and have eyes on potential supports.

RSS shows a higher curve than other rural communities. Yukon has the most data on student's productive assessment across the country.

School Council and Administration have transparency as a point in the school growth plan. We would like that transparency to reflect learning expectations and show the work done by students. Assessments need to be done each year for students, so no child is left behind when not assessed in Grades 1-4.

Yearly assessments not only literacy but numeracy as well. Should show: 1. How children are doing. 2. How do we know. 3. How do we help. Work should be shown. Homework and tests sent home. Learning more visible.

Even with performance standards, students are still missed. The standard-based approach should show more clarity. Goals to look at math and concepts needed to learn. There seems to be a lack of tangible work for parents to see.

The School Growth Plan needs to show learning as more visible, more accountable with evidence (student work) and yearly assessments

Action: Department needs to provide data yearly.

Action: School Growth Plan - more transparency and tangible work evidence.

6. New Business

a. Update with Sandy Silver.

Government is in caretaker mode.

IEP's - leak of wrong information. IEP's are not being taken away. Council concerned if they are.

Pre-K - Off the table for now. Dawson already has options in place. There needs to be meaningful consultation and review before this happens.

Robert Service School Council is concerned with the lack of communication, consultation, and doesn't feel listened to when issues do arise. With Modular plan, given 2 plans and 3 days to choose or money disappears because of year-end. The school needs TH cultural spaces, places to prepare and eat food (especially for high school), cafeteria. There needs to be a discussion with School Council, RSS, Dept and TH for all the needs the school has. We are more concerned with functionality than aesthetics and would like to use the money we get to reflect this.

7. Reports (5 minutes per report)
 - a. Principal's Report - assessments and module already discussed. Staffing conversations are starting to happen. So far there are few staff changes. Calendar spring break time, not an issue now that Arctic Winter Games 2022 are cancelled.
 - b. TH Report - None
 - c. Chair's Report - Council has a vision, priorities and goal-setting meeting.
 - d. Financial Report - Financial monthly report attached.
Resolution - "We resolve to pay Donna Michon, our secretary-treasurer \$25 an hour paid monthly."
Motion carried. Moved by Lisa Favron, 2nd by Suzanne Crocker.
8. Community Concerns (limit of 5 minutes or set as an agenda item at next meeting)
None
9. Correspondence
 - a. Letters in response to our letters re Pre-K and Vaccine clinics in school. Emailed to all council members.
Letter response from Ryan Sikkes, ADM of Schools and Student Services, regarding RSS space planning updates.
10. Upcoming Dates
 - a. Meetings kept to the 3rd Wednesday of the month, in correlation with the website.

Next School Council meeting – Wednesday, April 21st, 2021 @ 6:30
12. Adjournment 8:45

Robert Service School Council - Monthly Financials

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