

# HFES Council Meeting, May 4, 2024

7:30pm-9:30pm, Holy Family Elementary School

*\*If the front entrance is locked, please ring the doorbell and someone will let you in*

**Please provide additions to the agenda to HFES with at least 48 hours advance notice for meeting consideration, [hfes.school.council@gmail.com](mailto:hfes.school.council@gmail.com)**

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## Attendance:

### Council Members:

- Gina Anderson (GA)
- Lisa Christensen (LC)
- Shirah Davis (SD)
- Carrie Gillis (via phone) (CD)
- Daniel Harms (DH)

- Kirsten Behnka (Secretary/Treasurer)

### Administration:

- Maria Gray, Principal (MG)
- Patti Oxford, Vice-Principal (PO)

### Invited guests

- Lori Choquette (School Council Liaison, YG)

## Agenda:

- 1) Welcome, land acknowledgement and opening prayer (LC, SD) – 2 min.
- 2) Adoption of minutes – 2 min.
  - March minutes need to be posted.
  - April minutes not available – need from Kirsten.
- 3) Outstanding action items (LC) – 5 min.
  - Don't know, don't have April minutes.
- 4) Financial update (LC/KB) – 5 min.
  - Secretary/treasurer away but we're good for Spring needs.
- 5) Spelling bee report (GA) – 5 min.
  - Really successful, goody bags were a hit (healthy treat, little toy and sticker).
  - Youth Investment fund report to do.
  - Corrections re: donors made to Council FB site and newsletter.
  - LChoq: could be good for someone to thank Yukon News for positive coverage of the Spelling Bee.
- 6) School council elections update (LChoq) – 5 min.
  - Election closing tonight at 8; was busy at Catholic schools.
  - Preliminary results tonight; formal results tomorrow.
  - Current council sits until day before 2024 school year; swearing in will take place around then.
- 7) Council and committees update – 10 min.
  - CEAY (SD)
    - May 25: two guest speakers to parish, one about child development and another about addictions and substance abuse (CYO Hall). Meeting next week.
    - Breakfast happened last week, went well, and *Blue Day* for World Catholic Education on Thursday.

- Busing Committee (LC)
  - No meeting since last one, no updates. Lisa looking for a sub for the meeting (will email council for help); school bus registration open now.

Teacher on call shortage update (MG) – 5 min.

- Same old story, no easy-connect morning calls being answered, but grateful for our retired teachers and YNTEP students!

8) Principal's report (MG/PO) – 10-15 min.

- 2 new students; no kids moving to Whistlebend school; tennis lessons happened; monthly EA luncheons and staff meeting happened, spelling bee a hit; pizza lunch wonderful; swimming lessons for grade ¾; PD day was adapted to HFES here at the school for an internal retreat; ongoing parent concerns update; new admin assistant started today- Deb will overlap a bit.

9) Parent questions/concerns (LC) – 10 min.

- Body science – possible to request extra staffing next year to avoid need for opt-out students to be picked up from school by parents/guardians?
  - Parents could volunteer, would have to do vulnerable sector check (MG)
  - This is curricular and giving the schedule well beforehand is our capacity and meets our responsibility (MG)
- Classroom \$100 fee – how are expenses accounted for/reimbursements shared back to families?
  - We have been a bit short both years, each teacher gets the \$100 allotment regardless of what is collected (the school picks up the remainder). The office admin manages it... we can look at a general comms but per classroom would be hard to communicate... in general, \$60 consumables/\$40 simple trips. We switched to the model- bussing costs so much more lately. We can communicate that increase more clearly (MG).
- Field trip/special activities – possible to plan these and communicate plans to parents at start of year (e.g. swimming, skiing lessons)?
  - Teachers confirm registration after CGC/other activity registration occurs (i.e. registration isn't always guaranteed), but admin will try and give parents as much heads up as possible going forward.

10) Other (LC) – 30 min.

- Possible to have council-sponsored BBQ event to coincide with Celebration of Learning on May 23?
  - 430-630pm. Motion to do this max \$500 (LC); GA second.
  - Council will volunteer, perhaps new members might help. Look into what we spent last year, with transfer payment we should be find. Council will send around the spreadsheet from last year.
- Teacher request for \$300 to go towards grade 7 graduation (parent: Erin Spiewak)
  - To go towards snacks for 130 people..., but missed an opportunity for the trash clean up.... council could match funds raised by students this Spring for up to \$300. Motioned by GA; seconded by LC.
  - Erin Spiewak will communicate back to the teachers and gr 7 parents.
- Babysitter course update + transfer paperwork to new council
  - Course to be offered in the fall; we are able to transfer the funding to that time with the new council.
- HFES staff lunch
  - June 11 or 12; council will confirm budget and caterer (either Chef Angelo or Kits Kitchen). LC to organize.
- HFES council policy drafting
  - Recording/Film/Photography policy and Harassment Policy DRAFTS for consideration; look to St. Francis' Harassment Policy as an example... check in with Lori about actual implementation steps after council and school are happy with them, perhaps changing language re: consequences- does the council have follow-through powers?
  - LC to email timeline for review to council (within next couple of weeks)
- Engineers Yukon events (CG)
  - The event happened, it can be taken off agenda for tonight.

11) In-camera session – 20 min.