

GOLDEN HORN SCHOOL COUNCIL
Minutes of Regular Meeting
September 8, 2022 6:30-8:40
GHES Library

“School Council would like to acknowledge that we are on the lands of the Kwanlin Dun First Nation People, Ta’an Kwach’an Council and Carcross Tagish First Nation and thank them for allowing us to live and work on their traditional land.”

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|-----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Present: | Council Members: | Administration: |
| | Amber Hirsch: Chair | Trine Dennis: Principal |
| | Emily Woodruffe (Co-Chair) | Jesse Ward: A/Principal / Vice Principal |
| | Caitlin Knutson | Emily Quarton: A/VP |
| | Christine Aikens | |
| | Jessica Boyd | Guests: Kasey Gunderson |
| | | Scott Kent, MLA |
| | Barbara Ruf: Secretary | |
| | Shelly Peters: Treasurer | |

1. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM. Welcome & round table introductions.

Agenda Approval: Motion to approve the Agenda by Caitlin, seconded by Amber. CARRIED.

Minutes Approval: deferred - some revisions needed to the June 1st meeting minutes.

Action: *Christine will revise and prepare for approval at the October meeting- complete*

2. Administration

Intro to New Chair: Amber is the official chair of GHES council, but Council will take turns chairing the meetings. The plan was to work in pairs and have 2 people responsible each meeting to do the agenda and chair the meeting. Next meeting it is Emily and Christine. Would be good to confirm at each mtg, who is responsible for the next mtg, and put in minutes.

Review of Outstanding Action Items from Last Year:

- 1) Glass Door funding – Cynthia is inquiring whether the Department will cover costs for door alternations and/or replacements, or if GHES would use their funding,
- 2) RCMP presentation – Trine will connect with the RCMP to organize an RCMP led Safety presentation
- 3) Gender Neutral pronouns on registration forms – this may be in progress with the Department, **Action:** *Admin will look into this, and the potential requirement for the school to have an ‘Inclusive Committee’.* School Council is willing to advocate for this. There is currently 1 gender neutral washroom by the Art Room.

- 4) YFNED School Board – Emily will reach out to Katherine Sandiford to arrange for a GHES specific presentation in the Spring of 2023, Council is also interested in hearing feedback from schools that have transitioned to this model.

Plan for meeting dates: 1st Thursday of the month has been determined as the preferred date for meetings.

Action: Jessica will update the website (*complete*) and FB including a recurring zoom link for future meetings (Zoom Meeting link to be provided to her by Jesse Ward *ensure the host is not required to allow entry to participants.)

Financial Report: Update from Shelly: Operating budget is approximately \$11,022.45. Funding from 'Every Student Every Day (\$9000) has not yet been received but the cheque is anticipated to arrive at the school shortly.

3. Correspondence Highlights:

Council was cc'd on a letter sent to the Minister from a parent who was discontented with the Prayer held at the Fall Feast.

Action: Council will reply that we do not believe the issue falls under the responsibilities of the council and we will defer to the school and the Department of Ed to respond to his concerns.

There was a request to attend the School Council meetings virtually, Council will arrange for a recurring zoom link to be posted on the website and FB to enable virtual attendance for meetings going forward.

4. **Guest presentations:** Scott Kent in attendance to hear updates on the parking lot and bussing concerns
5. **Expectations of Council:** As per Admin, Council is well involved. Assistance with the School Growth Planning is appreciated as Council represents the community and parents. There is no expectation for Council member(s) to attend staff meetings unless there's overlap with topics.
6. **A/Principles Report:** 5.5 EA'S have been allocated; Admin has requested 2 more. A TOC for 1:1 support has also been allotted as an EA for 30 days. Every EA allocation is for 1:1 support and establishing a consistent relationship for these students is crucial to prevent dysregulation. No response was provided by the Department when Council sent them a letter about EA Allocation 6 weeks ago. EA allocation will remain on the agenda – it is a serious safety issue if the 1:1 requirement is not met, and this affects the general school population as well. Trine – there is a staffing committee meeting coming up and she will keep Council apprised. Council needs facts on how staff is allocated to advocate. The PD Day on the 28th will focus on the works of Adriene Gear's Reading and Writing Power.

7. Student Transportation Committee Update: Amber will raise the concerns about the ongoing cancellations with Bus #38 that have caused disruption for parents at the next Transportation meeting (meeting date TBD). **Action:** Amber to review the Transportation Act to determine the requirements for dependable transportation. Admin is forwarding Bus cancellation notices to the school's distribution list, with reminders to ensure families are signed up to also receive notifications and alerts directly from Standard Bus.

8. School Growth Planning: Date of meeting TBD

9. Community Engagement: Council to brainstorm ideas on potential speaker series topics how to get more parent involvement. Discussion ensued on the potential for Volunteer Boot Camp and how to best organise this – the easiest way may be to post sign up sheet in the classrooms for parent/ teacher night (including the requirements for Vulnerable sector check for applicable activities). Sign up dot.com is another resource that could be explored. Info from the teachers on what their specific needs for volunteers are would be helpful.

1st School wide assembly was a success and the staff and students are excited to being the Animal House Events again! First one will focus on the Terry Fox Run. Trish Hirsch is currently updating the Animal House groups.

10. Capital Planning and Infrastructure: Trevor from YG had said he would put in a request for the line painting for the tarmac where basketball nets are, as well as repainting some lines for the parking lot for October, weather permitting.

Parking lot – Admin has requested temporary signage (immediate pick-up/drop off only) from YG. Scoot Kent will request that 'no parking signs' are installed along the one side of Duncan Drive to prevent parked cars from obscuring vision and the school bus turning radius.

Jessica presented a map of how the current parking lot functions and 2 ideas for alleviating the congestion and confusion, and to distinctly separate the angle parking from the pick up/drop off lane. Option 1 involves installing jersey barriers alongside the pick up/drop off lane, and option 2 would be a raised curbed edging to designate the pick up/drop off lane.

Action: Jesse will send an email out to the community requesting constructive feedback on the current parking situation and direct people to respond with their feedback directly to the Council. – *complete*

11. Fundraising: Jessica has researched the possibility of selling Christmas Wreaths to fundraise. In Bloom Flowers would be available to create center piece wreaths at a price point of about \$75/each. There would be approx. 65 available for purchase and they'd be ready around Dec. 12-15. **Action:** Will need to determine the wreath design (flowers, candles?) how much Council would profit and prepare to advertise early.

12. Communication – Council intends on updating their FB and the website frequently over the school year including sharing posts on behalf of the school. **GOES Equipment Grant:** Eligible expenses include cross country ski gear, winter stoves and potentially shovels. A rep from Coast Mountain Sports will come to the school to inventory the existing ski gear and determine what is useable and what will need to be replaced (Cynthia will assist). **Sound System:** on order from Road Dogs. Council contributed \$2000. **Nuts:** once official that there are no life-threatening or serious allergies, teachers will send out notification that nuts are permissible

13. Parent /Teacher/Student Interviews – Consensus is that the initial meeting in the Fall should be 1:1 with the parent/teacher. The spring interviews are more suitable to be student-led as there will be more for them to celebrate and share at that point.

14. Announcements and Bell Schedule – There will be 2 bells – one signalling the start of the school day, and the other the end. Announcements: National Anthem is played on Monday morning and the School Song on Friday afternoons. Opposed to announcing individuals' birthdays on the announcements, there could be a 'birthday' sign in the window at the office, or teachers will determine how they'd like to highlight student's birthdays in their individual classrooms. Staggered recess is still in effect, this has greatly decreased the amount of conflict teachers deal with on the playground.

15. AGM – scheduled for October 6th.

***Action:** Jessica to post AGM details on FB. Emily will invite various delegates such as the Superintendent, Minister and ADM, Staffing Committee etc. **complete** Shelly will present financials.*

16. Split classes – what is the rational? Admin - Combined classrooms are essentially unavoidable and are due to class sizes, the number of Teachers and available classrooms.

17. In camera: n/a

18. Meeting adjourned at 8:36