



**School Council**  
**École Whitehorse Elementary School**  
*Kwanlin Kets'edan Ku*  
4181 4th Avenue, Whitehorse, YT Y1A 1J7  
Phone (867) 667-8083  
Fax (867) 393-6211

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## Meeting Minutes

Monday, January 12, 2026 @ 6:30 pm – EWES Staff Room

Gary Whittle, Chair Ashley O'Brien, Vice-Chair Kelly Jiang, Member Sheila Merkley, Member Micah Quinn, Member Johanna Havelaar, Treasurer Charmaine Cheung, Member Nicole Stark, Secretary Sharon MacCoubrey, Principal	Valerie Long, Vice Principal Scott Kent, Minister of Education Mary Cameron, Deputy Minister of Education Tracy Allen, Deputy Minister of Highways and Public Works Carolyn Lewis-Shillington, Assistant Deputy Minister of Schools Christine Franes, Superintendent Richard Poirier, School Council Liaison
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**1. Call to Order – 18:28**

**2. Land Acknowledgement**

- a. We are meeting on the traditional territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council. We recognize their deep connection to this land and express our gratitude for the opportunity to live and work here.

**3. Adoption of Agenda**

- a. **Motion 26.01.01:** Adopt agenda as presented.
  - Moved by Johanna; all in favour.

**4. Presentation by Scott Kent, Minister of Education, and Tracy Allen, Deputy Minister of Highways and Public Works**

**5. Adoption of December Minutes**

- a. **Motion 26.01.02:** Adopt December minutes as presented.
  - Moved by Johanna; all in favour.

## 6. Recognition of Community Members

- a. Scott Kent, Minister of Education
- b. Mary Cameron, Deputy Minister of Education
- c. Tracy Allen, Deputy Minister of Highways and Public Works
- d. Carolyn Lewis-Shillington, Assistant Deputy Minister of Schools
- e. Christine Franes, Superintendent
- f. Richard Poirier, School Council Liaison

## 7. Correspondence

### a. Crossing Guards

- Sharon continues discussions with the City regarding pedestrian concerns at Black Street intersection.
  - Pedestrian crosswalk cannot be installed due to the existing intersection configuration.
  - Unable to restrict right turns on red due to traffic flow considerations
- Parent suggestion to return pedestrian signals to “rest in walk”
  - Parent is willing to contact the Downtown Residence Association to request support and draft a letter.
  - **Action 26.01.01:** Ashley will ask the parent to proceed with the letter; council will consider sending a letter to the City.

### b. Parking Concerns

- Parent concern regarding downtown workers parking on Black Street, reducing available parking for parents.
- **Action 26.01.02:** Asley will respond to the parent; no further action at this time.

### c. Email from Selkirk

- Colleen Madore, Selkirk SC Chair, drafted a response to the Minister of Education requesting standardized digital tools for school councils (official email addresses, secure cloud storage, etc.).
  - Seeking a unified response with all SC Chairs signing on.
- **Action 26:01:03:** Micah will raise the issue with AYSCBC at the Jan 20<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- **Action 26:01:04:** Ashley will contact Richard Poirier regarding Yukon archives.
- **Action 26:01:05:** Gary will contact Colleen to communicate council’s unwillingness to sign on at this time.

## 8. Reports

### a. Administration Report – Sharon

- December's primary challenge was bus cancellations.
- January's Superhero theme is "speaking French".
- February will include Black History Month, Kindness Month, and Pink Shirt Day.

### b. Financial/ Treasurer Report – Johanna

- Professional development invoices may be issued for attending meetings on behalf of council.

## 9. New Business

## 10. Standing Business

### a. French Second Language – Ashley

- Nothing to report.

### b. Project Advisory Committee: New School Build

- Nothing to report.

### c. School Growth Plan – Sheila

- Nothing to report.

### d. Transportation Committee – Micah

- Next meeting scheduled for the last week of February.

### e. Community Events

- School Dance – Ashley
  - Planning to begin at next meeting.

## 11. Next Meeting

- a. February 23, 2026
  - **Motion 26.01.03:** Moved by Johanna; all in favour.
- b. **Action 26.01.06** Gary will invite Mike Etches, SC Chair of FH Collins, to attend.

## 12. Adjournment of Council Meeting – 19:58