



KELSEY SCHOOL DIVISION  
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“We strive to be a respectful and enthusiastic school community,  
dedicated to quality education for all”

## **BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – February 24, 2020**

Vaughn Wadelius,  
Chair  
623-3073

Kerri Huculak  
Vice-Chair  
623-1708

Amy Hopper  
623-2887

Edith Sexsmith  
623-1954

Sharain Jones  
623-6376

Jennifer Olinyk  
623-5365

Trevor Yahnke  
620-9680

Julia McKay,  
Superintendent

Jeannette Freese,  
Secretary Treasurer

### **Budget 2020-2021**

At its February 24 Board meeting the KSD Trustees struggled to develop a further stage in the 2020-21 school division draft budget. A major frustration for the trustees is trying to deal with the provincial government’s mandated limitations such as:

-a further 15% reduction in senior administration for all school divisions, even though KSD made a 20% reduction for 2019-20. The Division is awaiting clarification from Manitoba Education as to the specific impact on KSD and whether previous cutbacks can be considered.

-the continuing loss and reduction of provincial special needs funding-over the last several years this funding has been reduced by 2/3 while the number of special needs assistance required by early years students has increased.

-a cutback in general education funding by the province to KSD that amounts to about \$400,000. Like other school divisions, KSD is still waiting for the government to advise it of the provincial revenue it can expect...information that is delayed over previous years and which impacts any budget planning for next year.

One known directive is that school divisions may raise their special levy by up to 2%.

KSD has not raised this revenue stream for three years, but it is apparent that given the expected decrease in provincial support for local education this option will have to be fully utilized.

### **Secretary-Treasurer Retirement**

Jeannette Freese has notified the Board that she will be retiring at the end of October, 2020. The Board is grateful that she has selected a date that would allow the deadline for submission of 2019-20 KSD financial statements to be reached.

### **Education Liaison**

The Board’s Education Liaison committee has been meeting with the administration of some of the KSD schools to receive a report on their education activities and progress. It seems evident from the nature of the supports and activities at the schools that teachers and administration are making great efforts to identify and meet the needs of the range of students they must educate. Among continuing general problem areas are the lack of attendance of some students, and the difficulty in contacting and asking for parental support when many homes seem not to have telephones. The ability to contact parents/guardians in an emergency is critically important.

If you have any questions about the highlights or other business of the Division, call one of the trustees or the Division office. The numbers are posted for your convenience.