



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 – November 23, 2020

Vaughn Wadelius,
Chair
623-3073

Kerri Huculak
Vice-Chair
623-1708

Amy Hopper
620-2887

Edith Sexsmith
623-1954

Sharain Jones
623-6376

Jennifer Olinyk
623-5365

Trevor Yahnke
620-9680

Selena Mell,
Superintendent

Angie Quiring,
Secretary Treasurer

Due to implementation of Orange C-19 protocols, until further notice school board meetings will be conducted via teleconferencing with Google Meet. Meetings are recorded on YouTube and approved board meeting minutes are available on the KSD website

Appointment

Congratulations to Reese Mayer who has been appointed as the Youth Representative on the KSD Board for the 2020-21 school year. Ms. Mayer is a Grade 12 student at Margaret Barbour Collegiate Institute.

Superintendent Report

Superintendent Mell reported that principals and staff at KSD schools continue to put in major efforts to cope with the requirements of COVID-19 protocols while in the (restricted) Orange category while the province has shifted to the Red stage. These efforts are recognized and appreciated. She noted as well the cooperation of parents who monitor the health of their children, advise the school when they keep them home during illnesses, and report back to the school when the student is returning so a better reintegration into school work can occur.

Education Liaison Committee

This committee received a requested report from the Director Tara Manych of the Kelsey Learning Centre on the challenges and successes since its relocation to the University College of the North last year. The adult program was initiated by KSD in 1995 under the jurisdiction of MBCI, and

has since developed into quite a success over the years due to the dedication of the KSD teachers assigned to it. In 2020 there were 80 graduates of the program, joining hundreds who have been successful over the years. COVID-19 has also presented challenges for its operation.

Kudos

In addition to the hard work of school administrators and staff during these unusual times, the Board recognized the responses of its new Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer to the many challenges they have had to face, and their cooperation with the Board. In addition to ensuring schools run safely, having to respond to numerous requests by the Department of Education for division information within short response times adds an additional strain noticed by all Manitoba school divisions. Recently the Board requested the Minister of Education to allow the extension of the term employment contracts of the KSD senior administration beyond the current school year. No response has yet been received.

Loss of Local Bargaining

The provincial government has introduced Bill 45 which would remove the ability of local school boards to bargain with its teachers. It is unclear if and when this might become law, or its impact on the ability to attract teachers to our area.

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.