

Reducing the Size of the KSD Board

In April 1959, the Kelsey School District # 2376 was formed by amalgamating the two one room schools in the Carrot Valley School District #2283, and a one room school in Wanless School District #2301, with The Pas School District #1635. In June 1959 a new consolidated Kelsey School Division #45 was formed by the government. As part of this agreement three wards were established for the school division with one trustee from each of the rural areas, Ward 2 (Carrot Valley) and Ward 3 (Rall's Island/Wanless), and five trustees from Ward 1 (The Pas).

The KSD student population grew steadily, maxing out in the 1970s. The establishment of Opaskwayak Education Authority, more local schools in Frontier School Division, and a slow decrease of the student population as the community aged also occurred. In 2019, a KSD review of the representation quotient of the school division (the number of voters represented by a trustee) revealed that the disparity had steadily increased: Consideration of a reduction of trustees in KSD is based on the following:

1. A need to reduce the disparity of electors between existing wards.
2. A commitment to be as efficient as possible in a time of rising costs and lowering provincial grants.

Right of School Board Action

The Public Schools Act indicates that a school board may, by by-law,

- (a) alter the boundaries of existing wards;
- (b) increase or decrease the number of wards;
- (c) increase or decrease the number of trustees in any ward but the total number of trustees shall not be fewer than five or more than nine;
- (d) abolish the existing wards and establish the number of trustees to be elected at large, which must be not fewer than five or more than nine.

Such a by-law would take effect on the date of the next general election of trustees in the school division (ex. October 2022). While this is a Board of Trustees decision, the opinion of the ratepayers of the KSD is sought before proceeding.

You are requested to complete a survey by December 22, 2021 to aid the Board in its decision. Your residence Ward location (1, 2 or 3) is asked to assist in understanding the dimensions of the responses. Thank you for your participation.

Complete the survey [HERE](#).

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HN8S7LW>

December 16, 2021