



KELSEY SCHOOL DIVISION  
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www.ksd.mb.ca

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

## **BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS – March 14, 2022**

Vaughn Wadelius,  
Chair  
623-3073

Kerri Huculak  
Vice-Chair  
623-1708

Amy Hopper  
620-2887

Sharain Jones  
623-6376

Jennifer Olinyk  
623-5365

Trevor Yahnke  
620-9680

Selena Mell,  
Superintendent

Graham Kahler  
Secretary Treasurer

### **Board Trustee Reduction**

The Board took another step toward the reduction of the Board size from seven to five members to better reflect existing population shifts since the school division was established in 1959. It agreed to request the Minister of Education to approve this move, recommending the amalgamation of Wards 2 and 3 into one rural ward, and dropping a trustee from each of the two resulting wards. Should the Minister approve, these changes would then require a Bylaw change and could not occur until the October 2022 provincial trustee election.

### **Superintendent Report**

The Superintendent reported on the changes in the pandemic protocols directed by the Manitoba government as the Division moves to a green risk level. She urged students, teachers and community members to be understanding of each other's personal choices, as masks become recommended rather than required in schools. Anyone can continue to choose to wear a mask, based on their individual risk and personal preference.

An LGBTQ facilitator from the Diversity Essentials Training Center in Winnipeg will be in The Pas from Wednesday March 16-Friday March 18 and meet with students from the Gay Straight Alliance Clubs in our schools, as well as speaking to our counselors.

The annual KSD professional development day being held for KSD staff on Friday will utilize a mix of several in-person and virtual presentations. PD opportunities are a chance to collaborate, learn new information and strategies, and are an investment in our staff. Some invites have been extended to the RCMP, The Pas Immigration, Flin Flon and northern education partners who may wish to take advantage of this unique opportunity as well as regional organizations. The focus of the sessions will address cultural diversity in meeting community needs, and various student wellness issues. The list of presenters and topics is posted on the KSD website.

### **Secretary-Treasurer's Report**

The 2022-23 budget preparation has been a main focus of attention these last few months. The draft to this stage has removed the earlier full list of requests from schools and retained only the replacement of a school bus and a vehicle which have reached their operational limits. The school bus purchase had been deferred for two years as government funding reduction targets had to be met, but student safety has to take precedence going forward. Some of the deleted capital requests that were based on grants applied for could be revisited if the grants eventually come through.

### **Finance Committee**

The development of the 2022-23 KSD draft budget continues, once again delayed somewhat due to late information received from government. While there is a current deficit in the latest draft projection resulting from expected operational cost increases due to inflation and possible expected salary negotiations next year, work continues to pare this down. Provincial bargaining for teacher salaries is now being organized and the future impact is as yet unknown. The Board must approve the final 2022-23 budget by March 28 for submission to the province. Continued appeals to government are being made to accommodate the various revenue restrictions and uncontrollable expenses that contribute to our possible deficit.

### **Liaison Rep Reports**

Activity information from MBCI student liaison representative Josh Santolaja noted students were able to participate in a virtual Health Science presentation, a Spring flower sale activity was planned, the Junior Varsity Girls basketball team placed 4<sup>th</sup> in provincials, and the boys' and girls' teams were victorious in their zone finals and can participate in provincial finals.

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.