

**KVHS PSSC Minutes**  
**October 6, 2020 6:30PM**

**LOCATION: [MS TEAMS](#)**

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**In attendance:** Andrew MacBean, Mary Ellen Veale, Jennifer LeBlanc, Carmen Atkinson, Bill Allen, Stephanie Costain (KVHS teacher representative), JoEllen Jensen (KVHS principal), Roger Nesbitt (DEC representative), Tracy McPhee, Jana Comeau (Chair).

1. Call to Order and Introductions
2. Approval of agenda
3. Record of February 24, 2020 meeting
  - a. This item was tabled until a further meeting.
4. New Business
  - a. Overview of Role of PSSC
    - i. Review Education Act, Sections 32-33 – Establishment of Parent School Support Committees (**Attachment 1**): J.Comeau suggested that members review the attached document which outlines the role of the PSSC as laid out by the New Brunswick Education Act.
    - ii. PSSC Budget Allocation and Process (**Attachment 2**): The 2020/2021 budget is \$2,462.40. Committee members were encouraged to review this attachment in preparation for budget discussions that will begin in November. It is acknowledged that this year might require some creativity to ensure the school has everything it needs to operate safely.
    - iii. District Appeals Committee – This item was missed and will be reviewed at the next meeting.
  - b. Discussion – communications in the new education model. A general discussion about experiences thus far with the new, but temporary, learning model was held. A summary of comments is as follows:
    - i. It is understood that curriculum outcomes have been parred down for the current and parents are curious about understanding the actual impact of this decision.
    - ii. There is concern that the approach being taken in NB was not done in collaboration with universities and could impact students applying to universities outside of the province. Dalhousie University as an example is requiring actual marks for the class of 2021 and is not presently accepting the CR designation granted the second semester of 2019/2020.
    - iii. There were questions about when more extracurricular activities might start.
    - iv. Some parents are concerned about the home-schooling days and feel their child(ren) are missing needed support, while others indicated their child(ren) able to be productive.
    - v. The current model generally is much less collegial and personal. Even on in-school days, there is very little engagement among peers compared to normal

circumstances. For some students, particularly those who are more prone to introversion, this actually reduces anxiety about attending school, while for others, it adds to their overall stress.

- vi. J. Jensen reinforced the need for parents to ensure home-schooling days are treated as school days – i.e. that sleep times are adhered to, etc.

## 5. Reports

- a. District Education Council (R. Nesbitt): R. Nesbitt indicated that he was recently on a call with the Deputy Minister of Education, and wanted to confirm that the department is working on plans to address many of the issues raised by parents in this discussion. He confirmed that all schools are dealing with similar issues and are working towards solutions. He also mentioned that schools are approaching PSSC meetings from several different angles – some are doing in person, some online and some blended.
  - b. Principal Report (J. Jensen): The following points were brought forward –
    - i. Regular school safety training conducted in fall (fire alarms, lock downs, etc.) has all been adapted to be consistent with public health guidelines.
    - ii. The school start presented with many challenges and successes related to technology roll-outs and adaptation to new teaching and learning methodologies. J. Jensen is encouraging all teachers to move to a fully synchronous learning approach but at present, there are many different approaches being followed.
    - iii. Extracurricular activities are starting. NBIAA approved a plan to allow fall sports to run, and winter ones will begin shortly. A grad class apple picking event was successful though it needed to be run over 2 days given alternating schedules for students. Brent Mason will be conducting a songwriter's workshop for students, the leadership team is rolling out plans for the annual Pink Week activities which is a large fundraising event for breast cancer awareness.
    - iv. The school improvement planning process, though impacted by the pandemic, is moving forward.
  - c. Student Leadership report (S. Costain): This year students interested in leadership positions were asked to submit a resume for consideration. Given the split in attendance, two full leadership teams of 13 students have been assigned, one for A-L students and one for M-Z students. The two Presidents are Keagan Miller and Ben Hogan.
6. Once Around the Table: There was consensus in the comments here in which all members expressed their thanks to the school administrators and teachers for adjusting on such short order to the requirements under Covid-19 protocols. There was broad understanding of the challenges this year has imposed on the running of the school, and parents are willing to support in any way possible.
7. The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30PM. It will be held in the school cafeteria with an option for parents to also dial in via MS Teams.