

KSS and Vanier Meeting Minutes

September 22nd, 2026 @ 6:30pm – KSS Library

Attendees: Darren Seymour, Chris Morrow, Christie Scales, Carissa Bird, Nicole Honderich, Jordan Morelli, Jacoba Lilius,

Minute Taker : Nicole Honderich

1. Welcome

Darren welcomed attendees and started the meeting

2. Land Acknowledgement

Darren shared the updated LDSB Land Acknowledgement with the group, alongside an explanation that KSS and Vanier are working to move land acknowledgements beyond words, encouraging students to engage in reflection, learning, connection, and meaningful acts of reconciliation. Darren also acknowledged that he had shared Jordan Morelli's previously expressed concerns regarding historical accuracy of the updated Land Acknowledgement with the LDSB for review and consideration.

Introductions Round Table

Several new members:

3. Approval of Agenda

Approved as presented

4. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes from last meeting not available

5. Parent Council Election:

Chair – Stephanie

Vice Chair – Christie Scales

Communications* – Virginia Venditti, *new role

Secretary – Nicole Honderich

Indigenous Representatives – to be filled

PIC Representatives – Carissa Bird, Jacoba Lilius

Vacant positions can be filled at subsequent meetings; consensus that an official role for Members at Large was unnecessary

6. Student Representatives:

Students will come to future meetings to share perspective on classes, extracurriculars, fundraisers and the student experience

7. Teacher Representative Update:

Likewise, teachers will come, when possible, to share highlights of classroom learning, activities, and extracurriculars from teaching staff perspective

8. Principal's Report

- a) Great start to the school year! Students have made a quick transition from summer to school mode with enthusiasm and positivity. Ms. Hopkins has stepped into the VP role for KSS following Ms. Sousa's retirement from the role
- b) Sadly, due to needs across the system and because of some smaller class sizes, Vanier has been reduced from 10 classrooms to 9 – staff have worked diligently to minimize disruption. Vanier thanks Mr. Wiens and Mr. Buck for everything they have contributed and wish them the best with their transition to new schools. Vanier is also grateful that Ms. Suniga has taken on the music program for the year.
- c) Enrollment at Vanier is at 255 students; 1155 students at KSS
- d) Wide range of extracurricular activities available at both schools – athletics, drama, music, math, business, activity clubs, etc. Students encouraged to participate.
- e) Occasionally, parents will receive notices regarding safe school incidents – this is for awareness, and most safety protocols are undertaken from an abundance of caution.
- f) Portables working well, space continues to be a challenge requiring creative solutions to ensure classrooms are available
- g) Start of the Year Grade Assemblies took place, where student code of conduct was reviewed, and a culture of participation and inclusion promoted. Chris Morrow shared an overview of the “Hate Has No Home Here” messaging, and the options available to students – allyship, speaking with trusted adults, human rights reporting. He explained that all classrooms have poster reinforcing these messages. Staff also received training during the Professional Activity Day. Christie Scales put forward the idea that sending pictures of the posters home,

alongside some communication for parents to discuss with their kids might be a good idea for the Communications Lead (Virginia Venditti)

- h) KSS/Vanier office is extremely busy and they are currently working through changes to be implemented through a new role – finding efficiencies to ensure that both schools are served best
- i) A discussion about the new attendance/participation grades, implemented by the Ministry of Education; focusing on student success; recognizing that some students may be anxious about absences, working on clarity (excused absences will not be penalized) – also an idea for Communications -how to support your kids
- j) An increase to fees for student activities will be seen – Ministry has changed funding structures, where schools are individually responsible for supply coverage, etc. Need to operate at cost recovery. Subsidies available for students in need.

9. PIC Update

Not available yet

10. New Business

- a) Parent Council sponsored events on the horizon – PRO grant (Human Library or other activity – new year), My Blueprint Evening (February) – please think about these events and whether you can be involved with planning, organization – to be discussed next meeting
- b) Council Bylaws – to be discussed with Virginia Venditti at a later date

11. Adjournment

Darren thanked members in attendance and those that sent regrets; looks forward to next meeting on October 20th. Ended meeting.