
Agenda – KSS and Vanier

Tuesday, 01 October 2025

KSS Library

6:30 p.m.

- 1. Welcome – Darren Seymour**
- 2. Welcome to Territory – Jen Kehoe**
- 3. Introductions Round Table**
- 4. Approval of agenda**
- 5. Approval of previous meeting minutes**
- 6. School Council Election – Darren Seymour**
 - a) Chair
 - b) Vice Chair
 - c) Secretary
 - d) Indigenous Representatives
 - e) Parent Involvement Committee (PIC) Representative
 - f) Members at Large
- 7. Student Representative Update – Adrita Karr**
- 8. Teacher Representative Update – Rob Switzer**
- 9. Principal's Report – Darren Seymour**

We have had a great start to the school year! Students have quickly made the transition from summer to school mode and have settled into their classes at both Vanier and KSS. Our enrolment at both schools is above our initial projections and, while we are excited by that growth, it took immense work to successfully timetable students. This work is ongoing for semester two with pressures around class sizes and room availability.

Before the year started, we had staff and students preparing for our incoming Grade 9 cohort at KSS. Our student leaders do a spectacular job of welcoming new students to our school and the success of this is reflected in how quickly school routines were established. Fall sports began before the end of day bell rang on the first day of school and are now well underway.

Each year we begin with Grade Assemblies from Vanier through to Grade 12. We use this opportunity to set expectations and routines for our students and to encourage them to engage in goal setting and personal involvement in life at KSS and Vanier. One area where we continue to emphasize citizenship is with respect to our actions in and around the school. We remind students that they are a part of the community and that their behaviour off property should reflect all that we value at KSS and Module Vanier.

We are so looking forward to the year ahead and all that it brings for our students!

10. PIC Update

11. New Business – plan for the year to raise awareness in our Parent community. It may also be prudent to determine if there are fundraising opportunities through community partners/support.

12. Adjournment

Minutes – KSS and Vanier
Tuesday, 01 October 2025; 6:30 p.m.
KSS Library

Attendance: Darren Seymour, Chris Morrow, Rob Switzer, Stephanie Van Der Pryt, Hamon Kahani, Christie Scales, Jennifer Kehoe, Carissa Bird, Nicole Honderich, Anja Wilke, Mona Rahman, Sarah Thompson, Laura McDiarmid, Virginia Venditti, Jordan Morelli, Leanne Devlin

1. Welcome

Darren welcomed everyone in the meeting. He introduced himself briefly. He noted that the staff at KSS/Vanier try to work and be seen as one school.

2. Welcome To Territory

Jennifer Kehoe gave the Welcome to Territory

3. Introductions Round Table

Everyone introduced themselves. It was nice to see a mix of KSS and Vanier parents.

4. Approval of Agenda

Agenda was received by all.

5. Approval of previous meeting minutes

This was not required.

6. Council elections

- a) Chair – Stephanie Van Der Pryt
- b) Vice Chair – Hamon Kahani
- c) Secretary – Christie Scales
- d) Indigenous Representative: Jennifer Kehoe
- e) Parent Involvement Committee: Christie Scales, Carissa Bird
- f) Members at Large:
 - a. Nicole Honderich, Anja Wilke, Mona Rahman, Sarah Thompson, Laura McDiarmid, Virginia Venditti, Jordan Morelli, Leanne Devlin
 - b. Teacher Rep - Rob Switzer
 - c. Principal – Darren Seymour
 - d. Vice Principal – Chris Morrow

7. Student Rep Update

Adrita Karr is our Student Rep for this year. She was unable to attend the first meeting. She will be at the meeting on 21 October.

8. Teacher Representative Update

- Rob Switzer is the Teacher Rep for KSS.
- KSS is bursting with students this year.
- What do parent's want to hear about at meetings? **le.** For involvement with your students, as them to login to minds online
- Rob talked about the importance of being involved in your student's education
- A recruiting fair will happen soon for 2027 Vietnam trip
- Greece trip for IB students – meeting at 5:30 p.m. on 08 October in the library

9. Principal's Report

- KSS built 1300 timetables; large classroom sizes.

Discussion pursued re large classroom sizes.

- **Anja Wilke** asked about 'open borders'. **Why is KSS bursting with students this year?** Open borders allow students from outside of the catchment area to attend KSS, if they have their own transportation. Parents are allowed to enrol their student up to March in the school year.
- **What are the solutions for September 2026? What is the explanation for moving kids online and possibly into portables? Why are courses collapsing?** Darren Seymour explained using the example that in June a class size may be 20 kids and then by September, with students changing their minds regarding a class, that class size may change to 8 students, so the course collapses. If there is a course that is highly sought after, it may require some students taking the course online.
- The school only has so many classrooms, so there is the possibility of portables for KSS. The number of portables is not known currently. KSS cannot have portables without permissions from the Board and it must go through the City of Kingston. It has not gone through the city yet.
- **What is the current enrolment?** KSS 1170 and last year was 1048.
- Parents voiced concerns over online courses and portables; what can we do? This topic will be added to the agenda to discuss at the next meeting. Some parents would like to write a letter to Jim Neil, Trustee, voicing their concerns. If this letter does come to fruition, it has to be written realizing funding not from KSS and with careful wording.
- **Current classroom sizes?** It depends on the course. **le.** Culinary/Shop classes at 20, some Math courses at 36.
- **Mona Rahman** noted that we need to reach out to families beyond School Council to get their opinions on the concerns. Others noted that if they wanted their voices heard, they should be at the council meeting. **Stephanie Van Der Pryt** voiced that not all families can attend council meetings and should not be left out of important topics for that reason. Everyone has the right to be at meetings and/or contact council for any concerns/ questions. We represent all families.
- Five (5) different bands this year run by Ms. Kelli Caravan.
- Club Carousel happened on 18 September. Club Carousel is a morning when Grade 9/10 rotate

through different stations or activities to work on a variety of tasks.

- [Will the S'more newsletter continue?](#) No, not currently.

10. PIC Update

- Parent Involvement Committee: a formal, board-level meeting that enhances parent engagement to support student achievement.
- 23 October 2025: public event PIC meeting; see **Virginia Venditti** for more information
- FB page: Virginia will send to Stephanie for the minutes
- ProFunding: need to submit reports \$500 for KSS and \$500 for Vanier

11. New Business

- Need to raise awareness in our parent community and be prudent to determine if there are fundraising opportunities through community partners/sponsors. FoodSharing costs \$10,000+.
- Asked if Vanier students can access the cafeteria. They do not have the same timetable as KSS therefore making it difficult to use the cafeteria. Special times that they can purchase from the KSS caf. We have a culinary program that is highly successful, and the students are the ones that prepare food for our cafeteria.
- **Mona** let us know that on 19 October 2025 there is an open house at the Mosque from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. and another open house on 22 October 2025 @ Queens at 7 p.m. The events page is a good area to find out information: [@IHM KINGSTON on Facebook](#).

12. Adjournment

Meetings:

2025

21 October

18 November

16 December

2026

20 January

17 February

10 or 24 March

21 April

19 May

16 June