

Kingswood Elementary Parent School Association
kingswoodpsa@gmail.com

Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2021 (6:30 p.m.)

1. **Welcome and attendance:** Andrew Hall, Jenifer Cooper, Jody Waugh, Tanya Chambers-Spriggs, Andrea Briand, Martha Walsh, Carrie McBay, Robyn Bishop, Vanessa Valentini, David Humphreys, Sandria van den Heuvel, Janis Mader, Melissa Bourgoyne, Danielle Powers and others via ZOOM

2. **Current PSA Executive:**
Jody Waugh- Co-President
Jenifer Cooper- Co-President
Andrew Hall- Treasurer
Tanya Chambers-Spriggs- Co-Secretary
Sandria van den Heuvel- Co-Secretary

Sarah Bowes- Past President
Sarah Gardner- Past VP

PSA Committee: Sarah Bowes (Past President) Sarah Gardener (Vice President) have stepped down as Executive members this year. The two “Sarah’s” have been a force within our school! They have been responsible for planning so many fun events and fundraising initiatives over the years. Their hard work has made a lasting impact on the school and created amazing experiences and memories for students, parents and staff. They will continue to guide the current Executive Committee throughout the school year!

Thank-you also to Mahsa Ebrahimian who assisted as a co-treasurer in 2019-2020.

3. **Principal’s update- Andrea Briand;**

Principal Andrea Briand provided an update to attendees. She remarked that there were limited opportunities in the 20-21 school year for PSA initiatives due to Public Health and HRCE restrictions surrounding events and fundraisers.

She introduced the school Vice Principals, Carrie McBay and Martha Walsh.

She advised that “safe” fundraising events will be allowed this year. Examples she provided were raffles, 50/50 draws, catalogue ordering and popcorn sales. She advised that we will reassess later in the year depending on Public Health Guidelines.

She provided an update on the growth of the school, there are now currently 882 students (75 of whom are pre-primary students at the secondary site). There are 34 homeroom classes (Primary-6). She advised that at the time of the meeting she did not have any further information regarding the boundary review that will precede the new West Bedford school opening.

She highlighted some identified school needs including;

More Chromebooks due to the growth/ repair. She was happy to report that there were enough last year to ensure all students who needed one for at home learning were accommodated.

Picnic Tables for the new Portables (10).

Outdoor Playground equipment (being deferred for 1 year)

4. Treasurers Update: Andrew Hall

Andrew has been the PSA treasurer for the past few years and provided an update on the PSA financial situation. The PSA has not been able to fundraise for the past 1 ½ years due to Public Health/HRCE restrictions. Traditionally the PSA offers each classroom teacher a sum of money to assist them in setting up their classrooms. He advised that the PSA could consider \$125 to \$150 for each classroom teacher with the option to spread out the funding throughout the year. The budget is not sufficient enough to support the \$250 contribution made to each teacher in past years.

The PSA currently has approximately \$9000.00 remaining in the account. He advised small fundraisers will help to increase this number while still offering teachers some support albeit not what the PSA has been able to do in the past. It was discussed that some funds need to remain in order to fund start-up costs for revenue generating events once public health restrictions are lifted.

5. General Discussion:

This was our first in person meeting since the beginning of the pandemic. We were very happy to see so many new faces at the meeting. We had a general discussion surrounding fundraising ideas that fall within the current Public Health Guidelines as approved by the HRCE.

Some ideas/ fundraisers being looked into by those in attendance are;

Mabels Labels, Valley Christmas pie fundraiser, Christmas Catalogue, Citrus sales, Harvest Wine fundraiser codes, school clothing, Meadowbrook Farms meat sales, apple sales, chocolate sales, Vessey Seed Sales, Christmas wrapping paper sale, cookie dough and coffee sales. Thank-you to all who have agreed to look into various fundraising avenues. The committee looks forward to hearing from you!

Tanya Chambers-Spriggs will apply for lottery licences for the school for future 50/50 draws and special occasion raffle baskets like those done at the Christmas socials in the past.

Other initiatives discussed included Spring Outdoor Movie (If restrictions at the time allow), Grade 6 "Grad" Hooded Sweatshirts for purchase.

Jody Waugh will be passing the stencils used to paint the games outside on to another school.

Jenifer Cooper will approach the Developers in West Bedford re: Picnic table donations for the portable classrooms.

Tanya Chambers-Spriggs will approach the Kingswood Residents Association regarding partnering again re: outdoor movies (Spring).

The PSA is working to upgrade our email list. Several families whose children have moved on the MSMS or moved have been removed. The PSA is a volunteer committee so we do not have the school email list. If you would like to be added to our email list for minutes/ other updates please email us at Kingswoodpsa@gmail.com . We will also try to post as much as possible to the Kingswood PSA facebook page which you can find by searching "Kingswood Elementary Parent School Association-PSA" in Facebook.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

General Information- The PSA executive will assess in the upcoming months and meetings may be held virtually depending on the regulations/safety surrounding the pandemic. We will update parents/guardians with any news. Please don't hesitate to contact us via our facebook page or by email kingswoodpsa@gmail.com with any ideas, concerns or questions!

Stay Happy and Healthy Everyone!