

**KVHS PSSC Minutes  
November 20, 2018 (Regular Meeting)**

Present– Darren Ferguson, Colleen Flower (teacher representative), JoEllen Jensen (Principal), Ron Lockhart, Tracy MacPhee, Sandra MacDougall, Rob Mandeville, Carolyn McCoy (Chair), Doug Myles, Charlotte Pollard (student representative),

Regrets– Gail Evans Brown, Holly DeWolf, and Ellen Snider

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. PSSC members were welcomed and introductions were made around the table. Quorum was achieved.

**2. Approval of the Agenda**

There were no corrections or additions to the agenda.

Motion to Approve: Doug Myles

Second: Darren Ferguson

Motion carried.

**3. Approval of October Minutes**

Motion to Approve: Sandra MacDougall

Second: Ron Lockhart

Motion carried.

**4. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence received.

**5. Student Representative Report**

The report was delivered by Charlotte Pollard and described two upcoming events:

- November 22: Grade ten movie afternoon from 4:00-6:00. There will be a similar movie event for each grade during the year.
- December 7: Casino Night: This event will be the kick-off to the “Twelve Days of Christmas” at KVHS. There will be a different event each day at lunch leading up to the Christmas break. Students from all grades will be invited to participate.

**6. Outstanding Action Items**

Thank you cards were sent to the presenters in the Grade 9 Health Fair.

**7. New Business:**

a. Dates for the 2017-2018 meetings: Monday nights do not work for all members of the PSSC. In order to best meet the availability of PSSC members, the committee will rotate between Monday and Tuesday nights as much as possible. Dates for the subsequent meeting will be determined at the end of each meeting.

## 8. Principal's Report

- a. Athletics – The football team won provincials! Winter sports are up and running with four basketball teams, two hockey teams and a swim team. We had our “Winter Sports Celebration” organized by the leadership classes.
- b. Arts – The music program is going strong with the Blue Tones and concert band playing in the KVHS Remembrance Day ceremony and the ceremony at the Q-Plex. They also have a concert scheduled in early December at the Shannex.
- c. Social justice/ charity work - Fifteen students are travelling to the Me to We day in Halifax next week. The school continues with its fundraising and support for Marris Gootjes. The Shoebox campaign is underway, and the school is supporting several “Christmas Families”
- d. Academics – Report cards went home on November 9. Parent-teacher are November 23 and 24. A perfect attendance celebration is scheduled for Thursday, Nov 23.
- e. School Improvement Plan (SIP) update – Ends policy #1: To demonstrate continuous improvement in students through inclusion, assessment and empowering students to succeed. The ends policy was reviewed and discussed as follows:
  - The pros and cons of standardized testing (across a course being taught by multiple teachers) were discussed. Although staff have standardized the sections on course syllabi, it is not always feasible to standardize the tests as different teachers may use a variety of activities to achieve the outcomes for a given course.
  - There was discussion of how the SIP is developed. The district develops its ends policies, and a District Improvement Plan (DIP). Schools align the goals within their SIPs with those in the DIP, but tailor their ends toward school needs using data specific to their school. The PSSC is provided with an opportunity for input during the development of the SIP.
  - The full SIP is on the KVHS website, under “Parent Resources”.

JoEllen was asked if she has received feedback from staff, parents and/or students on the half-day professional development days. Although she has not gotten feedback from parents, students have reported that they do not feel like material is being covered during the shortened classes on those days. This was confirmed by Charlotte.

JoEllen and Colleen noted that it can be hard to get into a rhythm for the shortened classes, but that the professional development activities are focused, relevant and practical. Teachers are able to adjust classroom activities throughout the weeks when a half-day is scheduled to accommodate the change in schedule. They are still adjusting to this change in process.

The district superintendent is seeking input regarding these half days. This topic will be added to the agenda for the May meeting, once a few more half days have occurred.

## 9. Once Around the Table

Ron commented that the regular e-mails from JoEllen to parents are a good communication tool, and that he appreciates that she highlights the school's performance on the Health and Wellness Survey. He had a question about how the school addresses areas where they score lower than the provincial average. These areas are considered as staff develop the School Improvement Plan, and when extracurricular activities (such as the Grade 9 Health Fair) are planned.

Doug wondered if there is a district initiative relating to marijuana awareness and use. Tracy noted that there had been a seminar at the district for those working in human resources. JoEllen will follow-up with the district and let the PSSC know when something has been developed. This will also be considered as a topic for the 2018 health fair.

Darren commented positively on the influence that football coach, Mike Mancuso, has had on the discipline of the team and its players.

Darren asked for an update on the status of paving the road to the field. JoEllen will make enquiries with the district.

Charlotte noted that the baseball team came second at provincials and the softball team won provincials. The Chair will send congratulatory notes to each team or school group who the committee feels is deserving of one.

## **12. Adjournment**

Motion to Adjourn: Ron Lockhart.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01PM.