

Kimberly School Council

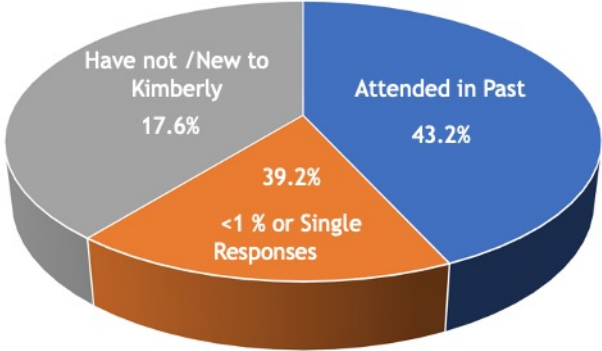


Survey Summary

Gabriela Romero

Attendance Benchmark

Attendance in the Past



QUESTION:

What would make KSC meetings more effective, or enable/encourage you to attend?

29 Responses

- Most significant issue was conflicts leading to being unavailable, These include but are not limited to:
 - Work
 - Children Schedules (ex. Activities, Family Dinner, Bedtime, etc)
 - Most feedback points to meetings 8 PM or later (though that is a moving target request)
- Lack of preparation and/or no agenda/reference notes for review to provide context for meeting
 - Provide Agenda and access to monthly meeting notes / recaps with any supporting material (as available)
 - More streamlined email/update communication process. So, fewer and more targeted correspondence
 - Email reminder on the day of.
- Transparency
 - Looking for a welcoming, non-judgemental, Inclusive, diverse space.
 - Better connection and guidelines for parents not associated to the executive community to listen, share and contribute to the process that happens outside the meetings.
 - Possibility to contribute and possibly vote on council / parent tabled items ONLINE.

They always conflict with my work schedule, im off work usually on Fridays

Continue with zoom meetings

-Holding them at a variety of times (e.g., 6:30 one month, then 7:00 the next, etc.)

-An agenda should be sent around a week in advance

-An email reminder that day

Making monthly meeting notes available to parents by emailing them out directly.

Agenda prior to the meeting

Brief, not during dinner time

Inclusiveness

I don't feel like the decisions made are poor and don't impact my children enough to spend 2hrs in the evening on yet another meeting. I would prefer to read summaries and vote for things online.

Hold them after bedtime, 8pm is great!

Advance agendas with supporting materials and decision points. Later meeting start times - like 8:00pm.

Not having it via zoom, but rather in person.

Timing... if it was after the kids were in bed I would be able to attend - 8/8:30 PM.

Virtual meetings are great!

Not have them at dinner time or bed time. Move them to 8 pm

It is not KSC, it is timing on my end

Last year was her first year and the pandemic was prohibitive

A council that is more reflective of the diverse population that attends the school.

Genuine interest in hearing of new different ways of doing business. Status quo may not always be good/effective/productive.

If any actual change came out of them

To feel like it is a welcoming, open, non-judgemental and inclusive space in which different perspectives are considered and parents are supportive of each other and their efforts.

Change timing to 8:00 pm

After dinner time and not on a Monday

I would be more likely to attend if the meetings were later in the evenings. The meetings are always scheduled during dinnertime.

Have them at 8pm. 6:30pm is the worst possible time to have meetings for parents of small children. It is peak dinner time and leads into the time that the children are the most tired and need parental attention.

Change in times, after 8:00.

I will attend the meetings.

Would be great if the meetings were later in the evening (i.e., after kids' bedtime).

I haven't attended in a few years (in-person, pre-pandemic). At the time, it was hard to know how attending was helping since I wasn't on the executive. I liked feeling informed, but there was no action beyond that. It would be helpful to know how parents can actually contribute without being on the executive and how to be connected to the decision-making process that seems to happen outside the meetings.

Just keep spreading the word. If you're not a stay-at-home parent and/or visible in the schoolyard often - it's still easy to miss information, or think that KSC is executive only.

Agenda sent out ahead of time maybe. There's a lot of emails to keep track of so it's easy to miss..

virtual stream during the meeting for parents who can't come in

QUESTION:

What types of information would you like to see discussed at KSC meetings? (e.g. classroom activities, future school planning, ongoing / future facilities improvements, TDSB updates.

27 Responses



Extra programming , facility support

- Classroom activities - what is the school's academic focus this year? (Maths, literacy, mental health, etc) What is it doing to raise EQAO scores, particularly in maths?

- Is there a teacher rep? How can we support teachers?

- Outdoor space/yard improvements - what is the school's plan to improve the track and field,

including councils plans to fundraise for it?

- General future planning ideas/initiatives

All of the above!

School updates, fundraising needs for school, ongoing issues, curriculum changes

Classroom activities, future planning

Future planning, expenditures , classroom activities improvements

Finding/funding resources for special educational needs

Classroom activities, upcoming events

All of the examples listed. School priorities; opportunities/call outs for volunteers/supply

Curriculum and academic topics. How much will be taught in a school year. Way less focusing on social/political agendas in school.

What's going on at the school. All of the aboce

Classroom activities

Future planning, school wide activities

a 5 year plan and the roadmap of getting there/achieving these goals. How better to address inequity and it's impact, increased physical activity, how to build community, etc.

Enrichment opportunities for our children such as mental health supports and building social skills; opportunities to get involved.

Future facility improvements, field trip opportunities

Best ways to support the teachers/classrooms

School initiatives and improvements

School improvement projects and initiatives, classroom activities, TDSB updates, lockdown drills and other such safety planning activities, fundraising initiatives

All of the above

Ways to help, classroom activities, programs, mental health initiatives, extracurricular.

Activities, Improvements, Funding

Art experiences/events for older grades 😊

Definitely future planning and facilities improvements. I'd like to see more about DE&I and how we can prioritize that in our school community. Community outreach is also critical in my opinion - deepening our connection to the community around us and teaching that sense of responsibility to the kids.

Facility improvements and events that bring the outside in (Scientist in the Classroom, Theatre Productions, Theatre Workshops, Variety Village - anything to help students with inclusion and empathy.

Current issues and steps being taken

how virtual students assigned at this school may be attending in Feb once/if vaccines for <11 years are approved.

QUESTION:

Which ways would you like to receive information?



QUESTION:

Do you have any other suggestions to improve communications between parents and the school council?

15 Responses

- Email/Newletter at regular intervals but consolidate content with proper naming to help participants focus on the important info.
 - As per above including but not limited to: meeting minutes, process, decisions, etc. detailed captured and relayed as part of previous
- Quarterly cadence for surveys to capture top of mind and allow for more dynamic exchange of ideas in more timely fashion with the ever-changing landscape
- Use other types of Comm tools for more timely exchange. Facebook, Twitter, Dischord and other delivery types (VODs, eNewsletter, etc). Include content from the school itself!?? Maybe teacher / class spotlight per month, etc.

- An emailed newsletter that features content from inside the school. As parents, we miss that connection. Feature at least one classroom an issue. Ask one teacher per issue to write a paragraph on one project they are doing and supply photos. Great opportunity for them to brag about the wonderful work they do and parents get a look inside.

- The meeting minutes need to be complete and capture all that was said. Parents who can't attend rely on them to find out what was said.

Email communication should be automatic and if parents are not interested in receiving the information, they need to unsubscribe from the mailing list.

Quarterly/regular surveys to parents of what they would like to cover

Happy to complete frequent short (2-3min) surveys like this one.

No, emails have been great.

A sense for the communication available would be helpful (ie expect to receive an email from us once a month and check out our _____ for updates)

video messaging, easier and more engaging to view messages from the council

I have appreciated that current communications are concise and to the point, I also appreciate it when there are fewer emails/notifications so that I don't feel overwhelmed.

more regular emails

Better naming of emails so that they don't blend in with the rest of the inbox, more images in emails to draw attention, better planning for communication language and schedule

Flyers, Facebook page for the school council.

The parent FB group would be an excellent place to post developments and look for volunteers, if needed. It's a small group and not very active, but would be a great place to develop as a communication tool.

Just keep TRYING! I know it feels like all you do, but it can never be enough. Not wordy emails, but short, concise information that appears in as many places as possible (both digitally and physically)

FB user group

QUESTION:

Budget and Forecasting: Where would fundraising money be best spent this year?

- I. Outdoor yard, physical enhancement
- II. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
- III. Development of sense of belonging/community among student population
- IV. Student support in literacy

Budget and Forecasting:

In which areas would you like us to spend fundraising money this year?

- * 70% outdoor yard, physical enhancement
- * 68% DEI
- * 52% Development of sense of belonging/community among student population
- * 48% student support in literacy
- * 46% performing activities for students
- * 46% physical activity for students
- * 38% physical art education
- * 22% Digital fluency for students

QUESTION:

What topics would you like to see covered in virtual parent education this year?

- I. Student mental health and well-being
- II. Equity and inclusivity
- III. Digital safety
- IV. Parenting Strategies

What topics would you like to see covered in virtual parent education this year?

- * 57% student mental health and well-being
- * 51% equity and inclusivity
- * 46 % Digital safety
- * 40% Parenting Strategies
- * 38 % Emerging Trends in education
- * 27% Supporting learning at home
- * 25% Financial literacy
- * 21% Navigating TDSB
- * 17% Student Sexual Health

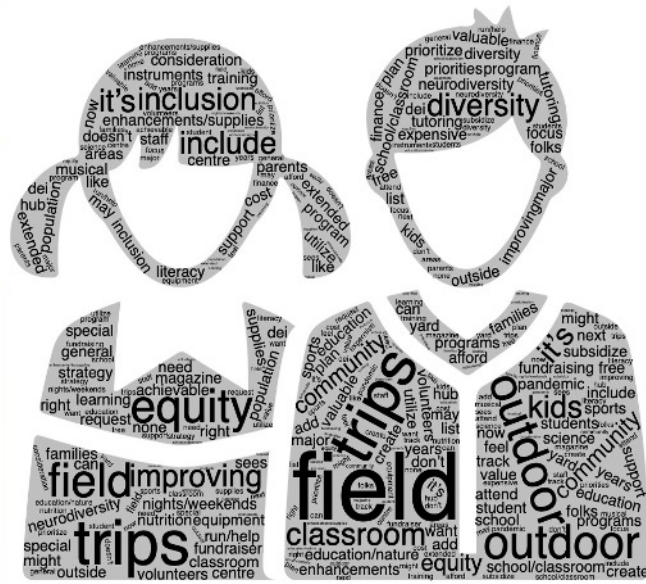
QUESTION:

Other areas you would like us to support with fundraising?

93% Said "Yes" to an ONLINE Auction

Present Budget Needs for Donation Fulfillment.

12 Responses



Are there other areas you would like us to support with fundraising?

12 responses

I feel that improving the track and field should be a major focus over the next few years, with a strategy and fundraising plan. It's very expensive but if the community (both that do and don't have kids that attend) sees the value add for them, it's achievable. Right now, the community doesn't utilize the field on nights/weekends and improving it would be valuable for the school and create a community hub. School/classroom supplies, subsidize cost of field trips, musical instruments, sports equipment.

None during the pandemic

You may want to request folks prioritize the list above. Other areas for support might include: nutrition program; field trips; general classroom enhancements/supplies Special programs like field trips (ie: Science Centre), outdoor education/nature, learning OUTSIDE the classroom.

Equity training (staff, volunteers, students, parents), free tutoring for those who need it but can't afford it for their kids

Neurodiversity in the student population - that diversity, equity and inclusion is extended to include this consideration.

Field trips

DEI and outdoor education

Finance literacy

I can run/help with the Magazine Fundraiser.

My families priorities would be diversity, equity and inclusion and outdoor yard enhancements

If you tell us how much money you need to support the planned initiatives I am sure many would donate to achieve the goals. I feel it is easier to contribute if we know what is needed. for example if your need was to buy 10 computers at \$500 each I would be inclined to donate enough to cover 1 or 2 computers. Fundraisers for the general purse without defined targets makes it harder to gauge what should be contributed. also a firm goal may see a few families willing to top up near the end of the campaign if not enough money has been raised.

QUESTION:

+ Topics/speakers for parent vEd?
++Ways KSC can support student well-being/success ?

11 Total
Responses

- Parent Topics
 - Current state of the nation/pandemic impact on the school, students, families (support system), resources and ways to build coping / compensate / support strategies both individual and “as a village”.
 - Curriculum overviews and supplemental material to support/bolster learning both in and out of the school setting
- KSC and KS community Student / School Support
 - Lots of communication and opportunity for input - we like emails related to our kids :)
 - Bully prevention programming
 - Inclusion, Inclusion, Inclusion!

Are there other topics or speakers that would be of interest for virtual parent education evenings?

5 responses:

Impacts of pandemic on families, schools and child/parent mental health - acknowledging and responses on individual, family, school and education system levels. Kids and families are stressed and teachers are being asked to do more with little/no additional support for their own stresses.

2.N/A

3.The staff from East End CHC were amazing and offered excellent parenting workshops

4.Curriculum overviews with explanations of how to support students

5.Supporting children's social / emotional development - helping the school and parents employ the same strategies. Our kids have been through quite a year and all have had varying levels of social contact with other kids. They need a bit of extra support right now.

Are there other ways in which KSC can support student well-being and achievement at Kimberley?

6 responses

1.N/A

2.Lots of communication and opportunity for input - we like emails related to our kids :)

3.

4.Communication, communication, communication - between parents / teachers, principal and parent council. We have felt very in the dark this year except for when we have reached out.

5.Support an environment that is inclusive, ask what the experiences have been to better inform your understanding of this issue. You may be surprized what you uncover, if you ask this question. If the environment is not inclusive, it will directly impact students' well-being and their ability to reach their full potential.

6.The addition of sports and sports teams - such as athletics, basketball, baseball, etc.