

Home & School Meeting Minutes

Date: September 28, 2026

Parent Representatives: Rachel Waugh (President)
Nichole Doucette (VP)
Maggie O'Brien (Treasurer)
Jessica Gorrill (Secretary)

Contact: somersetconshs@gmail.com

Attendees: Peter Fullerton

Angela Griffiths

Sarah Condon

Rachel Waugh

Jen Duffy

Jamie Gallant

Nichole Doucette

Jessica Gorrill

Mary MacDonald Pickering

Steven Charlebois

1. Peter Fullerton - School Board Trustee Update

- a. New Sexual Misconduct policy has been approved
- b. 2025-2026 Annual Report was approved at the AGM; not yet online but Peter will check when it will be posted
- c. QEES in Kensington has been put forward for expansion due to population growth after a study of all schools was completed
- d. At Principals' Meeting, discussed the needs in schools
 - i. Principals would love to see many more EAs, behavioural specialists, etc (at least 100 could easily be used)
 - ii. Board put forward request to PEI government for additional 50 positions (EAs, EALs, Behaviour Specialists - all support positions; doesn't include teaching positions)
 - Just because we've asked, doesn't mean funding will be approved
 - If approved, another block may be finding enough qualified candidates for the roles

2. Report from Admin - Angela & Sarah

- a. 183 students this year
- b. 8 new students joined the student population outside of Kindergarten
- c. 20 kindergarteners
- d. Several new staff members this year

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- i. Janaya MacNeill - Grade 6 teacher (also covers 7/8 Phys. Ed).
 - ii. Lauren Hall - New guidance counsellor
 - Background with the Child & Family and the Student Well Being Team; will do some programming with students; helps with toast program
 - iii. Melanie Graham - New Kindergarten teacher, needed due to large Kinder class size
 - e. Canteen has been converted to a space for Kindergarten
 - f. Students are enjoying the Paw coins program, want them to continue this year
 - i. New t-shirt coming as one of the prizes
 - g. One new camera being added inside the school; will be located outside the washrooms
 - h. New lockers are being installed
 - i. Angela teaching a Tech class this year to students that are not in Band
 - i. Getting into designing and creasing
 - ii. Bought a press, sublimation printer
 - Tshirts, mugs, etc
 - First project is printing on pillow cases
 - Students will learn to use Canva to design their printing projects
 - iii. Used money left from last year's budget to buy the press/printer
3. **Treasurer Report (Attached)**
- a. Causable
 - i. Balance as of Aug 31, 2026: \$3,888.79
 - b. Home & School Account
 - i. Current Balance in Bank Account: \$1,962.38
 - ii. Balance is under \$6,000 so we now pay a service fee on our bank account
 - c. Received grant for playground
 - d. Spent money on EOY field trips
 - e. In September - paid dues to the federation (cost is based on # of students in the school)
4. **Causable**
- a. Review Standing Approvals
 - i. **May 2025**: Standing approval for Sports fees, Bus fees to reduce cost of field trips, \$10 for leadership shirts yearly, \$10 for music shirts as needed (usually every 1-2 years)
 - ii. Any other purchases to be brought to home and school meetings for voting/approval
 - b. **2026-2027**:
 - i. Removed sports fees from causable, approved sports fees for players between ACC & Somerset - report from Admin about this
 - ii. Note: Angela or Margaret always reach out to Rachel for approval if purchases are needed outside of the standing approval list. If there is not a

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home & school meeting in the near future and decisions need to be made, Rachel sends the request to the 3 other reps for discussion and we reply with our approval and report the expenditures at the next home and school meeting.

- c. Gets paid to school at end of every month so don't have a Sept balance yet
- d. Angela to submit requests for funding from Causable for the following once amounts have been confirmed:
 - i. **Sand for sandbox** – Somerset Gardens sending the bill then will submit for causable – approved at meeting
 - ii. **Hotdogs & hot dog buns from meet the teacher night**. Angela to send receipt to be submitted for causable – approved at meeting
 - iii. **Pawsitive Panthers T-shirts and other prize items** – Angela to send receipt to be submitted for causable – approved at meeting

5. Meet the Teacher Night

- a. Feedback from this year
 - i. Excellent turnout; received well by teachers, parents, and students
 - ii. Teachers and parents liked mingling prior with a set time frame to be in the classrooms for Meet the Teacher. Students were excited to show their family their classroom.
- b. Excellent turn out
 - i. Ran out of hot dogs by 5pm (200 hot dogs)
 - ii. Purchase more for next year

6. Playground Update

- a. Equipment is installed
- b. Equipment & Installation has been paid for! - \$44,064.04
- c. Next Steps
 - i. Purchase Sign to showcase our donors that made this project possible!
 - There is a 4x8 currently installed. Room for an 8x8
 - Maggie received a quote for a 4x8 from Dalmac \$1,231.33
 - Will keep one side as is for the outdoor classroom
 - Update the other side for the playground donations
 - Plan: use H&S account, will leave us \$551.05 for anything that comes up like bazaar items needed, federation meeting, registrations etc. plus causable. Anything from coffee fundraiser will be kept for the projector

GOLD DONORS — \$2,000+

- Somerset Festival
- PCU
- Regis & Joan Duffy
- Somerset Festival
- Duffy's Construction

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- MWM Farms Limited

SILVER DONORS — \$1,000+

- Somerset Consolidated
- Somerset Gardens
- Hilltop Produce
- Seymour Desroches

BRONZE DONORS — \$500+

- Aerospace
- McIver Family Farms
- Kinkora Council

FRIENDS OF THE SCHOOL — \$100+

- Somerset Run Donation
- Evyonne Duffy
- Country View Farms

7. Toast Program

- 18 volunteers this year
- Switched to Walmart Grocery Delivery
- Spread the love campaign open for toast topping donations
- Will have Friday volunteers report to Rachel if anything needs to be ordered for Monday morning.
- New location of items has been communicated
- Washing dishes to be ironed out - plumber is aware that we need additional space for washing dishes

8. Committee Call-Out

- Will create a Sign-Up Genius
- Looking to create sub-committees this year
 - Social Committee** – Help create fun opportunities for our students and families. This could include:
 - Organizing 1–2 school dances per year
 - Organizing additional events if the committee would like to
 - Bringing forward new ideas for family events
 - Helping plan, organize, or volunteer at events
 - **Time commitment:** As little or as much as the committee chooses, depending on the events planned.
 - Christmas Bazaar** - Help bring our Christmas Bazaar together by:
 - Calling for and organizing donations
 - Ensuring volunteers and supplies are secured
 - Helping with setup the Friday before
 - Volunteering on the day of the Bazaar or helping secure volunteers

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- **Time commitment:** Approximately 4-6 hours total in November/December focusing on getting everything organized and helping with the school day event.

iii. **Fundraising** – Help us continue raising funds to support our school and reduce costs for families. This could include:

- Choosing and organizing 1–2 fundraisers throughout the year
- Bringing forward new fundraising ideas
- Coordinating donations, volunteers, or event details
- **Time commitment:** As little or as much as the committee chooses.

9. Fundraisers

- a. *Java Moose Coffee Fundraiser* – (\$175 for top seller prizes)
- b. *Christmas Bazaar* – Date TBD

10. Bike Rodeo

- a. Planning to start discussions soon (Fall of 2026) with goal to host in Spring 2027
- b. Reminders from previous meetings
 - i. Kensington Lions Club is interested in supporting and helping set up a Bike Rodeo in Kinkora if our school/community is interested in hosting
 - ii. This is a successful event in Kensington and could have the potential to be in Kinkora as well
 - iii. Discussed limiting to elementary age children in Kinkora Family of School
 - Somerset Consolidated
 - ACC
 - Send home registration forms with students if they want to attend/participate
- c. If any parents/community members are interested in volunteering, please reach out to Home & School. **? Bike Rodeo Committee**
- d. Angela to reach out to Lions Club to determine when we should start touching base to get the ball rolling; any volunteers would partner with the Lions Club to run the event
 - i. Within the next month or so to start discussions for planning. Angela to give Rachel's contact to the lady
 - ii. Holly has been doing them in Borden/Carleton

11. Projector System – **Fundraising Goal for 2026-2027**

- a. TCS Computer
- b. Epson L630U Laser Projector – can be used with lights on
- c. Mount
- d. Cage to protect the projector
- e. HDBase-T Controller to get HDMI up to the projector
- f. 14 ft Screen
- g. Freight Cost

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- h. Approx. Cost: **\$ 11,000** (Jan 2025 quote; will fluctuate a bit but gives us an idea)
- i. Might be good to start getting an updated quote now that our first fundraiser towards this purchase has kicked off.

12. Open Floor

- a. Fallon Berry - suggestion for using paper bags from Walmart Delivery
 - i. Art projects
 - ii. Use at Christmas Bazaar for kids to take home gifts
 - Admin confirmed they are using the ones they receive; sending home snacks w/ students in these bags and will take donations of more bags
- b. Toast Program question - Grade 7 & 8 do the toast program at another school; have kids volunteered at Somerset before?
 - i. Always parents/grandparents; they would help if asked, but we don't have a need for student volunteers at the toast program. They do volunteer with lunches and canteen
- c. Spooktacular - Oct 28 and Fry Truck

Next Meeting: October 27th at 6 PM

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Somerset Consolidate Home and School – Financial Report September 28, 2026

Two to sign accounts, held at Provincial Credit Union. Share Savings (mandatory account for membership fee of \$5.00). Business Chequing Account (SELECT ACCOUNT) fee of \$7.00 monthly – currently waived due to balance over \$6,000.00

Signing authorities:

Rachel Waugh – Home and School President

Maggie O'Brien – Home and School Treasurer

June account update:

Service fee - **\$3.50**

Payment to Somerset Gardens **\$16,492.79**

Government funds received for playground project **\$13,785.63**

Transfer to Somerset consolidated **\$3,456** (\$2,853 Shining Water and \$621 Grade 8 trip)

Balance as of June 30, 2026 \$2,398.67

July account update:

Service fee - **\$3.50**

Balance as of July 31, 2026 \$2,395.17

August account update:

Service fee - **\$3.50**

Balance as of August 31, 2026 \$2,391.67

September account update:

Payment of Home and School Federation dues **\$100.00**

Deposits for Coffee fundraising **\$180.00**

Cheque from school for playground equipment **\$2570.41**

Payment for wood chips to Cobequid Consulting **\$3,079.70**

Balance as of September 28, 2026 \$1,962.38

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COSPEI GOLDRUSH UPDATE

At the end of the school year in June 2025, COSPEI changed their process for disbursing funds to schools. They no longer deposit the funds directly into the Home and School account. Funds now must be requested by Home and School, and funds will be disbursed as needed.

Balance as of May 31, 2026 - \$5,026.13

Balance as of June 30, 2026 - \$4,288.19

Balance as of July 31, 2026 - \$2,570.41

Balance as of August 31, 2026 - \$3,888.79

Requests for funds since last meeting:

Total funds granted since beginning of school year as of April 17, 2026 - **\$16,112.80**

Total funds pending approval as of March 27, 2026 - **\$250.00 Bus cost for Arlington orchard field trip**

Requests for funding since last meeting:

Football fees - \$411.73

Leadership Camp - \$1,000.00

Bus Costs for field trips - \$453.62

Playground Update - \$2,584.00

Flag Football Fees - \$267.00

New Trumpets - \$453.77

Bus Fee for Grade 7 & 8 Field Trip - \$300.00