



MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Randi Falls (Principal), Melanie Paas (Vice-Principal), Phil Pitre, Vice-Principal, Kimberley Rogers (Co-Chair), Christine McLaughlin (Treasurer), Mark Loria (VCPAC Rep), Deidre Murphy (Secretary), Gabriela Hirt (Member at Large), Karen Hanneson (Member at Large), Kathryn Robertson (Member at Large), Nancy Mabey, Mark Redchurch, Hazel Currie, Heather Stokes, Janet Morris-Read

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Approved

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Regrets

REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHAIR

No report

REPORT FROM THE TREASURER

- Details of the TD Gaming and General accounts presented for the period November 15, 2018 – February 28, 2019, including deposits, payments, and transfers, as well as outstanding payables
- \$91.00 was contributed to the PAC Parent Contribution Fund from the Provincial Employees Community Services Fund. Thank you to the individual(s) who is contributing through their employer.
- The suggestion was made that PAC meetings be held in the cafeteria going forward
- A discussion was held regarding the possibility of determining roles for PAC members (including Members at Large) for pre-determined events such as the staff appreciation lunch. The decision was made to continue the discuss at the AGM.
- The Treasurer read out letters of appreciation from individuals/groups that received funding from the Parent Contribution Fund, including:
 - Band
 - Robotics
 - Reading and Writing Contest
 - Choir
 - Environmental Club and Science
 - Connect to Care
 - Athletics

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARY

No report

VCPAC (Victoria Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils) Report

- VCPAC offers funding for parents to attend conferences, including the:
 - Annual BCCPAC (BC Confederation of Parent Advisory Councils) Conference, taking place May 3-5, 2019 in Richmond, BC. The [BCCPAC Conference](#) is focused on the education and support of parents by parents. Send requests to info@vcpac.ca
 - [Inclusion BC Conference](#), being held in Victoria from May 23-25 at the Victoria Conference Centre. Send requests to info@vcpac.ca
- VCPAC is accepting nominations for awards for teachers, school leaders, students, and parents who contribute to education in Victoria schools until May 3rd for the 2019 VCPAC awards (taking place at the VCPAC General Meeting on May 28th at Mt Douglas Secondary School, from 7 – 9 pm). More information available at: [VCPAC Award Nominations](#)

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

- Basketball season is officially finished. We were very pleased to have our Sr. Boys win the Island Championships and go on to earn 7th place in the Provincial Championships. All girls' and boys' team played solid seasons.
- The Ski and Snowboard teams had groups qualifying for the Provincials as well and they placed well in their fields.
- Rugby, Track and Field, Ultimate Frisbee and Badminton are presently beginning their season of play.
- "Mary Poppins" the musical featured over 100 students (stage, orchestra, crew and cast). An outstanding production!
- Approximately 90 students travelling through Europe this week and next as part of the Band and Choir tour. We will have 12 students travelling to the Sea of Cortez and another 20 students travelling to Hawaii on a track and field trip.
- Report cards will be electronically reviewed by administration tomorrow and Wednesday in preparation for the Thursday release. The report card will also have a "course verification" form attached which shows the courses your child chose for next school year. Instructions encourage and changes to be returned to the office by April 1st.
- Angst documentary April 15th for parents/community. Then grade-wide viewing
- PARTY (Preventing Alcohol Related Trauma in Youth) April 18th
- District Career and Pathway Fair April 25 - approximately 2 hours total
- Discussion was held re the most recent Fraser Institute (FI) report (2017) (2018 report isn't yet out); in particular, why the school has recently experienced a drop in the FI rankings.
- Randi explained neither the school nor the School District takes the FI report into account when considering how the school is doing and where it's going. Other sources of data are looked at, including School Examination Trends, which includes standardized test results, average GPA at graduation, learning surveys, and historical trends (for the most recent five years). Data is archived and available for viewing at the school. Data around enrollment, such as within- and cross-boundary registration, as well as transfer and retention rates, are also taken into consideration.
- It was pointed out that the FI doesn't measure student engagement in school and community activities, including leadership, athletics, and theatre.
- It was also noted that standardized measures (such as provincial exams) are being phased out, so this data will no longer be relevant.
- The question was raised as to what performance indicators parents can look at to understand how the school is performing. Potential data sources include results of an international standardized test - PISA (Programme for International Student Assessment) - in reading, mathematics, and science (results from last spring are not yet available), as well as the aforementioned School Examination Trends data, and Greater Victoria School District data. Class sizes, attrition rates (including who left

- and why), results of formative assessments such as grade-wide writes, and other measures, including scholarships awarded to students (\$1.1 million in scholarships last year), are also taken into account.
- The question was raised as to whether there is something that has changed in the school or the community that may have led to the drop in FI ratings. One clear change is the introduction of the new BC curriculum; teachers are getting to grips with the curriculum and moving away from rote-memorization to more active learning.
 - It was noted that school growth plans for 2018-19 are focused on assessment practices and inclusion.
 - The question was raised as to what recourse parents have in cases where students are not happy with a teacher. Parents should contact the teacher in the first instance, and then the student should contact the counsellor. If a parent doesn't receive a response from a teacher, Randi will speak to the teacher.
 - Discussion regarding potential changes to funding models for BC schools (move from FTE to single-body funding). The proposed changes are meant to make funding more equitable across the province. If implemented, the cuts would be phased in. There are a lot of unknowns at this point, but it could impact the school.
 - A school-based committee was tasked with looking at options for the school timetable to align with changes to the curriculum and the shift from memorization to deep, personalized learning and inquiry, with an aim to create a more predictable, stable timetable.
 - The committee's discussions included whether to change to a semester system (Oak Bay is the only public school in the District that is linear). It was decided that changing to a semester timetable for the 2019/2020 school year isn't feasible.
 - Proposed changes to the timetable:
 - More streamlined
 - Four blocks a day (from five), increasing in length from 56 to 70 minutes
 - Focus blocks to be held four times a week X 45 minutes Monday through Thursday
 - Advisory to be shortened to 20 minutes and held on Fridays (based on feedback from parents, students, and teachers)
 - Later start to the school day (8.35 or 8.45 am) (based on research on adolescent sleep patterns)
 - Proposed changes will be shared with staff, who will vote on start times and other changes, following which information will be shared with parents and students
 - Changes to the timetable will be implemented in September and tried for a year to see how they work
 - Motion put forward, seconded, and carried to support the proposed changes to the timetable
 - PAC in attendance supports and recommends the later (i.e. 8.45) am start time

VICE PRINCIPAL REPORTS

Connect to Care

- Connect to Care has organized a series of activities/information sessions for students during Focus blocks between April 16 – 18, including screening of a documentary about mental health (with a focus on anxiety), *Angst*
- A community screening of *Angst* will be held on April 15th, with local experts on hand to respond to questions (Dr Lisa van Gru, Matt Staples, Oak Bay High School counsellor; Charlotte Brown, public health nurse)
- An EventBrite will be sent to the Oak Bay High community in the first instance, followed by an invite to Monterey Middle School and then to the wider community. Donations will be solicited at the door to recover some of the costs in order to continue to support Connect to Care.

- The possibility of changing the date of the next PAC meeting to April 8th (from April 15th) was discussed in order to accommodate the screening of the documentary
- Students will see the documentary over the next few days; Grade 8 students from Monterey have also been invited
- Other Connect to Care initiatives during Focus blocks include sessions on Vision Boards, consent, anxiety, therapy dogs, yoga (by Community Liaison officer Constable Sandrine Perry), and Zumba.
- The Connect to Care group is looking at trying to organize more presenters/sessions. This is being trialed as a soft start, with the goal to make it an annual event.
- PARTY (Preventing Alcohol Related Trauma in Youth) program – April 18th (full-day commitment). A lot of grade 11 students don't take advantage of the opportunity. There are 48 seats; grade 10 students will be offered any seats not taken by grade 11 students. Information will be in the school newsletter.
- The annual District Career and Pathway Fair will be held on April 25th at Archie Browning Centre. Further information in the school newsletter.

Grad Update

- Grad Assembly was held on Wednesday, February 27th
- Valedictorian elections were held, with four male and eight female candidates
- Jasmine Lee and Matthew Hadfield were elected
- Grad song vote - three options, with Fireflies by Owl City the winner
- Grad Dinner Dance May 10, 2019
 - Block Party – Willows Beach 4.00 – 6.00 pm
 - UVIC Cadboro Dining Room 6.30 – 10.30 pm
 - 334 students attending the dinner dance plus an additional 60 guests
- Graduation Recognition Ceremony – UVIC, Wednesday, June 5, 2019 6.30 pm.
 - 346 grads attending
 - Mandatory rehearsal UVIC, Farquhar Centre, 8.30 am
- Graduation Ceremony Schedule:
 - 5.30 pm Gather for class photo – UVIC Centre
 - 6.00 pm Grads line up
 - 6.30 Ceremony begins
- Ticket sales close March 11, 2019; two tickets per graduating student, with one extra ticket possible (potential lottery process, depending on numbers)
- The school is looking into the possibility of livestreaming the graduation ceremony
- Grad block party – there will be buses; students need to book ahead, \$10 a person; the grad committee is looking for parent chaperones for the bus

HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE

- It was noted that the school has implemented a lot of the ideas and suggestions put forward by the Health and Wellness Committee and is working on the path to mental health awareness and student connection. The following initiatives were highlighted:
 - Grade 9 mentor program
 - Idea for a Health and Wellness fair
 - Intramurals sport program
 - Connect to Care (student-led group)
 - Substance use awareness
 - Suggestions re how to make use of Advisory for health and wellness education
- Motion to disband the Health and Wellness Committee at this time and incorporate its work into the work of the PAC going forward was seconded and carried

- It was noted that concerns expressed by parents in the Parent Survey sent out at the start of the school year should be kept in mind when considering speakers for PAC meetings in the near future
- Congratulations and thanks were expressed to Gabriela Hirt and Beate Schmidtke for their work on the Health and Wellness Committee, in particular in raising awareness and sharing information with parents and the school.

OTHER

- Global walk out on climate change (Friday, March 15th). GVTA is supporting the release of one teacher to go to the legislature. The message to students is the distinction between leading a movement as opposed to a rebellion; to come up with a plan, build knowledge and momentum.
- The parent who is compiling information for grade 9 parents would be happy to speak to parents at the next PAC meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Monday, April 15, 2019, 7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT