



MEETING NOTES

ATTENDEES

Tom Aerts (Principal), Kimberley Rogers (Chair), Carla Unger (Treasurer), Deidre Murphy (Secretary), Kelly McClaren (Member at Large), Paula Marchese, Joanne Gemmill, Kimberly Smit, Stephanie Novak, Hazel Currie, Craig Hickie, Adam Wood-Gaines, Eve Wood-Gaines, Amanda Ouellet, Karin Sweeney

Regrets: Kerry Pridmore (Vice Chair)

INTRODUCTIONS AND TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

REPORTS

Chair - Kimberley Rogers

- Kerry is organizing a PAC appreciation event for school staff to take place within the next couple of weeks. Staff will be able to get a beverage of their choice in a local café.

Treasurer Report - Carla Unger

- Today was the deadline for funding applications from staff (to request funds from the PAC via the Gaming or Parent Contribution Fund). The application form is sent to the entire school staff, all of whom have the opportunity to apply for funds. The link to the application form will be posted on the PAC website
- Have received between 11 – 13 applications (waiting on one or two applications to come in).
- Received the Gaming Grant money this week - \$24,000 (down a bit on last year; funds are based on last year's enrolment). There are stipulations re what the Gaming Grant money can be used for; in the main the funds are used for extra-curricular activities.
- Parent Contribution Fund - approximately \$6000 received this year
- The PAC executive will go over the applications at the next meeting, where parents will be able to ask questions and vote on the applications. There is no limit to the amount of money staff can request, though there are criteria in place (e.g. number of students that will benefit from the activity or initiative).
- The principal supports the process, but decisions re allocation of funds are made by the PAC.

Secretary Report - Deidre Murphy

- No report

Administration Report - Tom Aerts, Principal

- **PAC-supported projects** - Tom led the PAC on a tour of PAC-supported projects that are currently in progress or nearing completion including the installation of:

- External glass doors for the weight room, allowing for equipment to be used outside and thereby extending the space/functionality of the weight room.
 - A large display case under the social staircase.
- **Cops for Cancer** events wrapped up recently with a total of almost \$38,000 raised over three weeks. Students were very involved, with high levels of participation.
- **Covid** - minimal impact to date.
 - There has been one exposure (where a class had to monitor – not self-isolate) and no clusters.
 - The school is still focused on safety with protocols in place including masks indoors, hand hygiene, set seating plans, respecting personal space, etc. By and large students have been following the protocols, though there has been an increase in slipping of masks.
 - In the event of an exposure, the principal speaks to the teachers of the student(s) involved and gets detailed information on the lessons, including seating plan, what students were doing (e.g. working in small groups, moving around the classroom) and shares this with Public Health, who make a decision based on the information provided.
 - Recent information on the website re an outbreak in the school was incorrect. There has not been an outbreak in the school.
 - In the event of an exposure, monitoring letters are sent to the class that was impacted.
- **Questions from parents**
 - *What does self-monitoring mean?*
Watch for symptoms, inform the Public Health Authority (they decide whether individuals need to be tested or not)
 - *If a student feels sick on a Friday, for example, and tests positive on Saturday, how far back are their activities traced?*
Public Health makes the decision re how far back to trace activities.
 - *Will grade 9 vaccinations go ahead this year?*
Yes
- **In-person events at the school** The first in-person event at the school will be held tomorrow evening – two band concerts (the school is allowed to have up to 200 people in the Dave Dunnett Theatre). Each child is allowed to have two guests. Maximum 200 people (tickets are not transferable). Will be streamed online (YouTube live). A link will be sent out. The school is hoping to be able to hold more in-person events with Covid protocols in place.
- Should now be possible to show the Like movie (organized before Covid, screening of the Like movie was a joint initiative between Oak Bay High and Monterey Middle School for OBH students and grade 8 Monterey students), plus a screening for the community.
- The first grad assembly will be held this Wednesday at 1 pm in the theatre and over zoom.
- The school is organizing a grad breakfast next Wednesday (October 27) during planning time for grade 12 students.
- The PAC put aside \$500 last year for grad but no one accessed it. Tom will look into it and submit receipts for last year (for money parents were reimbursed for decorations).
- Provincial Professional Development (Pro-D) Day this Friday. Typically teachers would travel to different events, but this year sessions will be held over Zoom.
- Tuesday 26th UVic information session on Zoom. The link will go out in Mr Alexander's newsletter.
- Information night for parents - Hoping to be in person in late November.
- Choir concert - October 27 in person
- **Questions from parents**
 - *What is the tag game grade 12 students play?*

Gotcha! A student-run activity that is not endorsed by the school. There are a number of rules in place, but there have been accidents in the past where students were injured playing it.

- *What's happening around the school goal of wellness?*
The school is working on how to get information around wellness to students. The Connect to Care group came up with an idea to place 15 display cabinets in high-traffic areas around the school with information posters, pictures around the theme of wellness (e.g., sleep and exercise, substance use, mental health), as well as information about upcoming events, and positive messages. These will be going up around the school soon.
- *Any update on the cafeteria?*
The cafeteria is supposed to be up and running, but a staffing shortage means it's not possible at this point.
- *Is the situation at Save-on Foods situation better?*
It's been better lately (a large number of students go to Save-On Foods at lunch, which can be overwhelming).
- *What education does the school do around bike security [a bicycle was stolen recently]?*
Very few bikes that are locked with a U-lock are stolen. Don't do much of any education, as by this age most students are aware of the steps to take to ensure their bikes are safe.
- **Police Liaison program** – Families and communities are being surveyed re whether they see value in the police liaison initiative. The police liaison officers are meant to be supportive of students who are making poor choices, not punitive.

VCPAC VACANCY

- Position is vacant; any interest in being the rep please contact Kimberly or Deidre.

OTHER BUSINESS

PAC meetings - The PAC is going to invite a couple of speakers to upcoming PAC meetings (e.g., Counsellor). Suggestions for other topics/speakers are welcome. Please get in touch with a member of the PAC Executive.

Grad - There will be a grad-themed meeting (likely in January) – this will be an opportunity for parents of grade 12 students to get involved in grad planning. Plans for grad are Covid-dependent (currently planning to have a dinner/dance at the Delta Hotel at the end of May and the grad ceremony at UVic).

Party Program - Unlikely that the Party program will run this year due to Covid (pressure on hospitals).

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting - Monday, November 15, 7 pm