



MEETING NOTES

Attendees

Tom Aerts (Principal), Kimberley Rogers (Chair), Carla Unger (Treasurer), Deidre Murphy (Secretary), Kelly McClaren (Member at Large), Hazel Currie, Paula Marchese, Craig Hickie, Joanne Gemmil, Kathryn Robertson, Stephanie Novak, Anne

VCPAC Meeting Update – Paula

Paula provided an update on the recent School District decision to suspend two Trustees for the rest of their terms. The reason(s) for the suspension were not made clear, resulting in a number of stakeholders, including the Greater Victoria Teachers' Association (GVTA), two CUPE unions, and the Songhees Nation, deciding to not participate in School Board meetings in response. VCPAC held a vote in turn to determine if they should follow the other stakeholders (reasoning that it would be hard to stay at the table without teachers). The vote was unanimous in favour of not taking part in Board meetings (Paula contacted Kimberley prior to the vote to ask how the OBH PAC should vote but it was too short notice to call the PAC Executive together). There is a School Board meeting this evening, but Paula was not sure if some or all of the stakeholders had returned to the table.

Treasurer Report – Carla Unger, Treasurer

- The staff appreciation coffee event was held and had a good turnout
- Receipts have come in from approximately two thirds of applicants for the Gaming and Parent Contribution funds to date.

Chair Report – Kimberley Rogers, Chair

- Hoping to be able to screen the *Like Movie* this spring in classrooms. The plan was to hold a community screening with Monterey Middle School; also hoping to do this in the spring. Details to follow.
- Planning for grad will get underway in the next week or two. Parents who are interested in helping are asked to let Kimberley know.

Administration Report – Tom Aerts, Principal

- Semester 2 has gotten off to a good start. There have been a few course changes, but for the most part students had set their timetables in September.
- There have been a number of 1-block staff members hired for Semester 2 (eg where extra classes were added to the timetable, or to cover staff absences).

- **The school musical** – the Little Mermaid – will be showing starting March 3, with a total of 7 performances over the next two weeks, including a matinee. Tickets are available online and at the school. Seating is limited to 50% capacity in the school theatre. The school will just break even if the shows are sold out at 50% capacity.
- **Athletics** – lots happening with winter sports, including a number of teams that are currently at or soon going to BCs, including:
 - Junior girls' basketball – came in 3rd place on the Island and qualified for BCs
 - Junior boys' basketball – came in 1st on the Island and are currently at the BCs
 - Senior girls' basketball – won three games at the Islands and finished 4th overall, narrowly missing a spot in the BCs
 - Senior boys' basketball – won the Islands on the weekend and head to the BCs soon
 - The OBH ski and snowboard team is currently in Kicking Horse for BCs
- Spring sport; rugby, ultimate, tennis, golf, girls' soccer, among others are starting soon
- **Band concerts** took place last week with limited capacity, though students were happy to perform in front of an audience again.
- **Covid**
 - Enhanced Covid measures were dropped this week (e.g there are no longer designated doors for entry and exit, and the common areas are open again). It feels more like a school, a lot more social.
 - Clubs are back, and the school is able to have full-school assemblies for the first time in two years.
 - Masks and hand sanitizing rules continue to be in place.

Parent Questions

- *A sub didn't wear a mask in class, and students didn't know ahead of time. Is there a way for students to know ahead of time if a teacher won't be wearing a mask?*
Everyone in the school is expected to wear masks, and subs are to let the school know if they have an exemption. Tom wasn't aware of this incident – it's the first time this has happened – and will follow up.
- *Will there be parent-teacher interviews this term?*
A decision hasn't been made on this. Tom will get back to parents.

Graduation 2022

- It's looking like the Block party and dinner dance will be able to go ahead (on May 20, which is a Pro-D day). The dinner dance will be held at the Delta hotel.
- The school is looking at moving grad back to UVic, where – if it goes ahead – attendance will be able to be at full capacity. It is also possible that an exemption will be made re the need to show vaccine passports (for grads or guests), though this has not been made official.
- Grad is set for June 1, but there is a conflict with a number of sporting events (BCs) that also fall on that date, so the school is trying to get another date. They should know within a week. If Grad is not held on June 1, it will likely be held in the last week of June.
- Grad assembly will be held on March 10 during Focus Block. This is the first grad assembly to be held in the school in two years. Grads will decide on valedictorian, the grad song, and grad gift at the assembly.
- **All grads need to complete a google form with information for grad by Friday March 4. Parents are asked to remind grads to complete the form.**

- Carla reminded the group that the PAC has put aside \$500 for the grads this year.

School timetable

- There has been a lot of debate around whether the school should follow a linear or a semester timetable, with a large investment of time devoted to the question in 2018/2019, including surveys and research. At that time, the school decided to continue with the linear system. During Covid OBH, along with other schools in the District, has had to implement quarterly and semester timetables. The District has recently told schools that they can stay with what they have or make a change. However, if they want to do something different schools have to involve stakeholders (students, parents, teachers). OBH is working with a timetable committee to put out surveys to parents and students before spring break to get feedback on whether to continue with the linear system or to revert to the semester system. They will also provide a chart outlining key points of both the semester and linear systems to give people as much information as possible about each choice.

Questions from parents

- *How will the decision re whether the school will have a linear or a semester timetable be made? Will information re the decision process be part of survey information that goes out?*
Ultimately all stakeholder feedback will be given to the committee, who will make recommendations to Tom. Tom will make a decision based on the work and recommendations of the committee, and feedback from the three stakeholder groups.
- *Is the current semester indicative of what the semester would look like in the fall with a semester system?*
Yes, though band would be linear. Not sure if the school could commit to all fine arts being run in a linear way, however.
- *Does it seem like staff are pretty split on the two choices?*
It's hard to speculate, though there is some more openness to the semester system as a result of teachers having taught in semesters.

School wellness Goal

- The school has hired Kate Baker as wellness coordinator for the school. She'll come to the next PAC meeting and make a presentation to parents. She'll be focusing on grades 11 and 12 as they don't receive information around wellness in PE (as students in grades 9 and 10 do).

Questions from parents

- *Has Omicron settled down in the school?*
Yes, though it's not gone. We still have students away due to Omicron.
- *Are grade 9 vaccinations coming back?*
Yes, but they won't include Covid vaccinations this year.
- *Is there any update on the literacy and numeracy assessments?*
Yes, English literacy and numeracy assessments will be held in April and June. French language assessments will not take place.

Adjournment

Next meeting: Monday April 25, 2022, 7 pm

