



MEETING NOTES

Attendees: Lisa Du, Joanne Gemmill, Carolyn Greenwood, Craig Hickie, Jo-Ann Lawrence, Paula Marchese, Karen Meyer, Kalina Popova, Suse Prosser, Kathryn Robertson, Erica Sangster, Kimberly Smit, Carla Unger, Laura Walters, Shawn Boulding (Principal), Hazel Currie (minutes)

Regrets: Kris Nichols, Karin Sweeney

1. Welcome, Territorial Acknowledgement and Introductions
 - PAC Co-Chair Kathryn Robertson welcomed attendees to the September PAC meeting & gave the territorial acknowledgement
 - Attendees all introduced themselves
 - Decision to approve minutes from May 16, 2022. Moved by Kimberly Smit, seconded by Carla Unger. Majority approval.

2. Introduction to PAC
 - Current Executive:
 - Kathryn Robertson & Kris Nichols: Co-chairs
 - Carla Unger: Treasurer
 - Karin Sweeney: Secretary
 - Paula Marchese, Craig Hickie, Kimberly Smit & Hazel Currie: Members-at-Large
 - Discussion of shadowing future PAC roles to improve transition among volunteers
 - Overview of PAC responsibilities
 - Topics raised that may be incorporated into planning: reconciliation, bullying, climate resilience, + others. PAC would like to link issues to activities kids are doing.
 - Noted there is an event @ 9:30am on Friday, September 30 at Oak Bay High, re: National Day for Truth & Reconciliation ceremony located at the totem pole. Information about the event will be circulated to the school community.

3. Input from Principal
 - Positive start to the school year; 30 staff members have changed this year (of 150); school is continuing to grow
 - Overall: will continue to experience growth of ~ 100 students; need to evaluate the space and learning
 - For the next 7 years, will be a challenge for space in the facility and then numbers are anticipated to decline
 - Extracurriculars have started up, multiple sports underway
 - September 23rd: Pro-D focused on reconciliation for staff
 - 38 students identify as First Nations ancestry this year; activity for students to review spaces in the building
 - Discussion ensued around:

- One-time school district funding available from provincial government for inflationary purposes, process underway of how funds should be divided up
 - Oak Bay will receive a portion of funds and will need to decide how to use it – wondered on feedback from parents on this
 - Action: Suggestion to start a smaller working group; Shawn will circulate information and links on this
 - Communication:
 - School app will be discontinued due to high costs and frequency of usage questions; information is now in Google Classroom for student or parent access
 - Message to families will be circulated every Thursday or Friday
 - Suggestions of communication tools from parents: keeping copies of previous announcements on Google, central email address indicating message is from Oak Bay office, website notifications
 - Suggestions submitted from other parents prior to meeting: lighting at night for outdoor basketball hoops; consideration of an outdoor climbing structure
 - Questions raised by parents: finding quiet spaces within the school facility for students noting the full facility (answer was it depends on the block); plans for the rugby field (not expected to have further investments from school or PAC)
4. Co-Chair Report: Kathryn Robertson
- 7 or 8 meetings this upcoming year and considering 3 or 4 speakers to present
 - Planning to continue to meet in person; will adjust as needed; not offering hybrid model unless adjustment is needed
 - Will review & update website information regarding PAC content
 - Next big priority is the sharing of funds in the school community
5. Treasurer's Report: Carla Unger
- Have funds leftover from provincial government gaming grant, \$4717.65
 - The parent contribution account's balance is \$5730.80
 - Total balance is: \$10688.45
 - Letter will be circulated tomorrow to request applications for funding from staff, clubs, parents, Student Council with deadline for October 30, 2022
 - PAC executive meets and will provide recommendations on allocation of funds and will meet at future PAC meeting for final consultation
 - Discussion ensued about wanting to encourage student participation / voice in suggestions and funding
 - Principal is open to trying to make these connections and PAC will not allocate all money in the Fall, so new initiatives could potentially be supported later
6. School District Level PAC report: Paula Marchese
- Paula reported that at the district level, budgets have been running at a deficit and decisions have impacted local schools
 - District PAC meets monthly and each rep has a vote on behalf of their school
 - Currently working on voter awareness for municipal and school board trustee elections; upcoming events will be posted on Facebook page
 - October 6 forum will be at another high school gym (tbd), small group format
 - October 12 online forum via Zoom, registration requested
 - Website with candidate information is being coordinated

- Paula will circulate the forum and candidate information to parents and to Principal for other parents
- Paula cannot attend future meetings and is looking for someone to attend meeting on Zoom monthly. There can be more than one person to attend VCPAC, but Oak Bay has only one vote.

7. Any other business

- Question about grad events and planning for this upcoming year. Discussion about January being a typical organizational time to start planning.
- Parents at the meeting were asked to share any idea for the PAC this year. This was done anonymously. The ideas were:
- Funding:
 - An outdoor eating area (brought up last year at PAC)
 - More bike racks
 - Lighting at night for outdoor basketball hoops
 - Outdoor climbing structure
 - Funding for food security/healthy eating (the PAC talked doing some breakfast offerings in the cafeteria a couple times/month, perhaps working with a school club like Connect to Care on Team Planning mornings)
- Activities:
 - Parent Education sessions (District funding is available for parent ed; it must run through the district this year instead of VCPAC but we need to check on this)
 - A speaker (school counsellor or outside person) who could address mental healthy/anxiety
 - Will there be a dance/winter formal this year? (Traditionally, the school used to do a Halloween Dance before Covid, we can ask Shawn)
 - Will there be a Grad Council? (Yes! First meeting just took place)

8. Adjournment

- Majority in agreement to adjourn meeting.

9. Next PAC meeting

- Monday, October 17, 2022 @ 7 PM