

Ecole Oceanside Elementary School
Parent Advisory Council (PAC)
Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2021
6:30pm in the library



In Attendance: Angel Delange, Tiffany Tsutsumi, Lesley LaCouvee, Elaine Young, Amanda Wagner, Raani Desai, Irina Stafeeva, Julie Dombroski, Alicia Gold Ney, Kim Donohoe, Hannah Perkins, Greta (missing last name)
Regrets: Selene Griffin

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

- June 2021 minutes approved.

2. Principal Report – Lesley LaCouvee

- Very happy with the start up of school with the house teams. Got a shout out from administrators at other schools. Wanted to build team spirit and community.
- There are many talented teachers at the school and wanted to bring a focus to these programs through Discoveries and Exploratories.
 - Grades 1-4 get to do Discoveries which includes 11 weeks of each of these topics: ADST (Applied Design and Science Technology), Art, Music, and P.E.
 - To ensure kids can go to the gym beyond the 11 weeks, the gym has been split in two with a divider so that two classes can be in there at a time.
 - Grades 5-7 get to do all six Exploratories: Stained glass, scrapbooking, disc golf and orienteering, volleyball, soccer and basketball, social justice, and drama.
 - Band has been moved to the mornings so students in band do not miss out on Exploratories.
- The school has created what they are calling Keystone Academy where all students will be learning the same lessons at the same time in an age appropriate manner.
 - Lessons topics will be the same for all grades but content has been tailored to grades K-3 and for grades 4-7 by administration.
 - There are four quadrants or topics that the lessons support: Indigenous peoples, Cultural Identity, Kindness, and SOGI (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity).
 - SOGI is not required teaching but will be a topic covered through the Keystone Academy. Teachers are learning about this topic at professional development days. Teachers can share content with parents.

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- There are many clubs, hubs, groups and teams for students to participate in. Students can join these groups throughout the year, with the exception of the sports teams that play for a set term.
 - Grade 7 cafe – The grade 7 students decided what they wanted to do and how to do it. They are selling candy and freezies and have raised \$140 so far.
 - Grade 7 council
 - Grade 7 grad committee
 - House team colour guards – provides a leadership role for students. They helped with the Terry Fox run.
 - Peer listeners – This is for grade 4-7 students and they meet on Mondays. They talk about what it means to be a peer listener. They wear blue vests during recess and are there to help students and solve problems.
 - Kids Talk – This is for grade 5-7 students and is available after school on Mondays. Students talk about school stuff and can get help from the teachers running the group with how to deal with problems. Information shared is private within the group.
 - Library Pages – This is for grade 4-7 students. They help in the library, check out books, with book fairs, displays, and help students choose books.
 - Kindergarten Buddies – This is for grade 4-5 students. They help students in the kindy area, help with coats, escort kids to the bathroom, or office for bandaids, etc.
 - GSA (Gay Straight Alliance) – This is for students in grades 4-7. They meet Wednesdays at lunch. There is a lot of interest in this group so they are looking at splitting it into groups (grades 4-5 and 6-7).
 - Skills Canada
 - Basketball teams
- Covid-19 Update
 - No confirmed cases at the school.
 - If there is a positive case VIHA will call the school. The school cannot share information on any cases even with teachers. Strict privacy rules around personal information.
 - If there are two or more cases in a classroom (cluster) the class will be informed.
- Teacher performance reviews:

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- The number of reviews varies year to year. They occur at set intervals for all teachers.
 - The Principal and VP meet with the teacher, observe three lessons and drop in to observe the class.
- Steps to deal with an issue with a teacher:
 - Set up a meeting with the teacher to discuss.
 - If unsatisfied, a parent/caregiver can request the Principal or VP's support at the next meeting with the teacher. The teacher has the option to have their union representative attend at this stage.
 - If unsatisfied with the outcome, the next step involves the Trustees meeting with the Principal and VP.
 - Lastly, an individual can file a complaint to the school board, followed by the province/ombudsman.
- Question: Do parent volunteers need to be vaccinated to be in the school?
 - At this time, we cannot ask a volunteer to be vaccinated.
- Foundational Skills Assessment (FSAs)
 - Grade 4 and 7 students complete the FSAs. There are 5 tests that assess literacy and numeracy.
 - The test is in English even for French Immersion students.
 - Issue was raised that French Immersion grade 4 students have not learned to read and write in English. Teachers can translate the questions to French.
 - The school is looking at splitting the tests up over a few days. Information will be sent home regarding dates and times.
 - If a parent wishes to exempt their child from the FSA they fill out the exemption form and return it to the school.
 - An email to our Principal is not enough, a handwritten letter/note submitted to our Principal is the only way to ensure your child does not participate in the test.
 - The School Superintendent is fond of them because they provide data that can be used to compare schools.
 - Parents can view FSA sample questions here:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/administration/program-management/assessment/foundation-skills-assessment/fsa-samples>
- There are currently 432 students at the school. The school is not at capacity.

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- The new playground is awesome and the kids love it.
- The school will be looking at ways to incorporate the house teams throughout the year. Not all activities will be focused on athletics. They are helping to create a buddy system.
- Crossing guards
 - Unfortunately, school staff do not have time to do this.
 - The School Board is talking about it and hoping to have a new model.
 - Leslie will talk to the RCMP about having them come during drop off and pick up.

3. School Trustee's Report - Elaine Young

- There is a Climate Action Task Force – it has students, teachers, trustees and community members and is focused on climate change.
- There is a Social Justice Working group that is looking at equity in the school system, indigenous equity as well as equity among other groups like low economic students, neurodivergent students.
- The Oceanside Health and Wellness Network is open to everyone. Looking at the impact of Covid-19 on institutions and mental health.
- Elaine is raising funds for the Oceanside track. To date, 55% of required funds have been raised.
- Covid-19 reporting - 3 confirmed cases at Springwood have been reported on the BC School Covid Tracker. They have been told that the exposures likely happened outside of school.
- The School Board is meeting on October 27 regarding mandating vaccines. The province has asked school boards to make a decision on this at a regional level.
- At the Board retreat they talked about facilities. Disagreements about what is a learning space and the need for rooms for exploratories, sensory rooms, and full daycare in every school.
- There may be an opportunity for the school to get a Gary Oak tree from the City of Parksville.
- As a fundraiser, Elaine has walked 3,200 kms this past summer in support of the new track initiative.
- If anyone wants to donate to support the new track they can do so by visiting:
<https://www.oceansidecommunitytrack.ca/>

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4. Treasurer's Report

- Gaming grant application is complete (deadline was September 30). Waiting to hear about funding for this year.
- PAC will update parents with bank balances in the coming weeks.

5. Playground

- Playground has been paid for with the exception of School District 69. Waiting for an invoice for labour and materials.
- ***Motion by Angel to spend up to \$400 to take out a thank you ad in the PQB Newspaper to recognize and thank donors.***
 - Seconded by Tiffany and passed unanimously.
- There are three friendship benches that the district needs to install. One will be installed at each playground (new, old and kindergarten area).

6. Fundraising

- Spirit Wear – order closes October 18th.
- Grad Hoodies – orders closes October 18th
- Book Fair(s) – Will happen this year.
- Epicure – Will be run by Amanda Taekema. All proceeds will be donated to PAC. Fundraiser will run in November.
- Purdys Chocolates – Will run this year.
- Poinsettias – To be determined if this is feasible since poinsettias are sensitive to cold.

7. Canadian Parents for French (CPF)

- Looking for a representative and members if any parents/caregivers are interested.
- AGM for CPF is tentatively set for November 1st, at 6:30pm in the library at EOES.

8. Pronoun Use

- Discussed briefly the need to be conscious about preferred pronouns (she/her, he/him, they/them) to be more inclusive of all students and teachers.

9. Budget Proposal

- Discussed the budget proposal document circulated with the agenda.

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- **Breakfast Program** – Seeking volunteer team lead. Program cannot run without leadership.
- **Hot Lunch Program** – Seeking volunteer team lead. Program cannot run without leadership. This is a big fundraiser for PAC - in past years it has brought in upwards of \$12K/year.
- **Classroom Resources** – Halted this year.
- **Music Program** – ***Motion by Angel to support the band program for up to \$950 for new instruments.***
 - Seconded by Julie and passed unanimously.
- **Staff/Volunteer Appreciation** – Halted this year.
- **BCCPAC Membership** – The \$75 mandatory membership fee has been paid.
- **Christmas Hampers** – All money raised though the Christmas store will be given to admin for the Christmas hampers.
- **Grad funds** – ***Motion by Angel to spend \$500 for the grad committee.***
 - Seconded by Amanda and passed unanimously.
- **Preston** – A request was made for a second glass grinder and glass supplies.
 - **Action:** Angel/Tiffany to talk to Lesley about administration covering these costs as stained glass will be part of Exploratories. **Lesley will speak to Mme Preston and if an additional glass grinder is needed, EOES Admin will purchase it. PAC may be asked to consider supporting the purchase of glass/materials.
- Waiting for account balance when this year's gaming grant comes and final playground payment is made to the district before deciding on funding for:
 - **Gym Equipment**
 - **Library Resources**
 - **Wood Shop/Maker Space**
 - **Spirit committee**
 - **DARE program**
 - **Math Workshop**
 - **Math Sensory Floor Decal**

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 6:30pm in the Library

(Note: PAC meetings are generally held on the second Wednesday of every month.)