

Olympic Heights School Council and Parents Association Meeting
Thursday, February 8, 2024
Olympic Heights School

Attendance: Principal, Trevor Barkley; Assistant Principal, Adam Eakins; Grade 5 Teaching Team: Ms. Borrelli, Ms. Semko and Ms. Song; Grade 5 student representatives approximately 8; Chair, Tori Wright and Sumantra Ghosh; Treasurer, Anita Roncin and Katrina Ducs; Council Representatives Jane Radiff, Michelle Herbst, Shannon Gillett, Shaelyn Woods, Laura Osadetz and Liana Phoenix; and approximately 5 additional parents / community members.

1. Welcome and Introductions (Tori Wright – Chair)

- I. **Call to Order** – Meeting called to order at 6:30pm
- II. **Agenda Confirmation** – Motion to approve agenda made by Sumantra Ghosh. Seconded by Tori Wright. CARRIED.
- III. **Minutes Approval** – Motion to approve the January minutes made by Michelle Herbst, with an edit the funding request for the music theory app for \$1,350 for Ms. Tran – that funding request was approved by Parent Association in the January 18, 2024 meeting. Seconded by Tori Wright. CARRIED.

2. School Business and Administration Report (Principal Barkley, Assistant Principal Eakins)

- I. Grade 5 Students Maker Space Presentation (Grade 5 Student representatives)
 - Presentation on the Maker Space proposal and a request for funding was made.
 - Maker Space is a space that allows students from all grades to engage in hands on learning with various materials and tools allowing them to build, take apart, re-build.
 - The space is available but needs to be outfitted with tools, books, art supplies, general supplies and materials. Donations are welcome.
 - Maker Space will be open to all grades and will also allow for a Maker Space lunch club
 - Funding Request – The students have inventoried what is currently in the space, created a list of required supplies and materials researched current prices and came up with a budget of \$1,500 to outfit the space. The students requested from Council \$1,500.
 - Q&A: Council members asked how spending will be tracked – Students confirmed they will be tracking spending and budget for replenishment of supplies.
 - Motion to approve the \$1,500 for Maker Space was made by Anita Roncin. Seconded by Shannon Gillett. CARRIED.

Grade 5 Team Presentation (Ms. Borrelli, Ms. Semko and Ms. Song)

- The Grade 5 team presented a “What’s going on in Grade 5” highlighting each of the focuses on reading, writing social studies and math.
 1. Reading Focus – teaching students to think while they read – with strategy’s make connections, transform your thinking, visualize, make inferences, questioning, witness – retelling of what was hear orally (active listening, look at the person is speaking, site and repeat what is said bring in the oral traditions)
 2. Writing Focus – Draw out responses and emotions of target reader audiences – persuasive writing, diary writing, keeping in mind readers and writers point of

views, descriptive language. Working on Poetry writing now and working on poems on their special spaces – Goal setting learning intentions “ We are learning to.....” Learning at examples as well – giving the students examples gives them a really good idea of what they are suppose to do with their poems and how they will be assessed. The poems are very amazing including the language that is being used.

3. Math Focus – learning to approach understand, and solve – word problems – helping to identify the terms used in problem solving , MathUp is being used to help the students break down the math into smaller problems or in multiple ways
4. Social Studies Focus – Learning Canadian History – to understand the people and stories of Canada, how the way Canadians live has changed over time and the importance of Canada’s diverse background. Focus on critical thinking – as opposed to just memorization

- Community Walks have also been a great success in grade 5 – allows for inspiration for writing and art and helps with team building and learning.

II. Staffing and Support (Principal Barkley, Assistant Principal Eakins)

- OHS staffing update was provided, 22 Classes, 499 students an avg of 22.7 students per class. Smallest class size is 18 and largest is 32 in Grade 5.
- Holly White – educational assistant is supporting the school not only in Grade 5 but in other classrooms as well.
- A funding application is still in progress for additional funds for additional learning assistant support due to the number of children enrolled in OHS after the funding cut off.
- Looking at having Erin Demers (AM Kindergarten teacher) assist with target learning for students that need extra support – tentative schedule for Feb 26 – May 31st.
- Veronica Suarez will be leaving the Administrative Secretary role – wishing her all the best in her new role. Interviews are ongoing to fill the position with temporary help starting next week.
- Mr. Glenney – waiting to determine if he will return from leave – and if he does, school hopes to absorb him as additional support for Grade 5.

III. School Development Plan and School Budget and School Fees (Assistant Principal Eakins)

- Assistant Principal Eakins provided a detailed overview of the School Development Plan for OHS. The detailed presentation will be posed to the website once available and sent out in the Friday school communication. Parents are encouraged to provide feedback through the survey and QR code.
- School Development Plan focus is on developing staff’s understanding of creating and utilizing clear learning intentions during instruction students will develop a clear understanding of what they are meant to learn, how their learning will be assessed, and where their learning needs to go next. A holistic approach is being followed in all areas.
- The School Budget was presented OHS received \$3,120,757 for the 2023/2024 school year. 75 per cent of this funding is directed to staffing and the remaining portion covers instructional and operational supplies. Enrollment numbers pegged on Sept

30th 487 students registered – currently we have 499 today. The students after Sept 30th don't bring any funding to the school.

- The 2023/2024 School Fees at OHS were discussed. These fees cover extras such as field trips, or in-school activities (owl-pellets, astrodome).
- Q&A: Does administration feel comfortable with the remaining budget for the rest of the school year – yes roughly 50% is left for the remaining of the school year. A note from council that in the past the parent council has supported the school when operating budget has run out by purchasing supplies such as coloured paper.

IV. Information Updates

- Elder Hal Eagletail will be joining the school for 4 days in the coming weeks working with students on storytelling, indigenous naming opportunities and connections.
- CBE has a new chief superintendent – Joanne Pittman
- Skating – Grade 3 – 4 Feb 20th/23rd
- Pink shirt Day – Feb 28th
- Havana Dance March 4-8th with a Friday wrap up with parents welcome
- Student Voice – Celebrations was the start of the meeting, winter walk day, tape of the floor, kudos to teachers, the dance! Word on the street – lost and found kids developing criteria for use of lost and found, snow sculptor day. Seven sacred teaching the raven brings Honesty – easy touchstone to talk to kids, the kids take the teaching back and tell it to their class.
- Feb 29th – jump rope for heart & spirit day

V. Funding Requests

- Key study guides 10 - \$250 to purchase 10 - Motion to approve the \$250 for Key Study Guides was made by Tori Wright. Seconded by Laura Osadetz. CARRIED.
- Hitmen Be-Brave Game for Grade 5 Students - Feb 28th, 2024 11am - Motion to approve the \$2,500 for the Hitmen Be-Brave Game was made by Jane Radiff. Seconded by Shannon Gillett. CARRIED.

3. Council Reports

I. Fundraising Efforts (Council Representative, Shannon Gillett)

- Shannon provided an update on the Raffle – we will again do a Rafflebox Raffle for OHS – administration agrees. Shannon to connect with Anita regarding bank account details.

II. Treasurer Update (Treasurer, Anita Roncin)

- Anita provided an update on Council's July 31, 2023 Year End, noting statements have been completed and filed with the CRA in accordance with the January 31st 2024 deadline.
- Anita noted that it's important that we plan ahead when pulling funds from the GIC accounts as interest in those accounts are only paid out once a year (August and November) so its best to pull funds after the yearly interest has been paid out.
- Statement of Financial Position - \$125K of Assets – including \$97K in cash as at July 31, 2023
- Statement of Operations – general accounts - \$17K in revenue , \$5K of expenses and

\$32K of donations for the year ending July 31, 2023. For the Casino Operations - \$79K of revenue less \$45K of school funding.

- Current to date Statement of Operations – general accounts – approx. \$6K in revenues and \$4K in expenses. For Casino Operations – approx. \$9K has been spent on school funding requests.

III. Special Events – Movie Night, Read-A-Thon (Multiple Council Representative, Laura Osadetz, Tori Wright, Katrina Ducs)

- Movie night will go ahead on February 29th two movies will be shown one in the gym for younger audiences and one in the plaza – Movies will be G and PG and will request input from children to select the movies.
- Note: Cine licensing will need to be updated in April 2024
- Read -A-Thon – Leslie Hall is planning for the read-a-thon to take place March 18th – April 5th and will need assistance in planning and executing the event.
- Book Fair date is March 20th and 21st coinciding with parent teacher interviews and Gwen Sjogren has assistance with the event – no additional support needed at this time.
- Book Truck – Katrina Ducs has co-ordinate with The Calgary Public Library to provide a fully staffed Book Truck on the morning of March 21st . They will set up outside of OHS to allow students to take out books with their Library cards or receive Library cards onsite that day.
- Other Special Events to be discussed next meeting – Ice Cream Social or Food Truck event for June.
- ASCA Events – Nutrition for kids (a parent event to attend), Ever Active, Comprehensive School Health.

IV. Casino Dates and Volunteer Scheduling (Council Representative, Jane Radiff)

- Promotion for the Casino is required, still missing 15 Volunteer positions.

V. Kiss and Drop & Ever Active (Council Representative, Michelle Herbst)

- Michelle provided an update on the success of the Ever Active & Safe Routes to School Program which is supported by the Grade 4 Students, Active Students Club and Ms. Radomski.
- Highlights have included; international walk to school day, outside day, anti idiling sign installation at kiss and drop, winter walk day.
- Upcoming events include Earth day on April 22nd and Wheel week June 2-8th
- Ever Active have granted the school \$850 to put to use
- Grade 4 students with support from Ms. Radomski have polled students, researched options and selected a Scooter Rack as the best use of funds. The scooter rack is different from a bike rack and will allow students to safely park their scooters at school (only requires students to bring a regular lock).
- Blue Imp a CBE approved vendor sells a double scooter rack to hold 20 scooters. CBE will likely cover the installation costs.
- Total equipment costs Are \$2100 less \$850 from Ever Active = \$1250 plus delivery and GST Michelle has requested \$1,500 to cover the cost of the scooter rack.
- Motion to approve the \$1,500 for scooter rack was made by Jane Radiff. Seconded by Tori Wright. CARRIED.

4. **Next Meeting** – The next meeting will be at OHS on Thursday March 14th at 6:30 p.m.
5. **Meeting Adjourned** – Motion to adjourn meeting by Katrina Ducs at 8:45p.m. Seconded by Tori Wright.