OLYMPIC HEIGHTS SCHOOL COUNCIL & PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Meeting Agenda: October 15, 2026

Hybrid meeting - Join in person in the Olympic Heights Learning Commons or via Zoom:
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82783721618?pwd=p0JI4bUdGLTd0y1O3OwVx4tn7y9vON.1

Meeting ID: 827 8372 1618

Passcode: 962394

Attendees: Cheryl Alhashwa, Michelle McMullen-Freadrich, Candace Van Acker, Ming Ho, Laura Brown, Lisa Kirk

6:30pm	**Welcome** *(Chair, Michelle McMullen)* 1. **Introductions** 2. **Agenda Approval** – approved by Candace Van Acker, second by Cheryl Alhashwa 3. **Previous Meeting Minutes Approval** – approved by Michelle McMullen, second by Laura Brown Link: September minutes	**5 Min**
6:35pm	**School Business & Administration Report** *(Principal Trevor Barkley)* 1. **Kindergarten Presentation** (Ms. Boehm, Ms. Halsall) – toured the kindergarten classroom. Learned about loose parts and the usefulness of them in learning and fine motor skill development for kindergarten aged children 2. **School Resource Allocation and Staff Planning** – 438 was the total enrollment # submitted for RAM but there are no other updates on RAM at this time. a. Staffing updates – Mr Tailor is on leave and unsure of his return date. It is very hard to get substitutes to cover for his kindergarten class. It is difficult to get substitutes at all and then extra hard for the Kindergarten class because it is only half days and a temporary contract which a lot of people don't want. The good news is that so far we have had a couple consistent substitutes who are covering most of the leave. Janice Richardson, who is a retired principal, is taking on the admin role in Mr Tailor's absence. We have had situations in the school where we almost did not have a teacher for a day. This is an issue across the system, not just our school. Should have some new graduates around Christmas that may alleviate some of the issues. Q: Is a last minute parent volunteer helpful in this situation? A: Yes, that would be helpful as long as they have a valid police clearance. There is a list of last minute volunteers at the office. 3. **School updates** a. New signage – back and front door (all CBE) promoting a safe environment with no abuse or harassment tolerated b. CBE security cameras presentation – will be getting security cameras at the school. We currently do not have an existing surveillance system. The CBE has an obligation to provide a safe inclusive environment and protect assets. This is not a replacement for direct supervision of children. OHS is only getting external cameras with the goal to maintain a safe & secure	**45 Min**

environment. Only authorized people can access the footage. There is no audio, cameras are not hidden and it is not actively monitored. Footage will only be used if something was to happen where it would be needed. It only shows CBE property with surrounding properties blurred out. A security assessment was completed and decided our school doesn't need internal cameras. Signage will be installed when the cameras are installed. Data is stored locally for 30 days and will typically only be reviewed if there is a serious incident. Q: What do you define as a serious incident? A: See AR 1066 which is publicly viewable

c. School development plan updates – Results of PATs from last year will be updated tomorrow afternoon as well as a deep dive on survey results. The results will be shared in coming meetings. This is year 3 of 3 of our school plan and the focus is on writing and promoting improvement in writing. Also focus on mindset and wellbeing. We will review report card indicators, student perception data, etc to see if we need to tweak this year's plan. No school Monday.
d. Government screeners update – Grades 1 thru 5 and Kindergarten are done with their assessments. On Oct 22-26 results will be shared with parents. These results will tie back to a decision tree to provide suggestions to help areas of deficit with the intent to work on those areas and hope for improved results in the next assessment. This process is new to grades 4 and 5, but we have done this in grades K to 3 for many years now. Sometimes they test on items that haven't been covered in the class yet so expect that in the results. Province provides some funds for relief staff, but it is hard to get substitutes so it isn't always easy.
e. Student opportunities – lacrosse was a success – amazing people leading it this time, and the kids and staff both loved it. Ms Semko won a virtual reality experience and her class got to participate – it was fantastic and very well done. SOGO running was this week. Students and staff enjoyed it and it involved building map skills, directions, compasses use, etc. There were some improvement opportunities – the first session was a lot of sitting and it was hard to keep kids' attention, it was hard to find a time that everyone could participate and also difficult to get volunteers. With more planning it could extend off of school property in the future. Photo day went well. Year books for next year – we can offer hard and soft covers and each family can select the one they want at time of ordering and each will have a different cost
f. Fish tank process – passed all the hurdles. Meeting tomorrow to see when they can begin the work. Thanks to Council for funding this.

4. **Upcoming events** – Remembrance Day assembly coming up on Nov 10 morning. The Halloween Dance is also coming up. Classes don't have parties and please don't send treats. There will be a Kindergarten parade

	on Oct 29 and parents can watch. Grades 1 to 6 can wear their costumes on Oct 30 (Friday). 5. **Student Voice** – successful meeting today. 1 representative from each class except kindergarten attends. SOGO – was challenging today but fun most said they would like to bring them back. Terry Fox feedback – some kids took more popsicle sticks than they should have for each lap. Talked about Terry and he could have cheated but he didn't. Discussed why Terry did not cheat, but kids here did and had some interesting conversations. Together we came to an understanding about the value of being honest. Trevor challenged kids to find people being honest and doing the right thing even when it's hard. Discussed the idea that with truth builds trust. Ideas: more library books that are challenging, more animal books for older grades (they will gather a list for future funding requests), suggested having a multicultural day and support all different cultures, students noticed since last time reduced bullying and improved problem solving. 6. **Funding Requests** – none today	
7:20pm	**OHSPA Updates - Committee Reports -** *(Team Leads / Representatives)* 1. **Chair Updates** (Michelle McMullen) – had to submit our annual report to the board of trustees in early October. a. Community representative role - Community involvement – we can create a position for a community member that is not a current parent or students in OHS. Don't have this role now but something to consider. We have an individual that may be interested. They need to be a member of the community or a business owner in the community. May need to review our bylaws since they were last updated in 2006. 2. **Treasurer Update** (Katrina Ducs) 3. **Key Communicator COSC Update** (Jessica Wilsher) – First meeting is coming up on Oct 22. Will report back at the November meeting. It is the Council of School Council's and includes a representative from each school area, superintendents, trustees and they present and ask for feedback from parent council representatives. 4. **Special Events Update / Apparel Updates** (Alannah Turcott) a. Halloween Dance + call for volunteers – October 29. Still looking for volunteers. If anyone wants to bring a carved pumpkin to display on the stage behind the DJ for decoration. Organizing a game zone in the plaza with bean bag toss and colouring. Asked kids to bring a toonie for games like plinko. 5. **Fundraising and Casino** (Jane Radiff) a. Sun-Oka Apple Fundraiser – exceeded our goal and raised $1,300. 6. **Playground Fundraising Updates** (Playground Committee) a. Next steps-vendor selection. The Playground Subcommittee Informed Dean at CBE that we selected BDI as our chosen vendor. BDI will reach out to Dean directly to see if he has any concerns or suggestions. Need $625K by June. If we want to proceed we need a deposit of half of the cost of the equipment by mid December. We can add a "do not manufacture" clause until we have all the	**40 Min**

	funds. If we don't have all the funds by June they will carry our deposit over to next year, however there is a risk that cost may go up due to materials and tariffs. b. OHS Playmaker Challenge – posters were handed out at student voice today for classrooms. If each kid raised $20 it would be close to $9,000. This is a great opportunity to create student excitement and buy in for the project. c. Upcoming grant opportunities - a number of grant applications have been submitted this fall including Alberta Blue Cross, the Co-op, the Nickle Family Foundation, and we will submit applications to Sobeys and CF Fairview's grants. d. Student and community engagement – want to re-share the survey from the spring to get more feedback. We also want to engage students for ideas. e. OHS donor strategy – created a draft donor letter and can reach out to local businesses to see if anyone is interested in donating. 7. **Kiss & Drop** (Michelle Herbst) – were able to recruit 3 new volunteers but are always looking for more. 8. **Fun Lunch** (Michelle Herbst) – had two events so far and raised just under $1000. Halloween cookies is the next event. 9. **Volunteering** (Liana Phoenix) – no update 10. **Communications** (Alison Doebele) – will prepare a Playmakers Challenge update for parents.	
8:00pm	**Adjourn: Next Meeting November 19 at 6:30pm** **Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm - motion to adjourn by Lisa Kirk**	