

## Minutes

Vic High PAC  
October 18th, 2021

Virtually in attendance: Lisa Sheppard, Todd Orchard, Kate Wallace, Ben Black, Aaron Parker, Petra Gerard, Chris Koutougas, Laurel Hovey, Angela Hslam, Zheyila Guevara, Rose Ellis, Ben Issit, Ya Fatou Njie, Beth Lyons, Janeth Grandez,

1. Welcome and Introductions/Land Acknowledgement (Todd)

2. Approval of Agenda (Todd)  
Remaining Action Items from September Meeting: **None**

3. Principal's Report (Aaron/Chris)

- **Principal's Update**

- Chris provided an update on the *Coastal Research, Education and Advocacy Network* ([CREAN](#)) work that is beginning to take place at the school. The mandate of CREAN is to empower vulnerable low-income and racialized youth through research, education and advocacy. Vice-principal Koutougas mentioned that Vic High students will be asked to take part in an online survey (BIPOC Students 16 years of age and older). This will be a partnership to take part in a board-authorized study with other schools in Greater Victoria. More to come and watch for emails from Vic High on this.
- Aaron provided an update on school athletics. Many sports including soccer, volleyball and cross country are underway and we are seeing a resurgence in interest, with 50 girls trying out for the Volleyball team. There will be three teams at various levels. The cross-country team will be a small (but proud) group of five students competing an event in the Highlands in the next week.
- The Spring Musical is now fully casted and rehearsing/practising two times a week. The selection this year is [RANKED](#). The theatre students will be doing fundraising leading up to Halloween with Ghost Tours in Fernwood on October 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>.
- Aaron provided an update on **Focus Time**. This includes 30 minutes blocks at the end of each school day for students to lead their own learning independently. The kids are being allowed to identify what space works best for their learning whether it be math time, quiet time in the library, time in the gym, etc. Students are being asked to stay in the school during this time.
- Finally, Aaron indicated that the school is in the preliminary stages of reviewing the school mascots for the various sports teams at the school. Currently many teams have different names. There are a few names which may be culturally non-responsive – including the Totems, Tikis and Sasquatch. That said, the Totems name may have cultural significance and have some affiliation with well renowned

First Nations artist/sculptor Mungo Martin. The school feels it is important to review the mascots and choose something sensitive and appropriate.

- PAC requests for gaming grant funding will be coming in this week (October 18-23<sup>rd</sup>).

#### 4. Treasurer's Report

(Kate/Lisa)

- No major updates to report. Gaming and Operating accounts are at \$11,267 and \$6,633 respectively. New gaming grant funding has arrived so there will be approximately \$25,000 available in gaming money this year. **Kate indicated that the Province had asked for some revisions to the gaming reports for the last two years so she will be completing that and resubmitting by the end of November.**
- A discussion ensued on the Thrifty's/Fairway reloadable grocery cards. **A decision was made to cease using the Thrifty's cards as they have to be pre-loaded with funds before being handed out. Given the PAC doesn't currently have any fundraising goals the group will focus on coffee sales and focus efforts on supporting activities and not fundraising.** The Thrifty's cards are All funding allocated to school clubs has been expensed. Lisa indicated she would be running one more coffee fundraiser before the end of the school year.

#### 5. VCPAC Update

- Allison was not available so this item was pushed to the following month's agenda

#### 6. Roundtable

(All)

- Discussion continued on the Vic High website and PAC information. It is updated and requires updating. Ben to work with Tracy in the Admin office to update and post minutes from last year. Ben will also post monthly draft minutes online before they are finalized at each monthly meeting.
- Discussion on the Friends of Vic High information circulating around about the land adjacent to the school being sold for affordable/social housing. Hopefully Allison will be available to provide an update next month.
- Kate mentioned the historical Parent Education Nights and indicated that this is something we may want to consider doing again in the future.

Next Meeting: November 8th @ 7pm

Upcoming Events: Teacher Appreciation (October 21st)