

## Minutes

Vic High PAC  
December 13th, 2021

Virtually in attendance: Lisa Sheppard, Todd Orchard, Kate Wallace, Ben Black, Aaron Parker, Petra Gerard, Rose Ellis, Niki Lukat (Teacher – Vic High), Martha Dietiker (Counsellor, Vic High), Gen Walsh (Youth & Family Counsellor – Vic High)

1. Welcome and Introductions/Land Acknowledgement (Todd)

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

3. Principal's Report (Aaron/Chris)

- **Principal's Update**
- Aaron provided an update on the recent tragedy within the school community with the death of a Vic High student. The family is asking for privacy at this time and is not releasing details. The school's emergency response team has stepped in to support those who have been affected by this loss.
- An update on COVID-19 at the school was provided. The school largely has fared very well during the pandemic. There was a possible COVID exposure at the school in early December 2021. Appropriate measures were taken and no significant issues were identified as a result.
- Aaron provided an update on school athletics. The volleyball teams have done quite well, especially the Junior Boys team which went undefeated during the regular season this year. They competed at the provincial championships and came in 7<sup>th</sup> which is an excellent result! The boys/girls basketball teams have been practising hard and are expected to be very competitive this year.
- Rehearsals for [RANKED](#) continue with the theatre program. The musical is a satire on the university admission scandal which has gained a lot of publicity in the last few years. Students are doing extra work over the holidays to ensure they are ready for live shows in March 2022.
- Aaron provided an update on a new Emily Carr Art installation which will be going into the library in the coming weeks.
- Finally, Aaron noted that field trips will be continuing with trips planned to the Save on Foods Centre for skating field trips along with the Witness Blanket (Cedar Hill Rec. Centre), a touring exhibit recognizing the atrocities of the residential school system.

4. Treasurer's Report (Kate/Lisa)

- No major updates to report. Gaming and Operating accounts are at \$25,667 and \$6,712 respectively.
- A discussion took place on some ideas on possible spending from the PAC operating fund. The committee discussed the idea of funding artwork related to the new school mascot. Aaron indicated that the school has reached out to Butch Dick to get his input/consult with him about the process of coming up with a new school logo/mascot. This input from local Indigenous leaders will be important for the school going forward.
- **Action Item:** Aaron to bring back potential costs for consultation to committee at the January PAC Meeting so that consideration to supporting this process can take place.

5. Discussion on Mental Health (Martha, Niki and Gen)

- Martha, Niki and Gen provided a presentation to the PAC Committee on various programs that are being offered and some that are being considered for application to students at Vic High.
- There was discussion around the various monthly themes for mental health literacy, including things such as kindness, self-care, appropriate sleep strategies, nutrition, etc.
- Martha/Niki spoke to some of the curriculum being considered such as Dr. Stan Kutcher's [Bringing Mental Health to Schools Program](#). The various pro's/cons were discussed.
- Vic High will be using Focus Time blocks to give short opportunities to focus on mental wellness. The Counselling team at the school is also working with the Leadership students to bring in peer to peer activities between students. This is a PILOT year so many different approaches are being tried out.
- Gen provided a presentation on the SAFETEEN program and spoke specifically about [Project Respect](#). This team is rolling out some Violence Prevention/Consent workshops in smaller groups in the school. There is some concern that

these programs are very 'gendered' and may not appeal broadly to the overall student body at Vic High. The program is being offered free of charge this year so the decision was made to allow it to run its course, and re-visit after the year to gauge the success.

- **Action Item: Martha to provide resource links so that the PAC can review and share with parents as required.**

#### 6. Roundtable

(All)

- Discussion by Rose Ellis on fundraising opportunities for the various programs at Vic High. She referred to some possible needs in the school band programs with sheet music but was more broadly interested in what opportunities are out there for fundraising and how best to work together on this to ensure there is not duplication and we get the maximum benefit for all programs. PAC members indicated that we don't pursue much in the way of fundraising other than the coffee fundraiser which wasn't a huge money-maker but was a good opportunity in the past year. Largely programs fundraise on their own and come to the PAC for funding support when applicable.

Next Meeting: January 10th @ 7pm