

# Oakenwald Parent Advisory Council (OPAC)

*Learning for life in a safe, caring place.*

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 26, 2021. 7:00p.m.

Location: MS Teams virtual meeting

In attendance: Andrew Isaacs, Dave Bryski, Damon Joiner, Tanis Thiessen, Crystal Wenden, Barry McKay, Shira Wood, Arthur, Hang Nguyen.

**1. Call to order:** Andrew called meeting to order at 7:00PM

**2. Welcome/introductions**

**3. Adoption of Meeting Agenda and December minutes:** Dave made motion, Crystal seconded and passed.

**4. Principal's Report:** Enrolment steady, extra staffing support provided by division, 93% of students in building, February activities update, divisional budget consultation. Andrew asked about mental health of staff. School feels more stable instead of waiting and watching to see what else will be announced.

**5. Financial Report by Barry.** Balance at \$7,320.75. Same as last month.

**6. Lunch supervisor update and discussion, including access to banking info by Andrew:**

Lunch supervisor bank account (separate from fund) switched from a statement-based bank account to an online access account available to Tanis. Will save money from fees, and allows up to date info on balance and status of requests. Statements will be sent to Barry shortly. OPAC is expecting a request for fees estimate for the 2021-22 school year in the next few months. Update for OPAC will be given next meeting.

**7. Lasertopia fundraising discussion:** Tanis advised its possible, with individual labelled packaging. Shira would like to plan two lunches. Currently many parents have credits from cancelled lunches in spring, should be resolved before year's end. Lasertopia provides packaged individual products. Dave made motion to pay no more than \$336 for Munch-a-Lunch subscription to help with payment management. Andrew seconded. Motion passed.

**8. Other Business:** Babysitters course being offered virtually this year. OPAC has usually paid for it (\$100). There is space for 12 grade 6 students. Andrew made motion to support paying \$100 to the course. Barry seconded. Motion passed.

**9. Short round table discussion**

**10. Future meeting:** Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 7:00PM.

**11. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned by Andrew at 8:01PM

## Principal's Information Report for OPAC

January 26, 2021

1. **Enrolment** – 180 (fairly steady since September, despite some exits and some new arrivals)
2. **COVID19 Staffing update**– the division continues to provide Oakenwald School the following supports from COVID19 budget monies:
  - a. 4 hours daily extra custodial support (in place since September)
  - b. 3.75 hours daily extra EA support (up from 80min in October)
  - c. 0.333 FTE term teaching support (up from 0.25, and will continue through June).
3. **Staffing Update** – with the ongoing leave of our EA Ms. Boroski, we have officially had Ms. Neveen Ibrahim move from a subbing role to join us as a temporary EA until Ms. Boroski's return.
4. **Orange Level Restrictions Update** – We continue to be grateful that 93% of our students are physically with us in the building, and that we have the space to support them. We continue to have 2m distancing in place, with:
  - a. Kindergarten in their large homeroom
  - b. Grade 1 in the library
  - c. Grade 5/6 B in the gymnasium
  - d. Grades 2, 2/3, 3/4, 4/5, and 6 each using two classrooms for proper distancing, linked via webcam.
5. **February Activities Update:**
  - a. **Ms. Pauls' Music in the Halls** – at 12:55pm via the intercom on even days of the cycle, Ms. Pauls leads the entire school in some reflective music listening and learning. She provides background to the piece of music before it is played, and gives students one or two focus questions to concentrate on while listening.
  - b. **February is I Love to Read Month** – various activities are being planned, including one or two virtual assemblies with student leadership involvement.
  - c. **Tri-Conferences** (for Parent, Student, and Teacher) are on February 08 morning and February 09 evening. The online scheduler will open soon, with Ms. Thomas sending an email with instructions.
  - d. **Kindergarten 2021 – February 11** is our VIRTUAL Kindergarten Registration Information Night at 6:00pm – please highlight this for parents with young children. This evening is \*adult\* focused with information to help with decision making and registration. Email the school for information and a link to this virtual event.
6. **Divisional Budget Consultation** – this process was an online “Thought Exchange” set of questions, highlighted via social media. Results of the online consultation can still be seen on the Pembina Trails website.