

Claremont PAC Minutes April 21, 2020 - Virtual Meeting

Welcome & Introductions – Rich Scales

Review and approve minutes of previous meeting - Rich Scales

- Motion to approve - Rich Scales, second – Tracey Rompain - Approved

Administrative Report – Peter Westhaver

- Claremont updates – Friday emails from Peter Westhaver to all families who have registered their email with the school. Also, live Instagram messages on Fridays.
- Met with Grad Exec today – all things grad, planning and preparation.
- Email has been the main mode of communication.
- Q&A
 - What is the difference between remote learning and online learning?
 - Online – SIDES – typically up to a year to complete a course. Online is a choice.
 - In this emergency situation, we are now in remote learning – not same as classroom, very different. In the first couple of weeks the focus has been on connecting. Now have assignments, reading, questions, discussions through video conferencing.
 - What will sports programs look like (golf, rowing, etc)?
 - A lot of dry land training and connection with the coaches at this time.
 - How much work is my child expected to complete per week?
 - 3 hours per course per week on task, not necessarily with the teacher
 - Hours are as suggested by the ministry
 - Timing of virtual sessions is typically by consensus and teachers are encouraged to record the sessions
 - Will not be able to complete the full curriculum. Focusing on ensuring students have what is necessary for success at the next level. Next year, there will some re-learning and focussing on the fundamentals.
 - How do I know if my student is engaged with learning?
 - Using email and recognize that the volume of email can be overwhelming and things can be missed.
 - The administrative team will be notified by teachers of concerns and a mechanism is in place follow-up with students and parents if falling behind
 - Recognize that routines have been disrupted.
 - How will students be assessed?
 - All students will receive a final letter grade
 - Grade 12 students were issued a term 3 letter grade but not issuing report cards. This is for college/university applications.
 - Some teachers are using Simple Gradebook

- Passing is not automatic. Students need to engage. Teachers will take into consideration work that occurred prior to spring break. Grades can go up or down based on how they engage in their class and their assignments.
- Multiple platforms are being used – is there an option to streamline the platforms?
 - Different teachers were already using different platforms and kids have become comfortable, as have teachers, with the platforms so the decision was made to continue with those platforms.
- How are you checking with staff and ensuring they have what they need to support the kids?
 - Subject chairs working close with administration
 - Departments are meeting once or twice a week and supporting each other
 - Learning Services also sits in on the department meetings to provide support, in particular with technology
 - Whatever is happening for our students is also happening for our staff, so we are checking in
- Can teachers do teaching videos and check-ins weekly?
 - Some teachers are comfortable with this and others are still learning how to use the technology
- What about our Grads of 2020
 - All the secondary administrators have been discussing grad
 - Taking our lead from Dr. Bonnie Henry
 - Looking at different options if the in-person ceremonies are not able to go ahead
 - Hope to have a better idea at the end of April
- How long will this continue?
 - We don't know – waiting to hear from Dr. Henry
- Is the District planning what the return will look like?
 - Plan is in the infancy stage
 - Hard to plan without knowing what the health requirements will be
 - Have put our minds to options but nothing can be finalized
- What would the benefit be of having kids come back for a month or less?
 - Need for social interaction – to connect and be together
- Yearbook?
 - No news yet
- Have there been any requests for the school to support kids who take advantage of the breakfast and lunch programs
 - District has contracted with Truffles and has been in contact with families
- Is there anything the PAC can be doing in terms of re-allocating resources?
 - Previously approved funds will not all be spent
 - No decisions to allocate any additional funds
- Please visit SD63
- We are all into this for the very first time. Asking for patience with students, teachers, us all. Teachers are prioritizing the fundamentals. Supports are still available – counsellors, links to community resources, etc.
- What is the status of International students?

- 130 international students - 50 have returned home and are continuing their studies. Only 5 withdrew entirely. Teachers are finding ways to connect with differences in time zones and allowed platforms.

President's Report - Rich Scales

- Anticipate a future funding crunch – no new approvals and leaving funding requests as is
- Will not be able to go ahead with the Teacher Appreciation Lunch so considering other thank-you options such as flower baskets, coordinated thank you notes. Open to ideas.

Treasurer's Report – Belinda Waller

- Gaming Account balance \$17,164 (\$15,000 was committed)
- General Account balance \$11,237 (\$5000 was committed)
- Normally allowed to carry forward a percentage of gaming funds for two years.
- Anticipate there may be an ask for Grad as the planned fundraising has not gone forward

New Business

- No new business

Next Meeting

- May 19, 2020 7:00pm Location TBD

Motion to adjourn – Rich Scales , second Jill Franssen - Adjourned