

Olympic Christian School
Board Meeting Minutes—February 27th, 2017

In attendance:

Board members: Ian Barclay, Mark Patton, Mitch Johnson, Dan Hendrickson, Betsy Flodstrom, Ed Kaetzel
Staff: Mrs Rudzinski
Parents and others: Mike Reickhoff, Kay Loesch, (Ian Barclay, Betsy Flodstrom)

Scripture and Opening Prayer: Betsy Flodstrom

Dan welcomed everyone to the February board meeting of the finest evangelical Christian school on the Olympic Peninsula.

Betsy discussed the topic of repentance, and the importance of teaching it to our children. If you repent and go before the Lord, you are cleansed, and it is all too easy to neglect to do that. When there's true repentance your fellowship with Jesus is made right, and your family relationships are as well. As part of OCS, we need to remain open to reconciliation and restoration. She read from 1 John 1:9, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness." He is just, and we are not deserving but He gives us the free gift of forgiveness.

She then opened with prayer.

Finance committee: Mark Patton

Mark reported that, for the most part, spending is going as expected, except for a few minor items. We still have some issues with past due accounts, and we lost a few students which is also an income loss, but nothing terribly dire. He'll provide us with a broader picture of OCS' financial standing in the March Meeting.

Principal's Report: Mrs Rudzinski

Mrs Rudzinski reported that January and February both went well overall. We had some snow days, but we still have four days left (23 hours, to be exact) that we could take, so we're not at risk for having to make up any days at the end of the year. We have had several days of 2 hour late starts, but this doesn't use up any hours; because according to Washington state law, if students are present for at least four hours it counts as a whole day.

At times, some students have been coming to class less clean than they might be, due to poor conditions in the field.

Staff Report: Mrs Rudzinski (reporting for Mrs Gillespie, who had supplied a detailed written report)

- OCS is just wrapping up the "Love of Reading" event which ran the entire month of February, in which students do extra reading. The Clallam County Literary Council supports this program, and students are rewarded with books.
- The fourth grade class went on a field trip to Angeles Composite Technologies, Inc. The First grade class went to Klahanie Gymnastics. The fifth grade class will be going this week on a field trip to Feiro Marine Center in downtown Port Angeles.
- March 6 – 10 will be the science fair at the school, but it's going to look a little different this year. Mrs Gillespie is excited about a competition through sciencebuddies.org where

students can do an engineering project (we plan to group them into teams of three or four), submit it to them and be awarded prizes. Unlike prior years, it's going to be more of a week of experiments, and we are not going to have a board of judges.

- We're unsure if we still plan to have the Science on Wheels project come, which would be in May if we do. (Dan suggested funds might be available to assist with this, if cost is an issue.)
- Our cookie dough and magazine fundraiser ends tomorrow.
- Staff is healthy and students have been attending school consistently.

Ed Kaetzel mentioned that the possibility is open for a spring field trip to the nature trail at Kaetzel's forest.

Mitch asked how it's going with the new PraxiSchool grade book. Mrs Rudziniski said it is "plugging along." Teachers are using it and grades are due at the end of the month.

Approval of minutes

Dan announced that the approval of minutes from the OCS January board meeting was already done by email.

Curriculum committee: Betsy Flodstrom

Betsy reported that the curriculum committee is not active at this time. Remaining members have not met due to other priorities, and there are no major emergencies in this area.

Mitch mentioned that a person he knows from the home school community might have some curriculum in note form that OCS may be able to use.

The topic of electives came up. According to Betsy's research, it was desirable to offer Health and Washington State History courses at OCS, because of the appeal of a high school credit for these courses and not having to take them in a public school context. However, no one from the home school community wants daily school [for electives offered by OCS]. Betsy proposed that we offer Health and Washington State History every other year (alternating years), at some future point. We already have the curriculum for both.

Mr Reickhoff said he heard some parents say that certain electives that they expected would be available have not turned out to be available. Betsy recognized this was true to an extent. Mrs Rudzinski pointed out that they still have Worship Ensemble, PE, Yearbook, and perhaps maybe Home Economics as elective options. Betsy said the availability of electives depends on who are on staff, and how well students are caught up on core curriculum.

Development committee: Dan Hendrickson

Dan reported the final numbers for recent fundraisers, which are now in.

- The See's Candies fundraiser this year raised \$5,239, which is up several thousand from last year. Dan described this as "wonderful." This money funds basic school operations next year.
- The annual giving campaign has so far raised over \$7,000 which is also up substantially from last year. This fundraiser is a simple letter with a huge mailing list. This money also goes into the OCS general fund, under the fundraising account.
- Christmas tree sales profited just \$2,769, compared to last year's \$7,500. Dan said that while this is a major loss, this number is hopefully not final. While we know we didn't sell all the trees, but Dan thinks that discrepancy is larger than it ought to be, and has asked Pam

Boyd and Jackie Lake to look into it. We await further resolution on this matter.

- Our friends from King's Way Foursquare Church organized and hosted a dessert fundraiser back in November. The final total raised in that event was \$2,257, which also goes into the fundraising account.
- The next upcoming fundraiser is our annual fund-a-need letter, which last year raised over \$7,000. Mrs Rudzinski reported that a brochure associated with this fundraiser that students were possibly planning to work on has not yet been produced. Dan said it needs to be done by March 15th, but we can work something out if that deadline isn't possible. He added that if a staff member or parent wants to learn how to use Olympic Mailing Service, the president would love to show them the ropes on how to do that.
- Kidsfest is a community outreach at the Vern Burton center in which the preschool is heavily involved. Mrs Rudzinski reports we'll have two of our staff members there from the preschool. The activities at kids fest are geared towards three to five year old children. Dan said we would try to supply them with promotional material from the OCS main campus as well as preschool.

FOCS committee: Dan Hendrickson

The FOCS committee, consisting of six to seven members, raises funds for the long term sustainability of the school via private donations; and an annual golf tournament, which this year will be on July 15th, a week before the Sequim Lavender Festival. We don't anticipate that change of date is going to be a major problem. Last year the golf tournament raised a total of \$18,375. Dan puts his heart and soul into this tournament. Dan has the golf playbook, and is looking for a replacement for himself, hoping to find someone who can carry this on into the future before he gets too much older. This person doesn't have to be a board member.

Mark Patton asked, who is the board member we used to have that was in public relations? Dan said it was Brent Maggard, who chaired that committee although it wasn't his professional background. Dan expressed his wish that OCS could find someone who knew how to do that.

Infrastructure/Building report: Ed Kaetzel

Ed reported that the fence that will be constructed to enclose the field will be started this month, or when the weather improves.

The Crossing Church will begin meeting on the upper floor of the Admin Center in March. There will be a meeting at the school tomorrow to show them around, set ground rules, and give papers for them to sign. Dan and Ed discussed the lease and confirmed what that looked like. The Crossing Church trailer appeared this weekend in the parking lot. Their lease will be for \$400 per month, and it is great that we're spreading the word of the gospel right upstairs. This is consistent with the intended concept and use of the Admin Center. We expect them to start meeting there this Sunday.

Parent input:

Kay Loesch, a grandparent of an OCS student, attended the meeting to present her crowdfunding campaign, which aims to improve the OCS parking lot. She was well-prepared and enthusiastically handed out information packets to everyone. She chose youcaring.com for the crowdfunding service because it is a Christian organization that was started by missionaries. She had numerous other marketing ideas for this project. Dan said it is a great idea.

Kay said she already had a meeting with Ed Kaetzel, with the conclusion being that we just

want the parking lot resurfaced with new gravel and professionally compacted, rather than paved over in asphalt. Ed said the reason we don't want to pave it is that adding an impermeable surface gets us into significant permitting issues that we wish to avoid for now.

Dan suggested that we get an estimate from a contractor so we know just how much money to shoot for. Their original estimate of \$12,000 accounting for 450 yards of material may not be accurate. Mitch mentioned that he could talk to Rygaard Logging to work on this. They had resurfaced the King's Way Church parking lot and it came out great. Some discussion followed about how YouCaring works, and Kay confirmed they make it possible to raise your financial goal if need be. Dan suggested making the end goal \$15,000 just to have a little extra.

Ed said we are also going to install parking bumpers. Kay asked whether we had looked into a chip-seal option. Ed said that's another impermeable surface, so no go.

Kay asked where we can get photos to promote this project. It was suggested that some pictures of the kids would be helpful, and that perhaps she could take the pictures and then ask parent permission to publish them. Ed said it's better not use photos of students, but just of the parking lot. Kay said perhaps we could put a link to the OCS web site so people can see pics of kids that are already on there, an idea that was generally approved. Mark asked Kay how she can get the word out to everyone to promote this project. Kay said she is going to use social media such as Facebook and Twitter, combined with word of mouth. Mark said we can also promote it in the parent update and ask people to pass it along to their friends.

The discussion came back to YouCaring, and Kay mentioned they don't release your funds until you have it all. Sentiments of dislike and/or alarm at this information were expressed by most present. Mark said we need to ask YouCaring if it is also possible to lower the goal, and what happens to money if we don't get it all. We need to know this absolutely for sure from YouCaring.

Mitch said that if he can get free rock, that would cut costs down. He asked for an estimate without free rock. Ed confirmed rock is the main cost. Mitch asked whether it would be possible to put up a sign that says "In honor of Gabe Rygaard" if Rygaard Logging supplied the rock.

Ed and Dan thought that sounded reasonable.

Dan expressed his overall approval and thanked Kay. He asked her to please contact him if she has any other ideas for marketing the school.

Mr Reickhoff said that Jefferson school is working on trying to put a track in, and they're looking for somewhere to dispose of all the topsoil they are removing without having to pay for disposal. Ian expressed skepticism that the soil would be of good enough quality to be worth getting. After some discussion Ed K thought we ought to take a pass on it. Ed asked Mr Reickhoff to ask them how much soil it is and then contact him, just in case. Ed would want to know if it's enough to be worthwhile. Mr Reickhoff said he plans ask for an estimate of how many yards it is.

New and Unfinished Business:

Ian reported that he still plans to work on the web site and has arranged to meet with Jackie soon. He said he would like to make some minor changes to the web site, and in the long term, add a lot more content to the site that will promote the school. But there is no intention of taking away the responsibility of day-to-day affairs, such as the calendar and school delay announcements, from the administrative staff.

Ian said he would still be producing his abbreviated version of a statement on Christian education soon.

Ian also said he would eventually resume work on landscaping the school, but it's now on

hold because of the weather.

Kay offered a praise to God, sharing that over a year ago she had brain surgery for hydrocephalis and how she has had a great recovery. Dan said he also is praising God for good results with back surgery about a year ago.

Mitch had some results to report from when he was commissioned to get some information from home school families, but would wait until Betsy is here to share it. (Betsy had to leave early.)

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm. The next open board meeting is scheduled for the 20th of March.

Submitted 3/1/17 by Ian Barclay