

Olympic Christian School
Board Meeting Minutes—January 16th, 2017

In attendance:

Board members: Ian Barclay, Mark Patton, Mitch Johnson, Dan Hendrickson

Staff: Mrs Rudzinski

Parents and others: Mr Reickhoff, (Mr Barclay)

Scripture and Opening Prayer:

Dan, filling in for Betsy, read Ephesians 2:8; emphasizing the significance of what Christ has done for us, and what Christ wants us to do to take care of other people. He then opened with prayer.

Finance Committee Report: Mark Patton

Mark reports that we are “sitting good” right now. A few letters are being sent out reminding parents to keep up with tuition payments. At this time we still anticipate a positive balance at the end of the year.

Principal's Report/Staff Report (in part): Mrs Rudzinski

- We've had an interesting start to the new year with the cold weather and snow, resulting in a few days of school closures and late starts. This has been challenging for parents but fun for the kids. We are glad it is finally warming up because the black top and parking lot have been awfully icy for a long time. Fortunately there were no major incidents with people slipping or falling.
- Sadly Mrs Swenson is no longer with us, having resigned for medical reasons. Staff are coming together to fill these gaps.
- Staff is looking for a spring musical program that is based on the Easter story.
- The remainder of staff are doing well and are healthy.

At this time, Mitch asked how staff are doing with the new PraxiSchool software. Mrs Rudzinski replied saying it is some work, and teachers are using it although the timing of when we started it up made things more challenging. Mitch asked Mark how does the “business side” of this program look. Mark reported that we are still working with the IBC main office to get everything running smoothly. He discussed some of the particulars of this matter, which finance committee is continuing to resolve over time. Mrs Rudzinski said she is still working one-on-one with the staff to assist them with the software. Mark proposed the idea to Mrs Rudzinski of setting up another training session for staff, which all agreed may be a good option.

Mr Reickhoff asked if that is the reason parents haven't been receiving emails about grades. Mrs Rudzinski confirmed this is the case. Mark said it's partly his responsibility, because he needs to turn on the “parent portal,” and he didn't want to do so before grades are input by staff. But looking ahead, this will all work out fine.

Approval of minutes

The minutes for the November meeting were approved by email. OCS did not hold an open board meeting in the month of December.

Staff Report: Mrs Rudzinski

- In Mrs Swenson's absence, staff are taking on challenges with a can-do attitude and scaling back a few things where needed.
- Science fair will look a little different this year, with only Mrs Gillespie spearheading it and other staff supporting her.
- The current teachers aide situation is working out well. Mrs Oakes is very happy to have Mrs Tormala come in and read to the children while she has her prep time.

Mark suggested Mrs Swenson may still be able to be involved with the yearbook, which could be a possibility if she is interested.

Curriculum committee report: Betsy Flodstrom

In Betsy's absence, Mrs Rudzinski reported that nothing new is under development. Asked about the new math curriculum, she said it has been well received by staff and seems to be working out well.

Development Committee: Dan Hendrickson

- The Annual Giving Letter, sent out late last year, had a 3% response. It raised \$5,320 so far, which is up considerably from last year. We are very pleased with Olympic Mailing Service, which we used for the first time. They consolidated all our mailing list spreadsheets and mailed the letters in a very efficient manner.
- The See's Candies fundraiser was also way up from last year, but we are still waiting for the final number on it.
- The Christmas tree fundraiser was also good, but we didn't quite sell out of trees completely this year, unlike last year. We are still waiting to find out the exact numbers on that one as well.

The next major fundraiser is the fund-a-need letter, which goes out in spring to the same list of recipients. The income received from this letter goes to tuition vouchers for families needing financial assistance for Christian education at OCS. Dan is looking for someone to take this on, and is really trying hard to convince everyone that it is very easy. The main thing that needs doing is to create an appealing advertising brochure that we will put in the envelope. Mrs Rudzinski suggested that we could involve more people by making that a parent service hours task, or even an elective for the middle school to learn how to use publishing software to produce a flier. This idea was met with general enthusiasm, and Mrs Rudzinski will look into that idea and get back to Dan. The goal is to get this letter mailed out before Easter while everyone is in their "spring giving" spirit.

Friends of OCS Committee: Dan Hendrickson

The purpose of FOCS is to fund capital upgrades, ensuring the long-term viability of the school. Their annual meeting was held on December 7th, 2016. In 2016 FOCS raised over \$18,000 with the golf tournament, in addition to other income including generous donations. FOCS is always looking for more people who want to help financially assist Christian education. The goal is to have enough money down the road to pay for everything we need out of interest on the FOCS account alone. Last year's FOCS expenditures included such things as repairs to the computer room, the new roof on the main building, new microscopes, a new ramp for the library, new

flooring in the main building, new PraxiSchool financial software, storage bins, fencing material, new locks, new electrical equipment, lead testing, and more. This summer we will hold our fifth golf tournament.

Infrastructure/Building report: Ed Kaetzel

Ed Kaetzel was not present, so Dan asked all in attendance if they were aware of any issues.

The Crossing Church, which has expressed interest in meeting in the upstairs “chapel” area of the admin center, continues to be uncertain as to whether they really want to use our facility. Our offer to allow this stands as we wait to see what they decide.

Mrs Rudzinski reported the boys bathroom had 3” of water in it, so they called the plumber. A faulty hot water box was discovered and is being repaired with no additional damage to report. The lack of drainage may also have to do with drainage pipes being frozen, but the situation is now under control.

Parent Input:

None

Unfinished business:

None

New Business:

None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for the 27th of February.

Submitted on 1/18/17 by Ian Barclay