

OYAMA TRADITIONAL SCHOOL – PAC PRINCIPAL’S REPORT



June 6, 2017

The following principal's report is divided into different sections of significant focus at OTS.

1) Registration Update

- a. We currently have a total of 165 students either accepted, or awaiting documentation, as well as 3 out of catchment applicants for a total of 168 students.
- b. Teachers met on Monday, May 29th to create draft class organizations (class lists) for the upcoming school year. Parent placement requests were given consideration.
- c. We have ordered a class set of laptops for the additional grade 5/6 class, and will ensure that both classes have equal leadership opportunities. We have also ordered a class set of laptops to replace the desktops in the computer lab as well as rolling carts for musical instruments since the portable is also becoming a classroom. Other items ordered include Front Row Juno sound enhancement systems.

2) 2017-2018 School Calendar

- a. At the February 22 Board Meeting, the 2017-2018 district calendar was approved.
- b. OTS staff have collaborated and have decided:
 - i. A fall “meet the teacher night” is aligned with the Fall Barbecue will occur on September 21. This is where teachers will make staggered 10 minute presentations to outline their expectations regarding home school communication, agendas, home reading, homework, etc. Then if parents wish to schedule interviews later in the fall (i.e. October), they are welcome to. This will replace the early dismissal days in September.
 - ii. For the Parent/Teacher interviews that normally take place in February, these will be moved back slightly to Thursday, February 1 and Friday, February 2, 2018.
 - iii. The above changes have been added to the district calendar to complete OTS’s 2017-2018 school calendar and this has been sent home to parents in the June newsletter.
 - iv. Our contract for the upcoming school year has been renewed with Lifetouch and our Individual Photo Day is September

3) Place-based Learning Committee:

- a. SCHOOL LEARNING GARDEN
 - i. April 24: Roger Wong and Mr. Hett staked out a 45’ x 80’ perimeter for the proposed garden site.
 - ii. April 24 – 28: Roger completed a school learning garden proposal complete with cost estimates
 - iii. May 1: Mr. Hett submitted the learning garden proposal as well as district forms to the district
May 17: Mr. Hett and Mr. Wong attended the Planning and Facilities Meeting and the project was given approval in principle.
Anticipated next steps:
 1. Have the Board approve the project.
 2. Begin the grant applications.
- b. OYAMA NATURE CENTER
 - i. Mr. Hett has contracted Aboriginal artist Anne O’Grady to design a graphic to represent our unique learning offerings at OTS. Anne is also connecting us with various contacts as she has done signage for various natural and xeriscape garden projects throughout the Okanagan
 - ii. Mr. Hett has completed a draft Oyama Nature Center proposal which was presented as an information item at the May 17 Planning and Facilities Committee meeting.

4) Playground Enhancement Committee

- a. Playground Committee will recommend Henderson (www.hendersonplay.com) and Miss Nelson and Mr. Hett will consult with students from all grade levels (student Lighthouse leaders plus some primary students)
 - b. Anticipated steps
 - 1. Contact operations department once plan is finalized and approved by the PAC (an enhancement agreement is not required).
 - 2. Fundraising and grant applications
 - 3. Purchase equipment and put in a work order for installation
- 5) Leader in Me
- a. April 6: Miss May, Mr. Hett and 2 grade 5 students presented at the Kiwanis Club AGM in Kelowna as part of a funding request
 - b. May 24: Mr. Hett attended a Leadership afternoon at Anne McClymont Elementary
 - c. The Kiwanis Club is considering funding part of the cost of the Leader in Me program once their foundation is established and governed (likely next year).
 - d. Mr. Hett would like to establish a grant committee of parents who can afford time to meet at the school to work on grant applications (see below)
 - e. August 21 and 22 – Mike Suto will be here for both days working with all of the teaching staff on the next level of training (academic alignment)
 - f. Fall, 2017: A Leader In Me orientation evening for all current and new parents will be planned and all families given a parent handbook.
- 6) Extra-curricular/Field Trips/Special Events:
- a. May 5: Our grade 3 – 6 students participated in the Cinco de Mayo rail trail fundraising event and it was a big success. A huge thank you to all parents who supported this initiative.
 - b. The Chefs in the Classroom program has again returned to Mrs. Daniels' grade 2/3 class with so much learning about gardening and food preparation. This year Mrs. Daniels' class was given a mini-greenhouse as part of the program.
 - c. Recent field trips/presentations include:
 - i. May 9: Mrs. Cahill's and Mrs. Gleboff's classes visited the Winfield library and the Kangaroo farm.
 - ii. May 10: The Cedar Hill Middle School band performed here at OTS.
 - iii. May 11: Different groups of OTS students performed for our parent volunteers at our Annual Parent Volunteer Appreciation Tea.
 - iv. May 12: Grade 3s had the second Fire Safety presentation by the Lake Country Fire Department.
 - v. May 16: Grade 6s received Basic First Aid training ahead of Gardom Lake Camp.
 - vi. May 17: the GESS Grade 8 Band performed
 - vii. May 18: students in grades 4 – 6 competed with Peter Greer students at our Annual Intermediate Apple Bowl event.
 - viii. May 19: Teachers collaborated on the redesigned curriculum and student self-reporting on the core competencies.
 - ix. May 23: Our Bike to School Week kicked off from the Oyama General Store with the Fire Department leading the way. Later that morning all Primary students participated in our Annual Bike Rodeo. A big thank you to those parents who helped out.
 - x. May 24: UBC-O engineering students presented hands on science lessons in each classroom.
 - xi. May 26: We had a very successful Summer Soccer Spirit Day.
 - d. Mrs. Cahill has started cross country running for students in grades 3 to 6. OTS hosted a successful meet using the rail trail and our runners have also competed or will compete at the other two elementary schools.
 - e. Miss Sawyer and Miss May have established both Primary and Intermediate dance teams for the third term and Mr. Hett is sponsoring Lego Robotics.
- 7) Learning and Community Learning Plan
- a. As part of the "scanning" process to see what is going on for our learners, the school is using data from the MDI, as well as journal entry responses to probing questions as well as one to one interviews. Mr. Hett has been developing the Learning Plan section of the website.

- b. Teachers, parents and students are having input on a compass metaphor that shows four quadrants of long term learning focus at the school and that will represent a driving vision for future learning..
- c. The 3D printer has arrived and will enhance students learning in STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). Mr. Baines and Mr. Hett will be attending an in-service on the 3D printer on Friday, May 19.