

Minutes PTA meeting Tuesday 14 January 2020

Attendance: Marije Dijkstra, Lenka Kasickova, Cathy Magill, Lara Kelly, Nika Perencevic Tedeschi, Katia Keshishian, Paul Buckley, Stephen Dexter, Tamara Black, Nicky Sandmann

Lower School Principal Update:

Lower School is recruiting for an art teacher position, a curriculum coach as well as an educational assistant to be added in learning support section. Tanya Grbin will return from maternity leave during the first week of February and will work in learning support for the remainder of the school year. Nela Puda will remain as Grade 3 teacher – current Grade 3 class may potentially be split into two classes for Grade 4 September 2020.

Megan Holmstrom is working with teachers on numeracy learning and collaborating with pre-school teachers on an early childhood educational article.

Faculty have selected a learning platform called Atlas to house the Lower School curriculum.

Communications: New personal assistant Ivona Lukic joined and will assist with accreditation, and weekly newsletter communications. Principal newsletters in the current format will be sent on 24th January followed by transition to school wide communication via weekly newsletter.

Nicki Sandmann is coordinating an extended community meeting musical celebration for Lower School in the Black Box Theatre on January 31st from 8:10am – 9am. Parents will be invited.

Upper School Principal Update:

Upper School is documenting the US curriculum on Managebac. Martina Saluzzo is leading this project.

Service Learning Mondays on Day 6 is going very well, each grade has a theme (working with elderly, environment etc.).

Recruitment is ongoing and Upper School positions are being filled for the next school year starting in September 2020.

Mr. Dexter is discussing electives options with possible communications/media literacy course as an elective next year. Four new students to join Upper School after winter break, two of which have already started classes. Stephen Dexter would like to invite a PTA representative to be at the new family introductory meeting later this month. Discussion on a PTA position of new family liaison next year.

Upper School culture survey was conducted, students had a high participation rate, good feedback on courses, homework, school experience. Findings will be discussed with teachers and STUCO. STUCO is currently undergoing a leadership transition following elections, coordinating handover to new leaders.

The assessment policy handbook is currently being revised and the culture survey data will be used for this.

The class trip learning experiences in Zagreb are proving very successful.

This year's graduation ceremony will be held at AISZ with a dinner event to follow in the city.

Director Update:

Mr. Buckley to attend International School Recruitment Fair in London on 15th January.

Director met with Board early in January on accreditation.

Director/PTA agreed to remove International Day event from this year's calendar and combine with Model UN week next school year.

PTA Updates:

PTA social coffee for parents at Vivas on 23rd January after AM drop off.

General PTA meeting will take place on 28th Tuesday.

STUCO has not provided any feedback regarding PTA's suggestion of an event for Middle/Upper School students next month. PTA will also need details of any additional projects/trips for which they will be requesting financial support from PTA this school year. Stephen Dexter will follow up with STUCO.

Spring Dance 25th April – still waiting for quotes from a number of locations. Once all quotes are in a follow up meeting will be scheduled to agree location of dance this April.

Bearwear – only 635KN worth of merchandise has been sold this school year. The Bearwear store has 285 easy dry t-shirts in stock at a selling price of 130kn each and total of 6100kn total Bearwear currently in stock. Discussion on ways to market the products in the coming months.

Upcoming Meetings/Events:

23 January	PTA Informal Coffee at Vivas
28 January	PTA General Meeting & Welcome Back Coffee
4 February	PTA Monthly
February TBA	(proposed) Student Dance
3 March	PTA Monthly
7 April	PTA Monthly
25 April	Spring Dance
5 May	PTA Monthly
21 May	PTA General Meeting & Parent Talk
2 June	PTA Monthly
5 June	Teacher & Staff Appreciation Day
18 June	Tears & Cheers