

Vista Hills School Council Meeting Minutes

Where: Google Meet, Invitation sent to interested participants

When: Thursday, Jan 20, 2022 at 6:30pm

Present: Michelle Ji, Amy Innes, Anne Plouffe, Bhaleka Persaud, Caleb Cheung, Diana Clipsham, Diana Skrzydlo, Amy Sergi, Greg James, Jennifer Christopher, Jing Lang, Katelyn Brunskill, Kelly Fraser, Louise Caswell, Melanie Roberts, Milena Krstic, Penny Miller, Raneem Al-Halimi, Saurabh Kumar, Tania Bumstead

Meeting Agenda

1: Welcome and Approval of Minutes—Greg James

- Meeting minutes of Dec 16, 2021 approved: Melanie Roberts motioned and Louise Caswell seconded.

2: Vista Hills Updates – Penny Miller, Amy Innes

1) January Daily Affirmation – Amy Innes

- **I am a Vista Hills Hawk!**
- **I have great hopes for my future.**
- **I focus on what I can control.**
- **I can achieve my goals.**

2) New Covid Protocols—Penny Miller

Enhanced safety measures at school; teachers wear N95 masks; classroom filters will come in; students are masked; frequent hand washing and sanitizing; students staying in cohorts inside and outside classroom and stay masked outside; only at nutrition break: mask off; extra curriculum activities on hold; limited movement in classroom; more frequent cleaning in common areas; request parents to please do not drop off items for kids at school.

Question: do kids who are double vaccinated still need to wear mask outside?
Penny Miller: school will see when most of the students are double vaccinated and then determine if rules can be loosened.

3) Remote Learning – Penny Miller

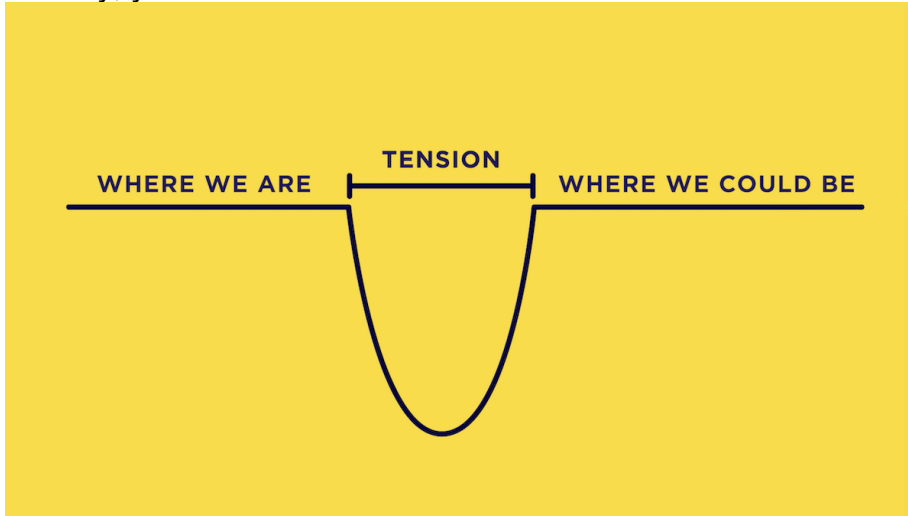
Temporary option and about 120-130 students have chosen online learning; student can choose to return to in person learning at any time; just need to call school to request; remote learning is asynchronous learning; lessons posted online Mon to Fri; helpline available daily 8:30am-3:30pm; students can switch to remote learning at any time too.

4) Report Card - Term 1—Penny Miller

Jan 21st is PD day and teachers to work on report cards which will go home Feb 16th. Report card may look different from other years, not quite as fulsome and hard to get proper assessment on student with remote learning.

- 5) School assembly: Welcome Back Assemblies – Remotely—Amy Innes
- 6) Presentation - D.O Gibson—Amy Innes
Students absolutely loved him and want him to come in person: delivered positive message for students
- 7) Picture Day-- Amy Innes
Delayed and waiting to get rebooked pending availability of Lifetouch studio.
- 8) Equity Learning--Tania Bumstead

“You might feel discomfort;
its okay, you won’t die from it.”



Allies

Are vocal against the problematic existence of certain types of oppression

- ✓ Speaks out against actions as long as the potential for risk and danger are minimized.
- ✓ Asks marginalized people to justify their position for the benefit of their own learning.
- ✓ Amplifies the messages of marginalized communities through their lens & without crediting or creating a platform for that community.
- ✓ Will only engage with threats of oppression theoretically and not acknowledge or engage the realities.

Accomplices

Do the work of unlearning, actively combatting, and leveraging privilege against oppression

- ✓ Independently & proactively learns and researches about the marginalized communities of which they are not a part.
- ✓ Asks insightful questions at the appropriate time when they cannot find the information themselves.
- ✓ Amplifies the message of the communities that they have learned from without expectation of credit or reward.
- ✓ Steps in and checks harmful behavior, especially within their own privileged community, in order to provide respite to the marginalized.

Assess the strengths you already have:
<https://sparqtools.org/areyoureadytotalk/>

3: Financial Update - Kelly Fraser

Vista Hills School Council Financial Report - January 2022					
	Debit	Credit	Total	Notes	
Carryforward					
School Council - 850		\$7,538.36			
Pizza Revenue Fund - 851		\$8,070.16			
Total Carryforward			\$15,608.52		
Income					
		\$31.22			Tax Rebate
Expenditures					
	\$110.11				Office snacks - discretionary fund
	\$84.23				Office snacks - discretionary fund
Total Remaining			\$15,445.40		
Opening Balance		\$16,033.95			
Expenses					
2020/21 Approved Expenses	Amount Approved	Amount Spent	Remaining	Totals	Notes
Discretionary Fund	\$500.00	\$194.34	\$305.66	\$500.00	
Gardening Gloves, other start up costs	\$500.00	\$325.43	\$174.57	\$500.00	Approved Feb 25, 2021
Balls, skipping ropes, discs for PhysEd Dept	\$600.00	\$100.00	\$500.00	\$600.00	Approved by email April 20, 2021
2020/21 Approved Expenses					
Primary level home reading books	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Approved Nov 18,2021
Guest speaker	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Approved Nov 18,2022
Focus on Nature Initiative	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	Approved Nov 18,2023
Hershey's Kisses for traffic blitz	\$50.00	\$0.00	\$50.00	\$50.00	Approved Nov 18,2024
			Total Expenses Allocated	\$4,650.00	
Revenue					
Tax Rebate	\$31.22		Total Revenues	\$31.22	
Balance remaining to spend	\$11,415.17				

Greg: need to be cognizant of the possibility that school may not be able to do pizza day for a while due to COVID and thus not going to raise fund for a while.

4: Traffic Safety Blitz Update—Greg James

- Rescheduled for first week of February
 - Jan. 31 - Feb. 4
- Supplies and materials ready to go
 - Flyer content, Directional Maps, Vests, Pylons
- Need to confirm volunteers

- email VHSC or Greg / Melanie
- Participation of Bylaw?

Greg James: tried this at the end of Dec 2021: not successful; hoping to pull this off this time around to promote best practices and safety measures and raise awareness; looking for volunteers.

Penny Miller: will send call out to Vista Hills newsletter community

Diana Skrzydlo: how early do I need to be there?

Answer: shortly before 8:15am until 8:35am; 15 mins before and after school.

Diana Skrzydlo: can we reach out to residents at Dewdrop crescent about donating a parking space in the morning and afternoon around drop off and pick up time to allow parents to use?

Jennifer Christopher: need to be careful about liability issue of the owner when inviting others to park on owner's drive way: slip and fall claims.

Greg James: can connect with Vista Hills community association chair Shawn Humes to explore this idea.

Melanie Roberts: we could bring forward this suggestion to parents during Traffic Safety Blitz week and interested parents could try to set this up on their own.

5: Fundraising—Greg James

- Pizza / Pita Days - on hold right now but can be quickly relaunched; leg work has been done and has experience in this group to get it done
- Walkathon - need to begin planning and start Feb or March
- Cedarbrae - Sister school in need
 - "Unofficial" Community clothing drive? Ask Cedarbrae principal what top priority needs are?
- TruEarth - Ongoing

6: PRO Grant Application-- Melanie Roberts: no updates currently

7: Questions from parents:

Q: for the kids in school, are the lessons moving forward, or are the teachers doing catch up until all the short term remote learners are back in the class?

Penny Miller: they are moving forward with learning.

Q: heard that school are getting more rapid test kits; is it true?

Penny Miller: First shipment school received about 1/3 of total supply and is waiting for more supply before sending the kits to students home.

Q: how do kids who do get caught up with school work be graded on report card?

Penny Miller: based on individual cases. Generally it's hard for teachers to grade kids who do remote learning at home because they do not know if it's the kid's independent work.

Q: is class photo on photo day?

Penny Miller: depend on availability of life touch studio.

Q: can the school use other vendors for photo day?

Penny Miller: it has to be an approved vendor.

Q: Are the rapid test kits going to be replaced after a family has used their supply?

Penny Miller: school is not sure; no direction for this yet.

Q: if remote learning kids go back to in person learning in school, do they get the rapid test kit too?

Penny Miller: If school has supply left.