



Tactiq Notes on PTA Community Meeting # 4

January 18th, 2021 - 3 to 4 pm, Virtual via Google Meet

Presentors:

Mr Craig Williamson - Head of School
Ms Kathleen Bowin - Middle School Principal
Ms Sam Cook - Elementary School Principal
Mr Paul Brace - Athletic Director
Ms Kami Al Sharif-Vipers Booster Club
Nandita Shukla-PTA Co Chair
Paula Colaco - PTA Co Chair
Maryam Andres- PTA Treasurer

List of attendees - provided at the end of MOM
Minutes edited by : Sriparna Chaterjee

Presentation

PTA Chair: Mr.Walker is not able to make it because he has a meeting at the same time. So he has sent, I believe, he shared some messages with the parents yesterday, the high school parents, but he just put in all the January dates to remember and sent to us so we will put it up on a slide and show it later but I'll hand it over to you, Craig?

Craig Williamson: Okay. Thanks. Nandita. First of all, thanks to the PTA for having me here and allowing me to speak today. I appreciate that I always love it and good invitation. It's been great to get back after the holiday. It's been great to see everyone although virtually for the most part but it's been great to drop in on classes and see the kids back at it and the teachers back get it at it. I think we're all kind of, you know, we're doing the best we can with it and we're enjoying seeing the kids, but we really just want everybody back on campus. So we're really anticipating. We're really looking forward to that time when it happens. So I'm going to use this for those of you who did not see my email or even those who did. I want to use this opportunity to say thank you. Yesterday's email was a big thank you to the faculty and staff and administration for all their hard work to to work the puzzle yet again this year to figure out how we can best serve parents in the community and their wishes and it's been a lot of work not just from our return but it's been a lot of work over the holidays trying to figure out how this all works and put the pieces together of that puzzle because there's the scheduling puzzle. There's the pickup and drop-off puzzle Paul Brace is working to get the after-school programming off and launch and work around that schedule and work around that puzzle. So there's a lot of stuff going on. We're trying to get back as much as we can to full capacity and to a full program and yet still make sure that we're keeping in line with the government regulations. So we found some creative options in which to do it. It's not the easiest way. It's going to take a lot of extra work to get it done. But you know what the kids get to be on campus more and that's what we're here for to serve the community and serve the kids. So that's what we're going to do and we're really



looking forward to what this looks like next week. So on those notes, there's a couple things I'm gonna ask you here and to spread a reminder or if you're seeing it next week and you'll also see my email that goes out later on this week a couple things to just keep in mind. One of them is that we're gonna have more kids back on campus than we've had the entire year. In fact more kids than we've had since March last year. So that's a long time and that means we've had newer parents and not every parent has been back to campus yet, which means there's gonna be an increase in Cars, there's gonna be an increase in traffic. It's gonna be more congested and I'd ask for your patience and thank you your patience with the pickup and drop-off, especially because Like it was when we first opened the school up in November the first day everything is going to feel very very cramped and it's going to feel very slow and it's going to feel like oh there's a big traffic jam and then before you know it the second day when everybody gets into the routine everything just works. So I would ask for some patience, please from everyone when you're picking up and dropping off kids to be very very patient the first couple days with it and give yourself enough time to get ahead of it and coming a little bit early because it's gonna be a little bit longer to to get in and out but by the first and second day everything gets into a routine, everybody's figures out the patterns and then we're good to go and our primary concern is the health and safety of the kids. Because I would much rather a kid be 10 minutes late to class or five minutes late and you would much rather be late to work five minutes, than an accident happened with the children. So I would ask again kindly to be patient. Know that it's gonna take a little bit longer in the first couple days. And be mindful to keep your speed down for all the instructions.

Craig Williamson: They're just gonna be times in which you're in those queues with cars that you're gonna be able to zip out and you're gonna say I can I can do this faster if I just go into this lane, don't go into the lane. Please follow the queue because we don't want kids getting hurt and we don't want faculty and staff getting hurt. So please be patient and be mindful. So everyone's safe and we can enjoy the reopening of school. So on a separate note everyone that's traveled faculty and staff is healthy and happy and back in the country and we've had that time to go through anyone that's left to be monitoring oneself. No one has reported any signs or symptoms of any kind of covid infection and no one has reported gone to the doctor in that regard. So we're gonna come back and it looks like we're gonna be a full complement of healthy and happy staff and that's great for welcoming our kids back as well. Couple notes just as far as what's going on in the school. Right. Now I will leave it to the Division principals to make their own comments. We're in recruitment season right now. So this is the time of year in which over the course of December and winter break and most of January will be recruiting for next year. We're pretty close. We're 75% done. I would say as of today all of our recruitment for next year and I would say we're probably gonna be almost finished by the end of the month. So that's very very good news. We have a very low attrition rate. We have a very few of us who have under 10% of our faculty and staff leaving the school which is well below International averages and that's a really good sign for the school. So we're in really great shape. And yeah, that's sort of what is the main thing for administratively it's going on in the school right now. I'm going to stop nattering because that's all I have really to say other than I wanted to also compliment you and say thank you to all the parents that are here. For all the flexibility that you've had and have to wait for every time the government makes an announcement. You ask us what we're doing with it. And then you have to adjust accordingly with the announcement that you're given and that has repeatedly come from March last year until now. So I know that as a father, I'm at home and when the news happens, I watch what happens when my wife has to react to it and she has to reschedule things and do it. I know that's happening and everybody's households. So I



understand the patience and sometimes frustration that you guys are, you know, you're exhibiting at home. And I greatly appreciate you working with us as a community as we deal with the situation as it is, so thank you very much. If you don't mind in detail, can I take a couple minutes here just in case people have a couple questions.

PTA Chair: Yes, of course. Why not?

Craig Williamson: So if anyone has any questions for me, I'm more than happy to answer them. And if not, I'm quite happy to pass on back to Nandita for the next person. No, all right Nandita, that's it for me back to you. Thank you.

PTA Chair: All right. So Kathleen is next and Then followed by Sam and then we'll just hand it over to the sports and booster club.

Kathleen Bowin: Thanks so much. So we're very excited in the Middle School to be welcoming about 70% a hundred and sixty. Hold on, have the exact number here. 163 students on campus starting next Sunday. So we are a little bit larger, but we're pleased that we're able to welcome them all and I will just Echo what Mr. Williamson said again, you see us out there drop off and pick up sometimes on Thursdays. You'll see us dancing feel free to car dance if you want when you come through, but please be patient and it's going pretty smoothly. We're getting people out in 10 minutes. We will continue with students staying in a primary classroom. We are shuffling some of those classrooms in order to facilitate all of our families and they will now only be traveling for language acquisition and physical and health education. So design teachers all the teachers will go to their classrooms. We're very excited that we'll be offering clubs that will be face-to-face clubs starting next week from next Tuesday. We'll sign up next Tuesday for our students. We have teachers working on reports right now that we hope to get them out by February 8th. To parents and that's all we really have in middle school right now. I hope everybody had a wonderful safe holiday and happy 2021 if they're any questions. I'm happy to answer them.

Kathleen Bowin: Yeah, as always you guys can reach out to me on email. I'm always here to answer any questions or concerns you might have. Thanks so much for having me here today.

PTA Chair: Thank you Kathleen, Sam over to you.

Sam Cook: Okay. Thanks Kathleen and Craig and yeah, we are really excited to be having quite a lot more students back on campus. We have about 340 out of 400 who want to come back in elementary. So we were in a situation where we couldn't accommodate everybody in the rooms that we have with the appropriate distance and so on but we are relieved to have avoided the week A and B weeks scenario, which I think we were all dreading in various ways. We know that. A week off and a week on for children. It's hard to manage in terms of maintaining momentum in their learning and we know it's hard for parents to organize themselves around that and teachers undoubtedly want to see all their children every week if they can so hopefully this system where they can come to school four days out of five will be the best way that we can accommodate everybody while really supporting children to continue their learning in a positive way so thank you all for your patience yet again, and and yeah and to Echo what Craig said we'll figure it out on Sunday morning. There will be some challenges Sunday morning and end of day but everyone will be very supportive and we will figure things out and an important



update from the Ministry of Health that they sent to our nurse Sunny just before the holidays is that they have changed their advice regarding masks. The WHO advice about masks from grade 1 up actually said that they weren't necessary but they were advisable under many circumstances. I think the Omani Ministry of Health has reconsidered and decided that actually it is beneficial for younger children to wear masks. There's no risk to them. And so we are strongly encouraging you to send your younger children from grade one up with a mask or two a couple of spares as well would be good. It's not going to be really rigid with enforcing that of course, but we just want to help children to get used to this safety measure that I think we're all having to get used to and under these circumstances. Our first ASA cycle will begin on Sunday. You'll hear from Miss Jackson on what's on offer and they'll remain online for four weeks and then the children can change again. And our teachers are super busy at the moment writing reports. And as you can imagine it's they're a little different again this year because things have been different and some children, we haven't seen on campus at all yet and others we've had more face-to-face teaching with but teachers are working hard to try and reflect accurately the progress your children have made and those reports will be ready in early February. And I'll send more information when those are available. I think that's all I have for today. So if there are no questions, I look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

PTA Chair: Thank you Sam. Paul you want to take it up.

Paul Brace: Yeah, Nandita is just kind of giving out the principles of touch based on most which is fantastic was just to give everyone an update on what's happening with the after school program. So for the high school right now the sign up procedure has just started with the students relating to MESAC. The ones that are on offer for this season are going to be MESAC track and field and we're also going to do cross-country Golf and Senior Fitness. It is going to be run like a virtual meet where the students will be training off-campus. They'll be training at the Sultan Qaboos National Stadium for track and field and cross-country. And then what will happen is they will have a set day that will happen on March 14th to the 18th for various events for track and field where the kids will be timed. They'll do their jumps and throws and so forth and then we ranked against the other MESAC schools. This will also happen with cross-country Golf and that day will be On March 1st, but more information will come out to the parents of all those people that signed up for those golf events that are going to be happening at Ghala Golf Course. Ghala Golf courses been absolutely fantastic and facilitating our needs and they'll be playing in league matches every week every Wednesday that will be starting up and then I'll have an 18-hole tournament as well which all relate to around handicaps and slope ratings to make sure that it's fair and Equitable against all the MESAC schools. Middle School, we're still as Kathleen mentioned. We're still running our clubs that will happen. Some will be happening face-to-face now, which is fantastic during the curriculum time, which is brilliant. So anyone on the campus will have that and then the students that at home will have an online opportunity as well. Sam mentioned that you'll hear from Ms. Raewyn Jack really soon regarding the Elementary's distant learnings ASAS and they're running in four weeks Cycles, which is fantastic. The other one we were mentioned is the swim team parents that were being in this program and the students been in the program that is starting up on Sunday the 24th of January more information has just been sent out to parents today just due to the restrictions that were under and none of everything. We've got approval from the ministry. We're at capacity right now for the pool. We've probably got about 67 68 people signed up to get back straight in the program, but we're only allowed certain numbers in the water right now. There's nothing relating to the swimming pool itself. It's just what we can manage in terms of the changing rooms at the



facilities. So we've got a maximum of 10 kids in the pool at any one time. So that's coming along just with that though. There'll be a waiting list that will come available for the swim program. So parents that are interested in continuing into the program. We ask you to contact The swim coaches coach Nadia and James to the swimming team email address and just regarding that we will not be offering any more online sessions for strength and conditioning. The reasoning for that is that James and Nadia are going to have their time allocated down on the pool deck. They'll be working some serious hours down there so we won't be able to do that. Just how to message there something about basketball what at the stage at What at the stage at the moment. We're not leading into basketball just yet. We're just waiting for better guidelines coming from the Ministry of Health and education to allow us to open up these types of sports. You'll have seen the message from Mr. Williamson about what we're trying to do in PE. So what we're going to do is we just take baby steps and make sure that we're making sure that the kids are adequately safe and anything that we do in terms of physical activity. So I just need to check the chat. I think someone else came up with a message in the chat just then. just

Craig Williamson: Yeah, pull that one. That one is about notification and classroom allocation. I'll take that one on.

Paul Brace: Okay, sweet. So I've mentioned mine about basketball so indeed that's about it from the update for after school what we're doing in terms of sports and activities and clubs. So, thanks very much everybody.

PTA Chair: Thank you. Craig, You want to take that question now?

Craig Williamson: Okay, so the question and I'll read along. It's a very good one and surrounded with wanting to know if parents are going to receive confirmation email for kids who are joining the school on campus for the first time January 24th, or is it confirmed for those who filled the survey form? Essentially if I read into the question, it means if I completed the survey form should I just expect to show up with no other communication from the school and the answer to that is well. Yes, and no. If you have completed the form and the stated you would like your child to come back to the school. Then they will be allowed to do so, but they're all will also be a communication from the principals and/or homeroom teachers directly to you as parents stating that you will be coming back and any other information that pertains to your children, like if you're in homeroom, your child was in I don't know making stuff up but in primary then the primary teacher would be the homeroom teacher would communicate with you directly and you would get

Craig Williamson: Information or what day of the week is that it's at home and the other four days are on campus. So that information is going to be cleared up and will be sent to you directly if I will say this if for whatever reason and things happen emails end up in junk mail and whatever else if for whatever reason it's you know, Wednesday next this week and you don't have confirmation, you know

Craig Williamson: towards the end of Wednesday, and it's heading up Thursday morning and you don't have information as parents. Don't not say anything. Please let us know we want to hear from you things happen, and we want to make sure that you're communicating with us so that we can fix and correct the problem. Okay, so thank you very much for your question. And then Paul back to your question about volleyball.



Paul Brace: Yet so the volleyball one is very similar to one with basketball. Just the reason why we're just being a little bit careful with this is just due to the contact of the ball and the proximity of the students in that area. So that's also similar to the basketball situation. We're just waiting for the guidelines from the Ministry of Health and Education just to help us give us a better idea of what we can do which will enable us to open that after school program just a little bit further. Give me okay. That's the next chat that is not related to me. I think that's related to you. Maybe Nandita.

PTA Chair: Yes, the question is whether we can make it possible for parents to login to their own account. I will just check that with IT because we really need to check how secure it is and how safe it is. Give us some time in before the next meeting. We will come back to you.

Question from a New School parent - *We are new and our child is registered for online learning. So where and when do we collect books etc and information from?*

PTA Chair: Okay. So we have a New Parent Representative who is working with the new parents. What we will do is in our newsletter. We are going to repost all the contacts for PTA members so that we can get in touch with you and we can make you comfortable.

PTA Chair: For school related inquiries. You need to write to the registrar@abaoman.org.

Sam Cook: Now all you're welcome to send questions to me. We're looking forward to seeing your two boys in school with us next week. So do set questions to me and the

Sam Cook: after school activities program will be shared with parents soon.

Craig Williamson: and Adrian's in regards to your question. Thank you. Both of you have new children's the school. You will be getting all that information sent out about all the after-school programmings and things that are being put in and scheduled right now. we're I hope you can appreciate it's not the way we like it. But it's what we have to do every single time. We open up an activity or every time we open up we release a restriction we have to get approval from the ministry to do so. So we're in this constant state of mind. We want to do something but we have to wait for permission. So that's why the communications you're not going to get them. They weren't there two weeks ago. So as we open up next week, the ministry is going to allow us to do things and then people internally have to plan as organized like Mr. Brace right now. Mr. Paul Brace has to take this information. He's just gotten from the ministry. He's got to figure out the puzzle very quickly and get that communication out. But those Communications will come in for your children or for you and you'll know exactly what your children's options are.

Mehreen Bano Elahi: And I'll just say a quick Hello. I'm the new PTA Rep and we'll be organizing a coffee morning. Hopefully next month if it's allowed and then you can also meet in person and we'll be happy to answer any questions you have.

Craig Williamson: Mehreen I have some good news with that. We actually just got confirmation at the end of yesterday. The Ministry will allow us because we contacted them in regards to we are watching the movie theaters at 50% capacity out in Oman. So what are we able to do with



our theaters here for parent coffee mornings and things like that and they have at first they've given us permission to have up to 50 people attend those meetings in person in the theater as long as we properly space them out. So I think with a theater that can hold up to 400 we can we're gonna ask for more but I I think we're gonna be able to safely open up our theater for face-to-face meetings, coffee meetings with parents and in the near future.

PTA Chair: Oh, that's good.

Mehreen Bano Elahi: Great great news. Thank you for sharing that Craig.

Craig Williamson: Welcome. Oh a great question, someone who's not not wanting to send their kid back to school. We appreciate and respect your choice in that and I'm not here to say right or wrong. Parents have to choose what they think is robust for their children. No, it doesn't mean that your child's going to lose out. We're gonna continue with a hybrid approach in a hybrid learning approach. So parents who choose to keep their kids at school we'll do so or choose to keep them at home can do so it's not gonna be perfect. I'm not gonna pretend it is but our teachers are doing a pretty bang up job in maintaining and teaching kids here at campus and giving and delivering as best we can for kids who are at home. So no, it's we're not shutting things off for kids who stay home. We're just gonna continue as we're doing and I'll try to deliver both simultaneously. Okay.

PTA Chair: So we'll answer them as they come. And take over the presentation. I believe they want to share something. Booster Club

Kayla Al-Sharif: First of all, Hi. My name is Cami. I'm a member of the Booster Club here at ABA. I've been with them for a number of years and as a parent that ABA I have four kids. We just wanted to take an opportunity. Our chairman Michelle for this year and she's been on the booster club for multiple years and has decided to step down. We're very sad to lose her but we are very very appreciative and just take a moment to say thank you, you know for all the work that she's done. She worked tirelessly to support the ABA Vipers. She was the first one at the events and the last one there and always worked to make sure that every kid was included and felt appreciated. We made a great group of it and we're just so sad to lose her in the middle of this year as our chairman. So we've worked together with the principal sorry with the head of school with Greg and we've spent many meetings and he's graciously agreed that we as a community will come together and we will basically finish our bylaws and then decide to take a vote on that. And so we can find a new chairman, so that'll be open and you'll find more details on. Okay, just a couple announcements from the Booster Club. We want to congratulate Lewis Valencia who is in sixth grade. I believe who won the Winter Challenge and you'll see more contests coming out from Booster Club. And so that we please encourage all of you to participate and we have those of you that ordered hoodies. You will be able to pick them up on Tuesday from three to five they'll be a table and you'll be able to pick up your hoodies from there those that have pre-ordered hoodies and I think that's up and thank you very much.

PTA Chair: There's a question regarding collection of books for a student who's going to be online learning. So where can they collect the books from? and

Craig Williamson: Kathleen do you want to take that one or Sam? Maybe? It's



Kathleen Bowin: Ya i'll take that one.

Kathleen Bowin: you to figure out how to get those books to you. Usually we leave them at the security shot at the security gate where you can pick them up, but let me reach out to your daughter's advisor and find out the stuff we need to collect and we'll get them to you by the end of this week.

PTA Chair: All right. I think that's it. We take it over now for PTA. And I'll take you to the presentation to first start with I would like to share the notes that Mr. Walker had sent over. So in case you've missed any dates or if you want to glance through it again, you can do that.

PTA Chair: So we had Head of School addresses. These are the dates that Mr Walker I believe has also shared with the high school parents already. Just in case we missed anything or you want to have a relook.

PTA Chair: So it's mainly eAssessment and the on Campus Learning for which there will be a communication that will be going out. Then there will be an email from Mr. Essex which you would have received regarding Mock examinations and then grade 10 on screen familiarization. So the information is being sent to you over email, some has already gone to you and some would be coming. Keep an eye on your emails.

Craig Williamson: Yeah and Nandita if I could stress if you go back. Yeah, if I stress the most important one on there is January 20th for grade 10 11 students because that's your choices event. And then it has to do with picking and choosing subject areas and course selections for the following year. So really important parents to take a look at the information Mr. Walker Mr. Essex. sent out to you and understand what that process looks like.

PTA Chair: So that's one of the important dates to keep in mind. Going forward just a recap of the PTA events that are either in the pipeline or having done parent art evening which was scheduled on the 20th of January. We have all of our artists in place. Owing to some exhibitions getting delayed outside of the school. We had to postpone ours so that all the artists can really participate and so we are hoping to do it in the first two weeks of February, but we will come back to you with a firm date maximum by the next week's newsletter. But the Parent Art Evening is on and we are hoping to bring something new to you this year. And I'm sure it will be very interesting. The Works are amazing. Keep an eye on your emails. The cookbook which we had taken pre-orders for during the pickup event. Unfortunately, it got delayed a bit but now we have all the recipes in place from the community as well. So we are adding those recipes and it is already in the process of production and soon we will be fulfilling these orders. Wednesday Walks are going on very well. The last walk was to the bidbid Sulfur Springs with beautiful locales, please contact Lama Saman at this phone number. She is there on WhatsApp you can join the group and enjoy beautiful locales, which otherwise you may not really be able to explore because she really finds out good locations. For the rest of the year you remember that in our first meeting we had come up with a calendar of tentative events. Now after the first semester is over. We are more in a position to take a realistic view as to what we can do and what we can't. So having gone through and having brainstormed within the PTA team, we felt that there were two events which were to be done. One was Holi Color Run and the other was Flea Market. We believe that that can be a little tricky because it requires a lot of physical participation and



physical contact. So I think it was safe and we took a decision to put these off for the year next year. Maybe we can relook and we can Factor them into our calendar. We will continue with ICF, maybe in a different form. Which we will come will send you the information closer to the date. There is Ramadan food drive will be on there will be a staff and teacher appreciation at the end of the year. We normally have two fund requests in a year one for Semester one and one for the second semester. Unfortunately due to the situations. We were not able to open our fund request in the first semester. But we are happy to open it now today for the second semester. Paula will fill you in with more details on that aspect. We are introducing a new event, which is called the Beezy Mondays. These are virtual sessions on different subjects. With a very interesting theme Paula will cover that in the next slide. And just to give you a heads up. This is a board election year. The board will be making a formal announcement so you can keep an eye for the board election announcements. Will end the year with PTA elections, which we do every year and after the PTA elections are done we hand over to the new committee and that is where the new calendar and things will be planned up. So this is all that is there that will be done in the second semester and we will be updating you from time to time as we reach the date. I'll hand it over to Paula to explain about the fund requests and Monday virtual sessions. Paula

PTA Co Chair: Hi. Hello everyone. The fund request we're going to start today, and we'll end 28th of January for that. We are sending the links to all the staff and teachers from the school. Please fill up if you want. Something you have anything in mind to don't forget to tell for what is the purpose of your fund and how much money you will need for that? But everything is explained on the form when you are filling up. Then after the 28 to give us time until the first at least two days for us to put everything together. And then we'll inform through our newsletter. We inform all the community about what kind of funds the people require and on eight of February that means our next meeting with the community. Please come again because at that meeting we'll need you to help us to vote for the requests. because form when you are filling up. Then after we choose the 28 to give us time until the first at least two days for us to put everything together. And then we'll inform through our newsletter. We inform all the community about what kind of funds the people require and on eight of February that means our next meeting with the community. Please come again because at that meeting we'll need you to help us to vote for the requests. Because I think this is our quest for school and it will be nice to have feedback from the community. What kind of funds they would like to go forward. Okay.

PTA Co Chair: If anybody has anything to ask about that, and we'll pass to the next slide.

Craig Williamson: I'd like to make a comment on the fund request if that's okay. And I do apologize to you if I'm taking time with my question. I'm new so I'm learning as well. But my request with the fund request is that I'd asked that we be specific with teachers or anything else that we're asking to make said requests that we target things that would be considered an extra and by that what that or an upgrade and by that what I mean is It's lovely and greatly appreciated all the work that the PTA does and that the sponsorship comes from that money. And that's it. It's just wonderful. I can't say enough about it. But what I want to make sure is that That money is going towards things that are not already expected by parents and by what that I mean is if there's classroom materials that are without the PTA. Like if there's a teacher running and needs classroom materials, it would be expected by every parent that the teacher has the materials they use to do their job, right? If there's a playground then there's an expectation from parents by paying tuition that there's a playground but the fund request that come in from the



PTA and from that Community is should be upgrades or additional thing and things that have some life so it wouldn't be specifically to upgrade, you know chemicals in the science lab because that would be here because the school be supplying those However, if there's a capital Improvement some major ticket item, I guess the easiest example I be using and it would be expected that there would be a piano in the music department. We have those and that's an expectation parents hold but if there was a request because it's an added bonus that you know, there was a one desire for a baby grand piano that went on the stage for all public events. That would be an upgrade to what we already had if that is clear.

PTA Chair: Yes, it's clear. And typically those are the kind of requests that we take forward.

Craig Williamson: Okay, great. Thank you.

PTA Co Chair: Okay, and now we are going for our new introduction and it's our Beezy Mondays. What is Beezy Mondays we thought because of this online and you know all these situations then. We cannot see anybody. And this was a way that this idea was to the community and by the community. It's to make us be together online, but still don't lose our amazing spirit that we have in our ABA School. For that we thought like we have so many so many people so talent in our school, you know, we have teachers, people teaching yoga and doing some Arts.

PTA Co Chair: So many things that we thought instead for them to keep that let's share these with our community for that. We thought about a Monday section like in the morning from eight to nine. Then you come later about this time. We leave form next week and for them to share what they like to do and to teach the community. And and that we are we already spoke with. A few of the parents and and for that we can start this event. in February you already have Ann Katrin who really came to help us with some classes about meditation. for that on first of February We'll have a class with Ann Katrin about. some techniques of meditation. Is anybody wanted to ask anything? Or if Nandita wants to have anything to say.

PTA Chair: This is going to be a live session. In fact, all the Mondays are going to be live virtual sessions and most likely over Google meet unless the participation goes so high that we need to move to Zoom. Otherwise, it's going to be on Google meet and I believe the entire February we have booked for Ann Katrin because she's very kindly agreed to do four sessions on different types of meditation. And please do join in. It would be fun. And after this we plan to do some sessions on recipes from different parts of the world. So they will be online recipes and I am sure a lot of people are cooking Buffs and they would enjoy those sessions. If you have any ideas about what we should be covering , you need to write to us and most importantly if you have a skill you think you're good at or you would like to share please do volunteer because we will really be looking at volunteers. This is a wonderful way of keeping in touch with the community and interacting because all of us are more or less are cooped up at home. So it's a great initiative. Please volunteer. Paula up to you.

PTA Co Chair: Now, I think it's everything it's done. Yeah, we can go.

PTA Chair: Okay. Now I'm giving you to catch up on the treasury.

PTA Treasurer: Thank you. Hello everybody. So as you know, there are not so many things



happening because of the conditions. So there's not so much turnover for our account, but We had the pickup event before the holidays and also the Christmas card and we were taking orders. So for that all together, we had 100 OMR added to our account and we had some expenses like we had balloons and flowers for the National Day decorations. We needed to get a new banner for PTA and also some stickers for the sanitizing items that we were selling at the pick up event, and we had to spend 93 OMR for that. So at the moment In our account we have 13,995.003 OMR I apologize for the mistype and the balance for six of December. That should be 13,988. So we are plus seven from them. That's all from here. Thank you.

PTA Chair: Thank you Maryam. So as you see the treasury right now is more or less the same. We do not expect many revenues to come in unless something very different and drastic happens and the situation improves and we are able to do ICF as a proper event. But so far so good. Let's see how the year goes. What is important is that we are able to keep the community together.

PTA Co Chair: Okay. There is a question about the meditation class.

PTA Chair: Q: Will there be a meditation class for which class is that? Oh, this is for parents. It is not for students. PTA runs many events such as Wednesday walks or earlier we used to have to have Tuesday travels. So we try to involve all the parents because otherwise it is very monotonous - children are attending the class and Mums are doing the pickup and drop. So this is a way where we meet people and we communicate and we exchange ideas while we are also sharing skills. So to answer your question, this is a meditation class for the Mums and Dads if they would like to join in it's going to be an online class for every Monday starting first of February through February and there is no Revenue attached to it and it is going to be a 30 minutes class and well, that's it.

PTA Co Chair: Okay. Thank you Nandita.

PTA Chair: These were the classes which were missing HRP's . Today morning. we got a HRP for k3a. So if we have volunteers for the other four classes, it will make things very smooth because we do a lot of end of year things for the teachers and without hrp in the class, it becomes a little bit difficult. So, please do volunteer for becoming a hrp. Promise, there is not too much work. It's mainly communication and coordinating events and activities for the teacher. That's it. So it's relatively smooth nowadays. please volunteer. Next community meeting is going to be on the 8th of February. A very important question, because many people are not very comfortable with this time, which is three to four in the afternoon. we wanted to take a survey. We are sending out a survey with the information flyer which will reach you tomorrow morning and we will also send it via an email from the admin so through the school. Simple question. Which time do you prefer? Do you prefer eight to nine or you prefer three to four? Please do let us know and the cutoff date to respond is 24th of January so that we can arrange the next community meeting accordingly. Do remember next meeting is a very important one. Please do attend because we will be taking the vote on the fund requests that we receive. So that's going to be an important meeting. Please do attend. That is so far from our side.

PTA Co Chair: If you have something to share with your community to teach something, please send your information to PTA co-chair for our Mondays. Please come to join and to make this



community again together. Thank you.

PTA Chair: Well, you'll be receiving two things from us. One is the survey for choosing the time slot or preferred time slot and the second thing we want to request you to volunteer is for the Monday mornings. So then we look forward to meeting you on the 8th of February till then you will keep on hearing us through your mailbox or through WhatsApp. PTA will be active. See you then. And if you have questions, please write.

PTA Chair: Yes, people are appreciating the Monday morning virtual sessions so that is good for us. Thank you everyone for taking out the time to attend the meeting.

PTA Co Chair: Okay. Thank you.

PTA Co Chair: Have a great day.

PTA Treasurer: Bye

List of Attendees

1. Safana Cummings
2. PTA Chair
3. PTAE Representative
4. Vipers Booster Club
5. PTA Treasurer
6. Prapti Kenchangoudra
7. PTA Co Chair
8. Phillip Gohring
9. Khalid Al Khaburi
10. Wian Stassen
11. Kim Sutton
12. David Pienaar
13. Oscar Wood
14. Craig Williamson
15. Alysha Keuning
16. Anastasia Joy Chryssou
17. Ava Redling
18. Branco Geertsema
19. Kathleen Bowin
20. Arthur Van Begin
21. Noorah Husband
22. Sam Cook
23. Jesper Van Schie
24. Nuria Elahi
25. Clauss Niazi
26. PTAS Representative
27. Paul Brace
28. PTA MS Rep



29. Muhammad Farooqi
30. Jinane Helou
31. Kayla Al-Sharif
32. Adishwar Srinivasan
33. Vojin Mihajlov
34. Nancy Shears
35. Harris Khurram Siddiqui
36. Adrians Laurins
37. Vivaan Poddar
38. Emelina Vansteenkiste
39. Saya Sadeghi
40. Louis Vallancey
41. Muhammad Muhammad Husni
42. Hayat Yaseen
43. Niveditha Sudharshana Bharathi