

VSPA General Meeting #1 - Minutes  
Wednesday, September 23, 2015  
8:30 AM Middle School Learning Commons

- Introduction and Establish Quorum – Meeting called to order at 8:38 AM  
>40 parent members in attendance
- Approval of Minutes from General Meeting #5 (May 20, 2015)
  - Minutes were approved with a unanimous vote.
- Treasurer's Report – Vivian Y.
  - We currently have \$148k in the bank, with \$72k planned in expenditures for the 2015-16 year. Current plan is to continue to spend down this sum, but maintain reserves to support our children in all divisions of the school. The treasurer's report was approved with a unanimous vote.
  - There were questions from a few attendees about why VSPA has funds and continues to do fundraising given the current structure of the school. A discussion ensued about the benefits of providing resources when a need arises that has not been previously included in the school budget (examples: Capturing Kids' Heart teacher training last year, Chrome Books for the Math Labs). The current Executive Committee explained our current strategy, which is to spend down our sum of money and investigate options for passive fundraising so that we can continue to support our student population in a variety of ways.
  - The audit committee reviewed our financials and the audit report was presented. The audit report was approved with a unanimous vote.
  - Vivian Y presented the new sponsor page on the VSPA site. Local businesses have supported our organization and have received placement on this page. Placement is limited to one company per category at this time.
- VSPA – Calendar
  - Community Building Events
    - First Semester Events were reviewed, dates shared
    - Dates for VSPA general meetings and election were shared with the group
  - Fundraising Events
    - Fall Festival will be Winter Carnival this year.
    - The school will lead the Gala, so this will not be a major fundraising activity for VSPA
  - Staff Appreciation
    - Staff appreciation breakfasts / lunches are planned for December. More information to come.
- Guest Speaker – Christine Galib – Director of Wellness
  - Christine Galib shared her plan for programming this year.
  - Primary focus has been on high school / IB students to date, but the wellness program is expanding to all levels of the school, with an emphasis on mindfulness and stress reduction.
  - Christine invited the parents to participate in a number of upcoming events.
- General Discussion
  - A few parents had questions about the Nord Anglia acquisition with respect to the current curriculum, long term plan for the school and funding.
  - Gabriella R. joined the meeting at this time and shared that our curriculum is not being folded in to the British system, that our capital plan was being accelerated and that there are many exciting improvements and new programming coming soon. There were several questions related to this topic.
- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 AM.