

PTG Executive Meeting - 17th October, 2017



Minutes

Attendees Present: Matthew Mills (Head of School), Andrew Gordon (Business Director), Michael Smith (Secondary Principal), Helen Thew (Assistant Principal Secondary School, Student Welfare), James Penstone (Cross Campus Principal), Jason Cooper (Primary School Principal), Cindy Adair (Assistant Principal Extra Curricular Activities and Sports), Cheryl Rego (Development, Alumni and Marketing Manager), Rachel Jones (Head of Admissions), Melissa Golden (PTG Chair), Fiona Bertoli (PTG Secretary), Vik Bhatnagar (PTG Vice-chairperson), Rapeepan Sapayanon (Pook) (PTG Treasurer), Laura McDonald (PTG Secondary Parent Representative), Jacqui Pye (PTG Primary Parent Representative), Katherine Johns (PTG International Day), Janine Minchin (PTG Tiger Shop).

Apologies: Carol Battram (Assistant Principle, Primary School, Learning and Welfare), Thitinan (Koi) Kiatphaibool (PTG Thai Liason)

Meeting started at 7.50am

PTG Update:

The PTG welcome Vik Bhatnagar - our new PTG Vice-chairperson. Great to have a gentleman join the ranks.

The Parent Choir, Running Club and Conversational English will all start after the mid-term break.

Parent presentations

Digital Parenting was the 1st presentation, conducted by Brian Taylor. A massive 230 parents signed up, it was great to see so much interest.

PTG Action: To set up a parent presentation on nutrition and health in Term 2.

Online safeguarding

PTG Action: To focus on promoting online safeguarding via FaceBook and the Patana News during the next couple of months.

November - Don't forget your name-tag! and Student's online behaviour

December - Photo responsibility and Bathroom etiquette for students, parents and guardians

PTG Big Night out Feedback

Hugely successful evening with lots of positive feedback from both parents and staff.

International Day - Update by Katherine Johns

International day planning and set-up is well underway and the aim to work on making the event more sustainable is driving ahead encompassing the whole school, bringing together primary and secondary students, teachers and parents.

The line-up for the cultural show has been finalised with 6 countries registered. They each have a 3 minute time slot to perform. There are currently 26 countries set up in the hall for food tasting, possibly more on the day. In total, a whopping 69 countries are now listed. Countries that haven't taken part before have joined up this year.

The Patana Postcard project has started rolling out this week with the PTG. Teachers will take part during the 19th and 20th October and students in November.

Fun Day Update

Vana and Apollo have started the ball rolling and a call has been put out for bands to audition to play on the day.

Fun Day will be Free this year for all Patana parents but there will be a fee for non-Patana parents. We will be looking at charging for a number of things on the day and incremental increases of beverages.

Tiger Shop - Revenue generating Ideas

Due to location not being readily accessible for secondary students and merchandise not being targeted at secondary, the following ideas will be actioned during 2017.

Actions:

- Promote ordering online - to be promoted more aggressively. This has been available for sometime but some parents have commented that they prefer students to come and try on the T-shirts etc rather than ordering and then having the hassle of bringing the item back if the size isn't correct.
- Tiger Shop Staff - to think of new products for the shop.
- Merchandise update - to survey secondary students, tap into the environmental community and Junior Enterprise students to help design products attractive for secondary students.
- Station the Tiger cart in the Secondary lounge - Tiger cart to sell products once per month on the same day per month.

- Tiger Cart to be stationed at the Farmers market, at major Sports Events held at Patana and at Patana Concerts
- Senior students - to help with the Tiger Shop in it's current location and at Patana Events - CAS opportunity.
- To give away some Tiger freebies at secondary assemblies once new merchandise has been designed to help promote new items.
- Advertise new Tiger products on the flat screens in Secondary and in the secondary Daily Notices once merchandise is available.

Patana News Article

The 'Building Community' Article has been submitted to Rebecca Meadows.

General Business - Follow-ups

Baby changing facilities - **PTG Action** - to follow-up with Cheryl for availability in the disabled bathroom next to the Tiger Shop.

Breastfeeding Room - **PTG Action** - to come up with an alternative room for Breastfeeding newborns - Primary Nurses room is not suitable.

School Update

Head of School Update: Matt Mills

BIG Night Out - Many thanks from Matt Mills to everyone on the PTG for the hard work that went in to making it an enjoyable evening for everyone.

Staff Recruitment - Matt Mills meets with every teacher to discuss further contracts and their ideas of what's working or not working. There is the standard turnover of teachers leaving at the end of this academic year, approximately 30 at the end of 2017. The main recruitment hire is in London in January and then again in April if necessary. 82% of the teachers are Brits because their experience and expertise with the British Curriculum is valued.

Cross Campus interviews are taking place this week. Helen Thew plus 2 external candidates. The PTG have also been involved with the interview process this year.

Two inset days on 18th and 19th November - Global citizenship focus, where teachers share wisdom with each other for two full days, as well as having the time to reflect on the term ahead.

Business Update: Cheryl Rego

Fun Run Volunteers - 1200 participants which was the most attended Fun Run so far. Thanks for the PTG for helping with breakfast and presentations.

Patana hosted a BAMBI playgroup in Foundation Stage on 7th October. Great to see new families at Patana.

Markets and Fairs:

- The Farmers Market is on 17th November, starting at 1.15pm.
- The Ploenchit Fair is on 25th November. Patana put some money into and provide a shuttle service to the bts station.

PTG Action: PTG to promote Farmers Market and Ploenchit Fair on the FaceBook page.

Secondary Update: Mick Smith and Helen Thew

FCD was well received, 50-ish parents turned up to the presentation which was more than other schools and more than in previous years. Thanks for PTG FaceBook and Patana News promotion.

Residential Update - All pre-visits checks and safeguarding checks are being done. The students are starting to get excited.

Year 11 will be stressed, Y13 are already stressed. 60-70 Universities are coming in for visits on the 9th November

PTG Action: PTG to put University Visit Info on FaceBook page in early November

Counsellors - Sarah Puttock, a secondary Patana teacher, will meet girls in year 11, 12 and 13 starting this year to help talk through difficult times. The students are mainly about stressed about exams, friendships and boys. Sarah will offer social and emotional support and build up her expertise.

Scary fact: In London schools - 1 in 4 students from years 8 and above have depression.

Clive Leach will be coming to present to Year 8 about the subject: Mental Toughness! What is it? Do we need it? Have we got it? How do we build it?

PTG Action: to promote Clive Leach presentation to Year 8 parents on 31st October at 8am in CON 304/305

Primary Update: Jason Cooper

Year 1 - parent conferences have finished and Year 2-6 - 3 way conferences - 17th and 18th October.

Primary workshops so far have been well attended - 180 parents at the Home Learning workshop and 160 parents at the Reading workshop.

SHREK junior...well underway

New buildings have had some teething problems but are now going well and progressing smoothly.

Allergy Support Group - Primary PTG rep (Jaqui Pye) will facilitate this group for parents with the long term aim that this will be a parent group run by parents for parents.

Progressive Allergy Aware School Accreditation - is being piloted currently by some schools in England. Involves focus groups for management, students and parents and is something to be looked at going forward.

ECA and Sports Update: Cindy Adair

ECAs Block 2 sign -up commenced on Monday 16th October. Support in the PTG room has been great and helped parents. **PTG Action:** Need Signage for ECA Support in the PTG room - so more people know who they are and can ask questions.

Following the new timings for ECA in Block 1, there were a few transport hiccups, but after a couple of weeks things settled down. Positive feedback on new ECAs and session length.

A few complaints from parents of Thai ETP students in year 1 and year 2 due to the fact that these students can only have 1 ECA of free choice per week (the other ECA being a compulsory Thai Lesson).

New ECAs have been very well attended this Block, such as 'Fast Track Athletics' and 'Thai Dying'.

The 'Get Recruited' ECA is starting in Block 2, created by Cindy Adair and Lieve from the Careers Department for students in Year 10-13. This ECA aims to help student athletes with their future ambition in both sport and academics. It will encompass the following:

1. Familiarise students with the NCAA recruitment process and the different divisions.
2. Help them create an online Athletic resume.
3. Give them research tools to get together a target list of schools that have both the academic programme they are interested and the sport they are interested in.
4. Enable students to chat to members of staff who played college level sport.

PTG Action: To help promote this ECA to athletes via FaceBook and the Patana News.

Lots of sporting tournaments being hosted by Patana in 2017-18. The main events are listed below in order:

- SEASAC U19 Football - November 3 - 5
- [Feeding Frenzy Swimming](#)- December 8 - 10
- [FOBISIA Swimming](#) - January 20 - 21
- BISAC JV Rugby & Touch - February 3
- [SEASAC Senior Swimming](#) - March 2 - 3
- SEASAC U19 Softball - March 23 - 25
- BISAC Gymnastics - April 28 - 29
- BISAC Waterpolo - April 28

PTG Action:

- To help ignite Tiger Spirit and support the Patana teams in person and promote events via FaceBook and the Patana News.
- To encourage and promote less traditional sports at Patana such as Climbing. There is an Invitational Climbing competition in March 2018 that Patana are hosting which should be very exciting.
- To speak to both the student Athletic and Arts Council to see if they can help with Tiger Cart at various events throughout the next academic year.

Cross Campus Update: James Penstone

Review of the language programs has been underway including World, Thai, English as an additional language and Home languages. Specialists including Rachel Jones have looked at the language program and to make sure recommendations. Findings will be shared at a later date in the year. Each year there are curriculum reviews to enhance learning and improve curriculum where possible.

Meeting ended at 9.20am

Minutes written by Fiona Bertoli (PTG Secretary)