**Neutral Bay Public School Parents and Citizens Association Annual Report 2016**

NBPS P&C Association is pleased to report on its activities for 2016.

The NBPS P&C Association fulfils a number of functions in the School community:

* As a forum for parent/School executive interaction and consultation with regular contributions from both the Principal & Deputy Principals;
* Through the provision of funding for key educational and other resources, through fundraising activities;
* Through operating two businesses which provide key services to the Community (Canteen and Uniform Shop);
* organising the School Bands and the Orchestra;
* organising social and other events for School families and the Community;
* representing the views of, and providing information to the School community; and
* representingparents in interactions with our broader local community.

**Funding Educational and other Resources**

The primary objective of the P&C’s fund raising activities is to direct funds raised towards enhancing the educational outcomes and experience for all students at the School. Accordingly, in the year to 30 September 2016, the P&C Association contributed $190,000 to the ongoing support of the Science and Music programs at the School ($110,000), additional IT resources as the computer room had to be used as a classroom ($30,000), increase the number of support learning officers to help students ($30,000) .This year, the P & C also funded the purchase of a portable stage to enable the school to host all of school assemblies ($20,000).

**Voluntary Contribution**

Voluntary contributions are the backbone of the P&C’s fundraising efforts and I would like to thank the very generous support of all Neutral bay families in 2016. I am pleased to report that we raised $101,405from voluntary contributions, representing a18.7% increase over 2015, with a participation rate of over 60%, up from around 50% in 2015.

**Fundraising and Events**

NBPS enjoyed another year of strong Fundraising and Events and thanks is extended to Belle Jackson for her contribution as Fundraising and Events Coordinator. I would also like to thank Jen Harris whom assumed the role of acting Fundraising and Events Coordinator at the beginning of Term 4. In addition I would also like to thank Anna Gibson for her great work in Communications. The highlights for 2016 included the Twilight Picnic, Welcome Drinks, Grand Friends Day, Mothers and Fathers Day, Federal Election BBQ. These were all great community events, supported by our parent body and our wonderful group of volunteers.

Our highlight event for the year was the 'Bay Fair' Carnival, a celebration of the sense of community in our School. Amid glorious sunshine thousands attended the event and we exceeded our fundraising target, raising an impressive $41,000

We would like to thank our major event sponsor, McGrath Neutral Bay for their generous support of the Carnival and other events including the Federal Election BBQ. Their time, expertise and professionalism is of great support to the P&C and NBPS.

The collective effort of the teachers and parent volunteers must also be recognized. It is the efforts of all those involved in the Carnival Committee that delivered beyond expectations, to always put the needs of the School before their own and ensured that the Carnival was a great success.

I take this opportunity to thank all the parents who gave their valuable time to events, fundraising and communications this year; also the support/office team and our wonderful teachers, our School executives Mr Shuster, MrTan and Mrs Javorsky, for their unconditional support, energy and time.

**Uniform Shop**

The Uniform Shop had another very busy year as we moved to exclusively ordering online via Flexischools and we employed Mrs Kate Jegat as Uniform Shop Coordinator at the beginning of Term 3, following the resignation of Elizabeth Gurr at the end of Term 2.

We would like to acknowledge Elizabeth and thank for her hard work and outstanding service in creating an efficient and essential school service that continues to provide school uniforms and related essential items at affordable prices. We also acknowledge the great service that Kate Leveaux has provided the school in operating the second hand uniform shop over a number of years.

With total sales of $171,000 and a profit of around $58,000 including the costs of cleaning up inventories and accounts the P&C were able to donate $45,000 to the School as part of fundraising contribution. The Uniform shop still struggles with the significant space limitations but with an enrolment of close to 1,000 children it's inevitable. Mr Michael has worked tirelessly to provide some good storage solutions and we will look at some alternative storage options for 2017.

Volunteer-wise, Kellie Clarke and Liz Skinner were a constant and reliable support and we thank them both for their contribution over a number of years as they also ended as volunteers at the end of Term 2. We had good volunteer support for the recent stocktake and Kindergarten info evening. We have a good, reliable accountant who manages much of the bookkeeping. Plans for the year ahead include stock monitoring, a review of suppliers and storage options.

**Canteen**

The NBPS Canteen takes pride in creating healthy and tasty meals and snacks for the students and teachers at a reasonable prices. The canteen team, led by Bridget Douglas ensures the smooth running of the canteen on a daily basis, and together with the canteen manager, canteen assistants and parent volunteers keeps the canteen running to a very high standard of efficiency and professionalism. The canteen is consistently regarded highly by the North Sydney Council in their annual Food Premises Inspection.

NBPS enjoys a relatively unique canteen model where the P&C run and operate all canteen operations which ensures healthy and varied menu options. This model can only be sustained with the support of a large number of volunteers and this year we decided to institute a class by class volunteer roster in order to ensure that the canteen operated on this basis. I am pleased to report that this model has been very successful with over 210 new volunteers-thanks to all!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Bridget Douglas for her incredible dedication and hard work in coordinating the canteen and to Maree Phillis and Naoko for their hard work in the daily running of the canteen this year.

**Band &Strings**

Since joining the P&C in 2014, the
Strings program has developed into 2 groups, the Orchestra and Senior Chamber. Over 30 students participate in the Strings program and have represented the School in Sydney Eisteddfod and other School events. The highlight for 2016 was a third place in the Sydney Eisteddfod.

2016 has been an exciting year for the Band Program at NBPS will all three bands playing to a very high standard.  Particular mention should be made of Concert and Junior Band, which were both awarded Gold Medals at the NSW Bands Festival and the Senior Band was awarded a Silver Medal.

The annual Band Camp was held at the Sydney Academy of Sport and Recreation at Narrabeen, which has spacious facilities for concerts, rehearsals and recreation (including swimming which the children loved).  Band Camp 2016 was a big success made possible by the wonderful support of our band masters, tutors, band families, teachers and band co-ordinators and of course the children who all worked tirelessly to make the weekend run smoothly.

Very recently, the Band Committee ratified the decision to raise band fees for 2017 by $30 per child as the costs of running a band program have risen quite dramatically. Band does not receive any funding from the school or the P&C and is completely reliant on annual fees to cover costs. Given this, the Band Fees for 2017 will be set at $630 per band student. This will bring the fees at NBPS in line with comparable school band programs in our area and is a true reflection of the rise in costs.

2017 is looking very promising with an amazing 100 children selecting instruments to join the incoming Junior Band.

I would like to thank all the band co-ordinators and wish the Band Program at NBPS all the very best as it continues to go from strength to strength.

General

I have now served 1 year as your President and will be standing down at this meeting. I leave having had the privilege of working with an outstanding group of people and I am pleased to report the continued success of the P&C, which is entirely due to the dedicated volunteers who continue to place the School community as a high priority in their often busy lives. Our volunteers are critical to the ongoing events, fundraising, uniform shop, canteen and band & string programs. The contribution of these volunteers is highly valued and greatly appreciated by the P&C and I ask that all members of the School community find the time to acknowledge and thank these volunteers for their contribution.

I wanted to thank the entire P&C Executive team for their tireless efforts during 2016. This meeting will also see our Treasurer Alex Fransen and Assistant Treasure Kate Juniper standing down from their roles and I personally want to thank both of them for their enormous contribution to the P&C and the School over the past year. To our outgoing team members Alex, Kate, Elizabeth, Belle and Anna I would like to extend my gratitude for their dedication and commitment to the children, families and community of NBPS. I wish the newly elected representatives of the P&C in 2017 all the best in their roles.

Finally, on behalf of the parents and the entire NBPS School Community, I wish to acknowledge the incredible contribution that Principal Mr David Shuster, Deputy Principals Mr Victor Tan and Ms GaiJavorsky, the teaching and administrative staff continue to deliver for our children, the students. Accordingly, the P&C extends its gratitude for their amazing professionalism, dedication and support in 2016.

On behalf of your elected P&C representatives.

Ben Keen

President NBPS P&C Association 2016

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Ben Keen

**Vice Presidents**

SharmilaSoorian

Peter Carter

**Secretary**

Michelle Jackson

**Treasurer**

Alex Fransen

**Assistant Treasurer**

Kate Juniper

**Canteen**

Bridget Douglas

**Uniform Shop**

Elizabeth Gurr/Kate Jegat

**Functions/Fundraising**

Belle Jackson/Jen Harris