**NEUTRAL BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**P & C ASSOCIATION**

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**MINUTES OF P&C MEETING 4/17**

**HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 JUNE 2017**

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1. **WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The President opened the meeting at 7.35 pm and welcomed all present.

**Attendance** – Sharmila Soorian (President & Chair), David Shuster (Principal), Victor Tan (Deputy Principal), Michelle Jackson (Secretary), Jenny Spillane (Treasurer), Tim Hawes (Vice –President), Monica Gessner (Communications), Vanessa Baumer-Rowley (Events and Fundraising Co-ordinator), Alex Middleton (Canteen Co-ordinator), David Jackson (Chair of Council), Alex Youroukelis, Jen Harris, Anna Gibson, Fiona Willington.

**Apologies**–Anita Alexander, Elizabeth Gurr, Peter Carter, Gai Javorski.

1. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**Motion (**1**)**: That the minutes of the meeting held on 3 May 2017 be accepted as a true record of that meeting.

**Moved**: Jenny Spillane. **Seconded**: Alex Middleton. All agreed**.**

1. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

* Installation of air-conditioning units for 6 classrooms will be carried out during the July school holidays. The units will be installed in four Year 3 rooms in ‘A’ block and two upstairs end rooms of ‘B’ block. Next year there are plans to install air-conditioning units in the four top floor rooms in ‘J’ block and two middle rooms in ‘B’ block. The following year there are plans to install units in four rooms on level 1 of ‘J’ block and the ground floor rooms in ‘B’ block near the library.
* Arising from the P&C’s discussion of the problems facing parents parking near the School at last month’s meeting, the School has been provided with tear drop banners from North Sydney Council to assist with the parking situation as part of a pilot program. Duncan Mitchell and Maryanne Beregi of North Sydney Council have been of great assistance and are seeking feedback from the School community as to how the flags are assisting with the parking situation.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**

The meeting noted the receipt of the following correspondence:

* a letter from the Federal Minister of Education detailing the funding which the School will receive as a result of the Gonski Mark two reforms. The School is expected to receive an increase of funding of $102,000 for the 2018 financial year. The School will receive a total of $6.2 million over 10 years which is an increase of 4.8%.
* bank statements in respect of the bank accounts held by the P&C.
* material concerning workers compensation insurance
* a letter from the ACNC reminding the P&C to lodge its 2016 Annual Information Statement which was overdue. The Treasurer advised that this statement has now been lodged with ACNC.

1. **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT**

Liz Pagel and Zoe Arthur, two music teachers from the School gave a presentation to the meeting on the School’s music program.

The meeting noted the following points:

* The School has 3 music teachers: Liz Pagel who is part-time after returning from maternity leave; Zoe Arthur who is a casual filling in for Emma Howes who is currently on long service leave; and Tania Pickering who teaches one day per week.
* It is very important to have specialist music teachers at the School.
* The music program supports 3 types of development.
* It supports social development goals such as self discipline, tolerance and co-operation through group work and is a key way of making connections to other cultures.
* It supports children’s intellectual development through experimentation, creative thinking, problem solving, pattern recognition, auditory skills, brain development through the integration of right and left hemispheres. The method of instruction is not as direct as with other subjects.
* It supports children’s emotional development by allowing children to express themselves through performance, gain a sense of achievement and social recognition amongst their peers and empathy through giving and receiving constructive feedback.
* The skills they learn in the music program sets them up for the creative economy where they will be required to think outside the box.
* In the program the children engage as both audience and performers. They are taught to be active listeners of music.
* The aim of the program is to teach the children to be able to compose and perform music by year 6 and to listen to music with intent and purpose. They are taught the pentatonic scale on the xylophone. The lessons are pitched at a level that is even for all students irrespective of whether they learn music outside the program or not. The teachers use the Kodaly method of music instruction which has the aim of teaching the children to hear what they see and see what they hear.
* In Kindergarten the children are taught a sense of beat though games, fun, singing and lots of movement.
* Year 1 children are taught informal methods of notation and the instruments of the orchestra. Year 2 are taught the formal methods of notation and the recorder. Year 3’s are taught recorder, undertake listening and performing and explore the treble clef.
* Year 4 play and compose with the pentatonic scale and share and listen to different genres of music. Year 5 children listen to the distinguishing features of different types of music.
* In year 6 the children enhance their knowledge and are taught the guitar.
* All children have a music class once per 7 day cycle.

The meeting thanked Liz Pagel and Zoe Arthur for their presentation.

**Enrolments**

The current student enrolment is 982.

**Canteen**

Over the next three years the school canteen will be required to meet the revised guidelines for school canteens. This is a government strategy called the ‘Healthy School Canteen Strategy’. One of the important changes to the current way canteens operate is that there will be ‘Everyday food’, ‘Occasional food’ (sold once a week) and food and drinks which are ‘Not Allowed’. These guidelines are mandatory and affect what can be ordered on Flexischools and bought over the counter. Some items have been removed from flexischools. The most noticeable immediate change is that plastic bottles of juice, moosies and juicies and muffins will be sold out and not able to be ordered on flexischools.

**Parent mathematics night**

Thanks to the 165 parents who attended the mathematics night earlier in the term. Thanks also to the 15 teachers who gave their time to present on the evening. In term three there will be reading information night for parents.

**School contacts**

At the bottom of the first page of the Bay times are the icons for email, website and Facebook. Clicking on the tiles hyperlinks to the appropriate site.

**Contacting the school – a guide for parents**

The School has developed a school contact list to assist parents if they need to contact the School. Class coordinators are unable to assist with matters pertaining to curriculum and teaching/learning. The document has been developed in conjunction with the school Council and P&C. It is available on the School website and the app. It is important that parents contact the School if they have any concerns. The School cannot help people if they complain anonymously. There will be no repercussions for children if their parents lodge a complaint with the School.

**Facebook page**

There are currently 85 subscribers to the School Facebook page. A note has been sent out to parents regarding permission to publish photos of their children on Facebook.

**Professional Learning**

* Staff-Focus on Reading
* Sally Haigh – Understanding personalized learning and support
* Rosie Jane Tarjan & Jane Carew – autism spectrum disorder
* Gai Javorski, Victor Tan and David Shuster – School evaluation
* Kate Murray, Steph Chapple, David Shuster – City/Country Alliance Conference

1. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

The P&C has transferred the amount of $60,000 to the School.

The P&C has raised the amount of $109,750 through the voluntary contribution representing 71% of the billed amount – an increase from last year. A cheque will be presented to the School on 22 June at assembly.

A net amount of $1,442 was collected at the Mother’s Day stall.

A gross amount of $1267 was collected at the Mother Son dance. Fifty one groups of families attended.

1. **SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT**

The meeting noted the following matters from the report tabled by the School Council:

* The education minister is visiting the School this month. The Council needs to convince him that the School needs more buildings and the boundary changes are not working.
* The School may need to become more outspoken if there is no action from the government concerning the School’s needs.
* St Augustine’s have had some issues concerning its DA regarding use of its hall for OOSH.
* The Council constitution has been updated. It must be signed off by the Department of Education and released for public comment. The constitution is adapted from the templates provided by the Department of Education.
* There is still a vacancy on council and parents are encouraged to volunteer to fill the role. The role will be re-advertised in the School newsletter in week 1 of term 3.
* Two parent vacancies have already been filled with Rachel Partis and Kim Thompson elected unopposed as parent representatives on Council.

1. **SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS**
2. **UNIFORM SHOP**

Kate Jegat has given notice of her resignation from the role of working for the uniform shop. There is a parent who has indicated that they are interested in taking on the role on a voluntary basis.

1. **EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING**

The School is preparing for ‘Shrek Junior the Musical’. The fundraising event will take place on 16 September with a medieval banquet theme. North’s Leagues Club has been booked for the event.

An art auction will be held in November.

Raffle books have gone out to parents.

The entertainment book campaign has finished.

1. **BAND**

The Bands and orchestra recently competed at the Sydney Eisteddfod and achieved the following results:

* Orchestra – highly commended
* Senior bank – highly commended
* Concert band – second

The senior chamber group is performing at the Eisteddfod in term 4.

All bands are performing for the School on 1 August.

1. **CANTEEN**

The existing canteen menu has been assessed against the new strategy for healthy eating.

Seventy five percent of foods in each category must fall within the ‘eat everyday’ classification.

Thirty five percent of the current menu fall within the ‘eat everyday’ category. Changes in the canteen will be necessary.

The canteen will operate the fresh vege sticker program next term.

1. **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no other business.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE