

NEUTRAL BAY PUBLIC SCHOOL

P & C ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF P&C MEETING 2/17

HELD ON WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2017

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), Monica Gessner (Communications), Peter Carter (Vice-President), Vanessa Baumer-Rowley (Events and Fundraising Co-ordinator), Leslie Wait (Uniform Shop Co-ordinator), David Jackson (Chair, School Council), Alex Middleton, Adam Stent, France Bailieu, Alex Fransen, Fiona Wellington, Anita Alexander, Gervaise Samuels, Ryan Pereira, Alex Youroukeris,

Apologies– Kate Juniper, Bridget Douglas, Anna Gibson, Jim Becker, Elizabeth Gurr and Ariane Kiel.

It was noted that Ariane Kiel had volunteered to fill a casual vacancy on the Executive Committee and would be the assistant treasurer. Ariane will be added as a signatory to the bank accounts of the P&C.

2. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion (1): That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 February 2017 be accepted as a true record of that meeting subject to an amendment being made to the figure in the events and fundraising section to reflect that the amount raised by East Lindfield Public School for their fundraiser was \$50,000 not \$10,000.

Moved: Leslie Wait. **Seconded:** Peter Carter. All agreed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

There was no business arising.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

The secretary noted that the P&C had received correspondence from GIO concerning the workers compensation claim which has been made by the Canteen manager and bank statements from Westpac concerning the P&C's bank accounts.

5. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Mayne, the School's science teacher, gave a presentation to the meeting on the School science program. The meeting noted the following points:

- Mr Mayne was formerly an electrical engineer and a former High School science teacher.
- The new primary science, technology, engineering and maths curriculum (STEM) is preparing children for the future. The science syllabus is comprised of physics, chemistry, biology, geology and the built environment. The subject is called Science and

Technology. It involves the children designing and building something either individually or in a group, experimenting, observing and drawing conclusions. Some topics allow for processing of data. They also work on scientific communication.

- Year 3 term 1 science topics are: living things; looking at what makes animals different to each other; problem solving.
- Year 4 term 1 will be building bridges made of straw.
- Years 5 and 6 in term 1 are looking at light, experiments in shadow and light and rainbows.
- Next term year 3 will be looking at earth and space and looking at the night sky.
- Coding is not included in the syllabus as it is too time consuming for a 45 minutes lesson once a week. Coding is included in the general syllabus in year 6. Two years ago the School purchased robotic equipment which is used in the coding program.
- The P&C partly funds the science program. The science program has been running at the school for 10 years. The science program has accumulated a lot of equipment which enables the children to undertake many experiments.
- Mr Mayne encourages the children to undertake the ICASS science test to help them with their problem solving.

The meeting thanked Mr Mayne for his presentation.

Enrolments

The current student enrolment is 992.

Before/After School care

One of the main focus areas this year is before and after school care arrangements available for families. On all days of the week there are significant waiting lists. The School is undertaking the following strategies to assist:

- Investigating if more places can be created at the centre based at the School.
- Investigating options such as Neighbourhood7 which was discussed at last month's P&C meeting. Since that meeting some parents have indicated that they want to be involved.
- Reporting on other centres to be established. The centre at St Augustines is undertaking accreditation but the current understanding is that there will be no Commonwealth rebate available.
- Continuing the after school care option with Kids Capers. This program is currently full on Tuesdays and Wednesdays due to fixed capacity on the bus which takes the children to and from the centre.

Air conditioning

Quotes have been obtained for installing air conditioning in various classrooms. The cost is quoted as \$6,000 per ground floor room and \$6,500 per upper level room. The electricity supply in 'J' block is good however 'A' block may not have an adequate electricity supply for air conditioning. The School's environment committee has raised the issue of increasing the number of solar panels in the School in order to offset the power used in the air conditioning units. 'J' block already has solar panels. 'A' block is too old for solar panels to be installed. The School is arranging for a solar energy expert to visit the school and provide advice on the solar options. The top level classrooms in 'J' block get very hot but they have some airflow unlike the upper floor rooms in 'B' block which have no ventilation. Due to the cost, the School would need to install the air-conditioning units one classroom at a time. As air conditioning units are fittings and not fixtures they are not tax deductible for the purposes of fundraising. The Principal is to advise the P&C whether or not solar panels are considered fixtures and would be capable of attracting tax deductibility.

Parent/teacher interviews

The School is holding parent/ teacher interviews on the week commencing Monday 27 March.

Professional learning

Poppy Moir and Sally Haigh – selective mutism

Sally Haigh – behavior intervention

Kelly Lockhart, Jane Carew and David Shuster – Differentiating literacy and numeracy

David Brown, Will MacInnes and Rosie Callanan – ICT

Steph Chapple, Kate Murray and David Shuster – social media

Megan Kessler – Dance

Staff – Focus on reading.

WEEK	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
March 9	20 Regional Swimming	21 Harmony Day	22 Years K-2 Assembly	23 Years 3-6 Assemb 2.00pm	24 PSSA
March 10	27 Parent/Teacher Interviews will be held in this week	28	29 OC Information Session for year 4 parents 8am	30 School Photographs & Year 5 family Photos	31 Grandfriend's Day Band Camp Commences 1 and 2 April Band camp
April 11	3 Year 5 Camp Family Photographs	4 Year 5 Camp Year 3 Parent NAPLAN Meeting 8am	5 Year 5 Camp Kindergarten Letterland Day State swimming	6 State swimming Winning House Mufti Day	7 Years 1 & 2 Easter Hat Parade Last day of term 1

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

The P&C picnic raised \$1800 in total. Expenses will need to be deducted from this to get a net amount of funds raised.

The new assistant treasurer for the P&C is Ariane Kiel.

Flexischools is used by the P&C for P&C events. It is too onerous for non-P&C events to be put through flexischools. The only exception to this rule is the Year 6 farewell dinner.

If class groups wish to use the internet to collect funds for their events they are encouraged to consider using grouptogo.com. Year 1 parents are trialling this to collect money for the year 1 Easter egg hunt. It has flexible payment options such as paypal, direct debit and credit card. The amount of \$95,000 has been collected by the P&C via the voluntary contribution. The new system allows the school to send reminder emails to those who have not paid. Some parents have found the Voluntary contribution confusing and the School will provide feedback to the third party provider of the software which the School uses to send it.

The P&C provides the funds it raises towards the following programs:

- The schools science and music programs (the amount of \$110, 000 is required to contribute towards 50% of the annual cost of the programs)
- Learning and support programs
- Technology
- Air conditioning
- Furniture for the senior library

7. SCHOOL COUNCIL REPORT

Julia Hudson is the new teacher's representative on the School Council.

The School Council is inviting the new Minister for Education, Rob Stokes, to visit the School. The Chair of the School Council, David Jackson, attended a meeting on the B-Line project on behalf of the School. The meeting was very consultative and the representatives of B-Line stated that there would be no extra traffic going past the School as a result of the B-Line project and that the 'no turn' rules would be overruled. North Sydney Council is running a B-Line consultation process.

The School Council are reviewing their constitution.

8. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) UNIFORM SHOP

All winter stock has been ordered. The Uniform Shop now holds less stock. It is expensive to hold stock and the Uniform Shop has no storage space. The Uniform Shop co-ordinator is trying to keep stock at a more manageable level.

The Uniform Shop requires 2 volunteers for both new stock and second hand items. The next second hand sale is on 28 March.

Cost of sales have increased and the Uniform Shop co-ordinator is reviewing the sale price of items to ascertain if prices need to increase. The prices that are charged at our uniform shop compare favourably to other school uniform shops.

b) EVENTS AND FUNDRAISING

The P&C picnic was held last Friday and was a successful event.

The next P&C event is Grandfriends Day.

The first P&C event for term 2 is Mother's Day. Rather than holding the traditional Mother's Day stall it was suggested that we hold a Mother and Son dance class involving a dance facilitator.

The state by-election for the seat of North Shore is being held on Saturday 8 April and the School is a polling booth. The School is required to advise the electoral commission of the fundraising events which it intends to hold at the School that day. It has been decided to advise the electoral commission that the P&C will operate a sausage sizzle, coffee cart, raffle, cake, drink and gift stall on the day of the by-election which gives the P&C flexibility as to what fundraising events it will hold.

The Principal reported on our Sister School, Moree Public School and the meeting noted the following matters:

- The Sister School arrangement has been in place since term 3 2016
- Interested teachers have made connections with teachers at Moree Public School. Moree Public School has an OC class and holds a year 5 excursion to Sydney each year.
- Our School teachers have participated in video conferences with teachers at Moree Public School and part of the strategy is to arrange video conferences between our students and students of Moree Public School.
- There are thoughts of arranging teacher exchanges or student exchanges of older children
- Year 3 studied Moree in geography last year.

- Moree public School has 500 children, 40% of which are indigenous.

c) BAND

The Band program is running the band camp over the weekend of 1 and 2 April. Junior band children are not sleeping over as in the past they get too tired and don't learn anything on the second day of the camp. Mr Tan will review the school Handbook to see if more information can be added on the band program.

d) CANTEEN

The report of the canteen manager was tabled and the meeting noted the following matters:

- Term 1 continues to be busy in the canteen. The change of lunch times has caused change in organisation and timing of the canteen work. The fact that the canteen now has service windows open at the same time that work needs to be done at the benches has enhanced the need for volunteers.
- The three lunch times has also placed more pressure on the fridge/freezer with more opening and closing leading to an inability to keep the correct temperature, especially on hot days. The fridge has been recharged with refrigerant which has helped. Southern Hospitality came to quote on a new fridge/ freezer set last week and the quote will be advised soon.
- Maree Phillis resigned from her job in the canteen on 7 March. The P&C wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Nicole Nery and Naoko Yamada are currently running the canteen together as equally qualified staff members.
- Bridget Douglas is stepping down from the role of canteen co-ordinator as the end of term 1 and a new Canteen Co-ordinator is required to fill that vacancy. Bridget would like to thank the various members of the P&C executive and the School administration for their support over the last couple of years. Bridget would particularly like to thank the canteen volunteers who answered her many calls for help and noted that without them the canteen could not have operated.

The meeting noted that canteen volunteers are to be reminded to tie their hair back when preparing food in the canteen.

9. OTHER BUSINESS

The meeting noted that teachers find it very difficult to find carparking around the School. Parents who had spare parking permits for Area 29 Zone B who wished to donate them to the School for use by the teachers on an 'as needs' basis were asked to approach Gai Jovorski, Victor Tan or the Principal.

The meeting closed at 9.17pm.

SIGNED AS A TRUE RECORD

CHAIR

DATE