



General Meeting

Tuesday, 20 February 2018

In attendance

Rebecca Hembling (RH)	Kristy Atkins (KA)	Heather Locker (HL)	Sandra Forman (SF)
Nicole Royan (NR)	Emily Chapman (EC)	Carla Janssen (CJ)	Kath Wilson (KW)
Lynne Graham (LG)		Penny Burrill (PB)	Michael Brown (MB)
Jennifer Smith (JS)		Kim Birstins-Crabtree (KB)	
Angie Kawash (AK)		Vanessa Reynolds (VR)	
		Karmen Thomas (KT)	
		Rhiannon Blacklock (RB)	
		Avril Desmond (AD)	
		Liza Brodie (LB)	
		John Richards (JR)	
		Tiarna Walker (TW)	
		Arriane Lim (AL)	

Agenda Items

1. Welcome & Apologies

RH opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

Apologies were received from the following members: Erin Barker, Ruth Sannes, Julie Williams

RH is acting president until the position is filled.

2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Amendments to be made - Angie's name is missing from attendees, edit the spelling of Coles and change the date - currently stating 31st November.

Motion: To accept the minutes from the previous meeting.

Moved: Nicole Royan

Seconded: Heather Locker



Motion carried.

3. Actions and business arising from the minutes of the previous meeting

Nil

4. Correspondence

Nil

5. Principal's Report

SF believes it is going to be a good year for the school and the P&C. There are a lot of new faces here tonight which is fantastic.

We had our tea and tissues morning for the new kindy parents last week. Thank you to CJ & RH, especially CJ who stayed the whole time. This is a nice way to welcome new parents and we had a really good turnout.

It's been a really good start to the year, it has been very calm. We had hoped for 15 classes but unfortunately we didn't make it. There are a couple of Kindergarten parents who are waiting another year to send their children to school. Currently we have 357 students at the school with 14 classes. This is higher in number than last year

We are currently in the 1st year of the new school plan, 2018-2020. You may remember we held a forum at the end of 2017. The purpose of the forum was to have communication consultation with the community. There were 10 families in attendance, the previous forum saw 30 families attend. The main conversation was regarding reporting and need for more information about how children are going at school. This is something we are working on. We are currently using the 'Bump it up' strategy. We are trying to bump up students to the next level and keep moving them up in all areas. There is a focus on reading and comprehension in particular. The formative assessment has turned out great results. There are learning intentions and success criteria in numeracy and literacy. We are looking how you can know what it is to be successful. We are helping children set their goals in reading and number. Number goals change every couple of weeks which gives children a sense of knowing what it is they should be learning and a sense of control over their own learning. Children are often happier when they achieve goals. Social development is another goal as is friendly schools; helping children build resilience and friendships. They know what it is to be a good person and a nice friend. We are still working on the new reporting format. You will see little changes bit by bit; this way we can gauge what parents are happy with. There are still parts of the format that is mandatory; A-E is mandated and we can't change this. We are looking to plot children on a continuum to see where they are. We will keep families in loop and ask opinions as we go.

There is currently an AP position available since Marianne Toppo retired in 2017. This is in a merit selection process which started today and will be published tomorrow. The ad will run for 2 weeks and then the culling process begins followed by the appointment.



There is a slight variation to staff development days this year. Terms 1, 2 and 3 will be the first day of term. During these days staff undertake professional learning and compliance training. We have found over the years the last 2 days of term are not productive. Staff will finish when children finish this year.

Our Chaplaincy program is still proving successful and I am happy to announce further funding has been granted. This is a student support program. The funding does come with conditions; The funding is for \$7000 each year for 3 years and there also needs to be an annual community contribution of \$7000 to keep the funding and program going. Jesse Morsen is the current chaplain. He is supporting the children to find friends, initiate play, and socialize during play. We find the program very beneficial and we find it necessary now as we have had the program for so long. Everyone cannot speak highly enough of the program.

We will be providing a parent planner in each weekly newsletter to keep you up to date.

The Swimming carnival is tomorrow and must go ahead regardless of the weather as the zone carnival is next week.

School photos are next Tuesday. We will be taking photos of a couple of kindy children for postcard which we use to advertise our orientation days for the next years kindergarten children.

Vote - to match the \$7000 annually for three (3) years to support the continuation of the schools chaplains program.

All in favour

Vote accepted

6. Special Guest Speaker

We welcomed Rod Harden an Ethics Teacher to speak to the P&C.

Rob Harden contacted by Karin Aitkin to come and share some information about what Ethics is and if it is something we can implement at our school. Firstly, Rob acknowledges that Volunteering is a great way to help at your kids school. He has been teaching Primary ethics for 3.5 years as a volunteer. His role now is to help schools implement an Ethics program.

Primary ethics was introduced to schools in 2011. The legislation has agreed there should be a 3rd option to scripture and non scripture. Non scripture is non productive time so the organisers were looking for another option. There was a trial in 2010 and since then the program has grown which currently 2,000 volunteers teaching Ethics in 450 school to 37,000 students each week.

What do we teach? We practice ethical reasoning. There is an opportunity for children to speak their own mind and to develop critical thinking skills. Social media doesn't allow for critical thinking and others points of view. We encourage children to think how would you cope if you were in that situations. There are ethical topics that the volunteers follow. The



classes are 30min each. One of the topics is about voting; who would you vote for and why. Do you vote for them because you best friends or is it a good platform for the school or is it a good platform for you. The topics are tamed down so they are easy for kids to relate to. They are also grouped in stages with a start in kindy and all the way to year 6. Children do not repeat a topic as they move through the program. There are currently 79 topics that have been approved by the DET. The program relies on private donations from community members.

It is a volunteered based organisation with a small amount of paid staff; 5 FT and 3 PT. All our volunteers receive training. There are always reservations from potential teachers relating to how to manage a class and what to teach. We take care of it all. There is training for 2 days then you learn on your feet. All volunteers have a WWCC and child protection training. Volunteers also receive regular feedback and online training. A lot of effort goes into training and keeping up to date. We require a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 22 students per class. Lessons work best 15-17children. lots of discussion happens.

There are two (2) strict rules for volunteers 1. you are not allowed to share your own views with children and 2. you must stick to the syllabus. How is this managed? It is taken on trust and it is reinforced regularly with training and feedback from school staff and via students. Classroom support volunteers also ensure this happens. KW also mentioned that a GNPS teacher stays in the classroom at all times

Ethics could be the 3rd option. SF says Schools have to offer scripture. Some families have asked about Ethics over the years however we haven't had volunteers.

We just need one parent to volunteer to start; if you want more information visit the website.

KW informs there is currently about 10% of children who attend non scripture.

7. Treasurers Report

JS presented the Treasurers report (see attachment 1).

There is a balance of \$41,000.00 in the bank.

Motion: To accept the Treasurers Report.

Moved: Angie Kawash

Seconded: Heather Locker

Motion carried.

8. Fundraising Report

The Easter raffle and mothers day stall is coming up.

Easter Hat Parade - Thursday 29th March

Mothers Day Stall - Tuesday 8th May.

We are looking for volunteers to run both initiatives.



The Easter raffles requires someone/a group of people to:

- run the raffle
- buy raffle tickets and then separate into smaller books,
- organise donations for easter eggs from families and then to shop to top up the hampers and for the Easter bunny visit
- put together the hampers, 2 per class plus major prizes.

The Mother's day stall requires someone/group of people to:

- shop for presents to sell on stall.
- volunteers for on the day for setting up and packing away.
- If you can help please let us know ASAP.

Coles vouchers for sports - This is proving to be a popular initiative. LG has asked staff to start wish list. The box in the office and at Parkside is full every week!

Disco - Friday 6th April. There will be a sausage sizzle

The disco requires volunteers to:

- cook the sausage sizzle
- supervise the disco
- help in the canteen
- collect tickets/money

9. Canteen Report

NR presented the canteen report (see attachment 2)

There is no profit this month due to the wage over sight at the end of 2017.

KA has successfully taken over as the canteen supervisor and is doing a great job. It has been a very smooth transition.

The healthy canteen initiative is to be implemented by 2019. Training courses have been attended by NR and KA. By attending these courses we have been given a free three (3) year membership to the healthy canteens. KA has been looking into healthy options at present to slowly make the transition. Some of these options may be introduced as special lunch days to see how they are accepted. We still need more volunteers for the canteen. We would also like to have an emergency list of people to rely on at short notice. Please contact KA or NR if you can help out.

Motion: To accept the Canteen Report.

Moved: Penny Borrill

Seconded: Kim Birstins-Crabtree



Motion carried.

10. Uniform Shop Report

PB presented the uniform shop report (see attachment 3)

There was a stock value of \$35,500.00 recorded in December.

The January sales day was very successful - taking in \$9000.00. Previous years saw \$4000 - \$5000 taken. Thank you to everyone who came to support the school and to the volunteers that made this any happen.

Surf hats are very popular. There are still enquires about caps but not as many.

The new school bags were popular. No complaints about the pricing.

We will start to promote the winter jackets on 5th March and require orders for winter jackets two (2) weeks later. There are samples in the office for sizing however the jackets have to be ordered; there are none in stock. We do require money up front for the orders and they will take approximately two (2) weeks for delivery.

Vote - for a further \$3000 to be donated back to the P&C.

All in favour

Motion: To accept the Uniform Shop Report.

Moved: Jennifer Smith

Seconded: Lynne Graham

Motion carried.

11. General Business

Paver orders are currently at 27. We will do one more push. NR will organise to send forms home. It is currently cash only however we will create a DD option. Gerard (school GA) is happy to lay the pavers. There is no minimum order quantity however we do need a larger number of orders to make it a viable addition to the school.

Question

HL - Is it possible for notes that go home to be on the website or the skoolbag app for printing by parents?

Response

SF - this is something we can look at

Question

HL - Can we create a wish list for money to be spent?

Response

SF - Yes

Question

HL - Can the P&C buy a big extension lead or a couple to give to the school for band?

Response

Yes

Question

HL - Other local primary schools have received funding from the government to test each child for literacy. Is this something you can apply for?

Response

SF - We already do this here. There are lots of innovative things that happen here along the same lines. We have teachers that assist teachers benchmark children and test comprehension regularly. Unfortunately reading recovery has been cancelled. There is a support teacher in class 2 hrs per day. Maths is black & white however English is more difficult. Students can be good readers but fall down in writing. Grade C or sound is the expectation at the end of learning. If they do better than that and can trade knowledge from one context to another to be awarded a Grade B or A. The grades A, B, C at present is too broad. We are looking at changing this.

Question

CJ - Will NAPLAN be online this year?

SF - NAPLAN will be paper this year rather than the previously publicised online transition. Only 500 schools will trial the online Australia-wide. We have until 2019 for everyone to be ready for the online version. MB informs that the infrastructure is not there to make it viable. The lead up to the trial took two teachers off class for a week. It's very costly and ineffective.

Question

KB - Is there a different solution to the talent quest? There was a lot of behind the scenes drama that made the talent quest hard for parents.

Response

SF - The children enjoy the talent show and the teachers were unaware of any issues that occurred.

Question

RH - Do you currently need any iPads or upgrades for smart boards in the classrooms (noting that some smartboards are dull in appearance and difficult to read).



Response

KW - I am questioning whether iPads the most valuable resource for the school, and am currently reviewing the schools technology needs. The bulbs in many smartboards do need replacing, so I will audit the number and cost of those with a view to gaining funding from the P&C to have them replaced.

SF - There is a Physio in GyMEA (Steve Cole) looking to sponsor the school. LG to contact 3 current sponsors ASAP - then contact Physio and then Marilyn (Tom Thumb). LG suggested that the sponsorship money to go towards technology for the school and the money in the bank goes towards the playground upgrade.

Electricians will be connecting the new school sign in the coming weeks.

Question

JR - The pen licenses starting in yr 4. does everyone get one?

Response

KW - Those who are doing letters in correct formation. The licence is to write in pen in one book and then gradually move to all books. Neatness and slope comes into play as well as foundation cursive.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, 21 March 2017 at 7pm

RH declared the meeting closed at 9:25pm.

Action Items 2018

Item	Action	Responsible Person	Status Update
1	To find a suitable green school jumper to have the logo put on for sale	EC & RS	Underway
2	To push the paver initiative on more time	NR	Underway
3	To contact current and prospective sponsors regarding sponsorship packages	LG	Underway
4	Determine how many replacement bulbs are needed for classroom smartboards.	KW	Underway

