

St Bernadette's Primary School, Dundas Valley Parents and Friends (P&F) Association Meeting 15 February 2016

MINUTES

Present:	Cathy Nagy	Alison Dellas	Souzie Nakhoul	Beth Nilan
	Amanda Reicher	Lauren Chehade	Angela Shehadie	Kate Hunter
	Maria Rennie	Ramiro Torres	Katrina Sheraton-Yu	Pip Martins
	Carol Burleigh	Sonja Simpson	Caroline Burbridge	Mary Elliott
	Anthony Kensell	Mary Ann Gatt-Petrini	Leah Hanchard	Lucy Blacker
Apologies:	Mel McAulay	Michelle Uren	Steve Jupp	Claire Scott

1. Carol Burleigh opened the committee meeting at 7:45pm.

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

- Lucy Blacker discussed progress on a new sound system for the school hall. There are a couple of options:
 - A hearing loop system which consists of a microphone, an amplifier and in addition to the loudspeakers, a coil of wire placed around the room
 - A series of speakers placed at several intervals down the room

Lucy has been in contact with a company who can install the loop system – Printacall. She will also visit Australian hearing to discuss further.

Mary Ann will liase with Lucy to organise a quote from Printacall and discuss other potential solutions.

- The previous minutes were accepted by Caroline Burbridge, seconded by Alison Dellas.

3. Treasurer's Report

Mel McAulay submitted the treasurer's report. There is a small discrepancy between available funds for donation/operation of P&F and the account balance as at 31st Jan of \$635.21. This will be discussed with Mel. At present, it seems we have existing funds of approximately \$12,618.

At the end of 2015, the profits from movie night were donated to school to enable Mary Ann to place a bulk order of laptops/ipads.

4. School Banking report

A report on CBA School Banking was submitted by Mel McAulay. At present we have 2 co-ordinators – Mel McAulay and Carmelina Bua.

As per the report, an ipad will be purchased using commission received during 2015, which will be used for school banking and possibly within the school. It would be great if other parents could assist with banking – a note will go home calling for more helpers. Sonja Simpson volunteered her services, but she can't make every Thursday. It was agreed we should have the CBA banking co-ordinator again address assembly for new students/families.

5. Incoming & Outgoing Correspondence

Nil to report.

6. Leadership Team Reports

Religion:

- The learning intention for 2016 is a focus on scripture ie, for students to apply the scripture in their everyday life
- World Youth Day – crazy hair day will be held on Friday, gold or fold donation. School uniform to be worn
- This year has been declared a year of Mercy by Pope Francis

Literacy:

- Students are currently undergoing comprehension and reading assessments
- The goal for 2016 is increased comprehension, particularly inferential comprehension
- Some P&F funds last year went to increasing our reader circle books

Mathematics:

- Once again, Maths assessments were completed before school started back
- The maths goal this year is a focus on division and multiplication
- There will be another maths parent info night this term in week 10. Strategies and games will be explained to parents

PDHPE:

- Zone swimming carnival will be held on Tuesday 16 Feb
- Bounceback is running again. This program looks at helping students identify conflict versus bullying
- Gymnastics program run by Dance Fever is running in term 1
- Cross Country will be held in March

Technology:

- Mary Ann has dedicated a portion of last year's budget and some of this years, along with P&F funds to purchasing a large number of laptops. Her aim of having a bank of laptops of between 10 – 15/class is nearly complete! The projector in the hall failed and was replaced last year along with a bigger screen, another one in a classroom has also died so will be replaced with a large TV (TVs allow more flexibility of use). The network printer in the reading room has been replaced and a new printer for the office will be required.

Sonja raised a question about the fire risk on devices charging overnight. Mary Ann advised that there are safety switches installed and that not all devices in every classroom are charged overnight.

Building & Maintenance:

- Landscaping the bottom slope is progressing. Completion date is not yet known. Mary Ann advised that she has received another community building grant from the NSW State government in the amount of \$35,000. Some of this will go to finishing the playground. New mats for outside the hall have been installed.

Other:

- Catholic Schools week is week 7 term 1
- Open day for prospective new students will be 7 March. Mary Ann and Mary will visit preschools in the area to drop off information leaflets
- There will be a staff development day concentrating on the new History & Geography syllabus on 29th March

7. Activities since the last meeting

Canteen – Pizza meal deal 6 Nov, Ice cream day 15 Dec 2015, Linda’s Lunches and pikelet day 9 Feb.

Movie night – 20 Nov. Feedback received from movie night was that most people preferred to have the school concert separate to any other event. People did enjoy the family and community atmosphere.

8. Canteen

The St Patricks day Kindy green morning tea will be held on 17 Mar and run by Leah Hanchard and Brenda.

9. Parent Reps

Parent reps for each class have been allocated.

10. Working Bee and Gardening

Mary Ann will check with Frank whether a working bee is needed during this term.

11. Upcoming P&F Activities

Co-ordinators for Mother’s/Father’s day stalls were called for. Souzan Nakhoul and Lauren Chehade volunteered for this job.

12. New items submitted for discussion

- Major fundraiser for 2016 was discussed. It was agreed to leave the school concert at the end of the year, format to be decided by the school.

A few ideas were discussed with the outcome being:

- an Olympathon run during school by teachers assisted by parents. This was done last Olympics in 2012, and will be run July/August.

- Major P&F fundraiser to be trivia night. Date to be decided. Will be run by Maria Rennie, Sonja Simpson, Angela Shehadie & Kate Hunter. The focus will be as a fun social event for parents, no big emphasis on prizes.

- Uniform tidiness and student presentation ie haircuts/earrings etc. Caroline Burbridge requested that some attention be given to maintaining a neat, tidy and uniform presentation by students. Lauren Chehade mentioned that she is working on some hair accessories in school colours which she would like to make available for sale at school.
- Church carpark. As always, at the beginning of the school year, parents need to be informed and/or reminded about safety and considerate parking within the church carpark. Furthermore, drive through etiquette in Cox Crescent/Evans Road. Mary Ann will send home a letter regarding pick up and drop off. She will also ask parents parking in the centre parks to fill up outside spots first.
- Allocation of existing P&F funds. It was agreed to allocate funds as follows:
 - \$5000 for Maria's readers
 - \$500 for year 6 graduation
 - \$500 for school camps (50 children in y5 and y6 combined)
 - \$4000 for 2 x charging units for laptops (exact pricing to be confirmed)
- The committee voted to approve small purchases made by the executive committee during the year for things such as catering supplies for working bees and other functions, and for gifts for departing teachers and flowers for teachers and staff to commemorate celebratory occasions and or in the event of bereavements.

Meeting closed at 8:50pm