

St Bernadette's Primary School, Dundas Valley Parents and Friends (P&F) Association Meeting 20 February 2017

MINUTES

Present:	Souzan Nakhoul	Beth Nilan	Cathy Nagy
	Caroline Burbridge	Kate Hunter	Rebecca Phelan
	Grace Tallaridi	Frank Tallaridi	Lauren Chehade
	Mary Elliott	Lisa Gerrard	Anthony Kensell
	Jenni Lampard	Brenda Gaynor	Sonja Simpson (until 8pm)
	Mary Ann Gatt-Petrini	Margaret Flitcroft	Carol Burleigh
	Alison Dellas	Victoria Holland	Nitcha Nirantechaphat (until 8pm)

Apologies: Amanda Reicher

1. The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

- The previous minutes were accepted by Alison Dellas and seconded by Sonja Simpson.
- P&F audit – Alison advised that the audit for 2016 has been completed without any issue. The accountant still has all the books as he is auditing previous years. Alison will put together a procedure for future treasurers to enable yearly audits.
- Tuning of the piano – Mary Ann advised this will be done by the end of February, approximate cost of \$200.
- New School hat – Sonja has looked into the viability of a bucket hat similar to one worn at another local school, maroon on one side with school crest and house colour on the reverse. Information received is that the school currently sell the hat for \$15, but are changing supplier as they have proven to be flimsy and light weight. Sonja thought that the current Legionnaire's and broad brimmed hats probably offer more sun protection and are reasonably priced (NB Lowes website as @ 21/2/17 sell legionnaires at \$16.99 and broad brimmed at \$18.99). Parents present agreed that current hats are sufficient, so it was decided not to pursue further.
- Cox Crescent parking & driving – Safe driving down Cox Crescent and U-turns being performed by parents at the front of the school upon drop off/pick up was again raised. Caroline Burbridge has contacted Parramatta Council about the possibility of making Cox Crescent one way during school hours (or permanently). A petition would need to be put together and residents asked to sign. This would difficult to achieve. Mary Ann will observe and monitor.

Parking in no standing zones in Cox Cres seems to have resolved for the moment.

3. Treasurer's Report

Alison Dellas presented the Treasurer's report (attached). Unfortunately, as she has not had access to the books (still with the auditor) or the December DDF statement, figures are not exact. This will be rectified for next meeting.

Alison has suggested that prior years records should be stored on the school premises. All agreed.

4. School Banking report

The School banking report was provided by Cathy Nagy (attached). Caroline asked for CBA to visit assembly to promote interest. This will be arranged.

5. Incoming & Outgoing Correspondence

Mother's day brochures (will be forwarded to co-ordinator).

6. Leadership Team Reports

Religion:

- Formation goal for this year revolves around the Senses of Scripture.
- Whole school masses are the first Friday of every month
- Father Ben is once again running the choir, with Father Reuben organising altar servers. He has mentioned that we have the most servers in the Diocese.

Literacy:

- Goal for this year is writing for purpose and an audience
- K-2 early years assessments are underway this term
- Lisa is currently undergoing training for reading recovery program
- Stage 3 critical literacy – support for students
- Classroom readers are being updated and refreshed – P&F funds each year assist in this respect
- Additional reading practice will again be offered to students by parents devoting some time each week
- ICAS testing is once again on offer this year

Maths:

- Goal for this year is a continued focus on multiplication and division skills. This is in response to the MAI testing done in January 2017.
- EMU Intervention will be run by Leanne and Mary Hines
- Maths Olympiad will run again. This program is to extend students; there are 5 Olympiads run throughout the year across the Asia/Pacific region.

PDHPE:

- Bounceback program is running – this helps with conflict resolution and empathy for others.
- Gymnastics is running term 1
- Zone swimming carnival was last week. It was great to receive a call from a parent from another school who commended our students on their behaviour and sportsmanship at the carnival.

Building & Maintenance:

- New line marking was completed on the playgrounds during the holidays
- Year 5 and 6 buildings have been re-painted
- There are new portable whiteboards in all classrooms
- The CEO have paid for 5 new large screen TVs to replace interactive whiteboards in Y1, Y2, Y4, Y5 and the library. The whiteboards will be donated to a school in Fiji.
- We have received a \$23,000 community building grant which will be used to upgrade the path from the carpark to the playground.
- School bell – Upon return from holidays, the bell is not working. Mary Ann is obtaining quotes for a new system.

Other:

- Catholic Schools week is coming up in March
- Enrolments for Kindy 2018 are being accepted with an open day planned for 6 March. Mary Ann and Lisa will visit local preschools to promote our school. Y5 and Y6 are using a current project based learning exercise to work in groups and produce a leaflet about our school. A winning entry will be chosen, printed and letterboxed.
- A new finance secretary has been appointed – Mrs Hala Haddad.

7. Activities since the last meeting

- P&F held the following events since the last meeting:
Canteen – snack day 24 Nov & free ice cream day 15 Dec
Working Bee - 25 Nov

8. Canteen

- Linda's Lunches – Carol advised that there were 49 orders last week and that Linda is happy to continue.
- Upcoming canteen days – Pikelet day 28 Feb, Kindy run St Patrick's green morning tea (to be co-ordinated by Carol Burleigh) and 30 Mar – snack or meal deal? Parents agreed on a pizza meal deal.
- Parents thought the free ice cream canteen on the final day of the school year was a great way to give back to students. It was agreed we should continue this.
- Caroline and Carol then asked for assistance in running canteen. This job usually falls to one or two people, and the committee feel that a canteen co-ordinator would help to ease the load. This person would help to organise and run canteen days. Jenni Lampard volunteered to fill this role.

9. Parent Reps

Parent Reps for all classes have been allocated.

10. Working Bee and Gardening

Mary Ann confirmed that a working bee is not needed this term.

11. Upcoming P&F Activities

- Mufti/donation day for mother's day stall – date to be confirmed
- Request for another PJ & Movie night. Committee will liaise with Mary Ann for date
- Disco – Margaret, Lauren and Souzie volunteered to run Disco this year.

12. New items submitted for discussion

- Co-ordinators for Mother's/Father's day stalls – Margaret Flitcroft volunteered to run these events
- Major fundraiser for the year – Frank suggested a family fun/activities day. Caroline volunteered to co-ordinate. Grace and Bec will assist. Caroline will get a committee together. Date to be decided.
- Uniform review:
 - Boys summer shirts. It has been suggested that we change the boys summer shirt as it looks untidy when not tucked in, and can be difficult for some students to keep tucked! There are more tailored shirts available, however most people present thought the current shirt was suitable and there was little support for a different style.
 - Sport shorts. Lowes have confirmed that there was a bad batch of shorts sold. Any problems with splitting down the seams, take them back to Lowes for refund/exchange.
 - Excursion bags. Everyone agreed that the existing bag is not suitable. The suggested duffle/kit bag looked more durable. Mary Ann will follow up to obtain quotes/samples.
- Allocation of existing P&F funds. It was agreed to allocate funds as follows:

- \$3000 for school readers
- \$500 for year 6 graduation
- Funds to cover Skoolbag app payment when necessary
- The school would like to purchase some programmable Lego robotic equipment for use in the classroom. This would provide STEM (science technology engineering maths) integrated learning. The kits they are looking at are called Edison v2. It was agreed to approve the purchase of 2 kits (1 kit being 15 robots + 2500 pieces of LEGO @ \$1249 each). At this stage, 1 kit will be purchased as a trial.

Frank asked whether we could look at business sponsorship for purchases such as these – Mary Ann said it is possible, but approval from the CEO must be sought.

Meeting closed at 8:52pm