

St Bernadette's Primary School, Dundas Valley Parents and Friends (P&F) Association Meeting 23 February 2015 at 7.30pm

MINUTES

Present:

Barbara Young	Anthony Kensell	Mary Ann Gatt Petrini	Sonja Simpson
Virginia Mapagu	Alison Dellas	Lu Wang	Bridget Shadforth
De-Anne Chatillon	Katrina Sheraton-Yu	Trish Abrahams	Amanda Reicher
Grace & Frank Tallaridi	Caroline Burbridge	Carol Burleigh	Claire Scott
Marketa Billingsley	Carmelina Bua	Angela Shehadie	Melissa McAulay

Apologies:

Lauren Chehade	Kate Hunter	Beth Nilan
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1. The meeting opened at 7:25pm

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted by Caroline Burbridge and seconded by Katrina Sheraton-Yu. There was no business arising.

3. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer's report is attached. New signatories need to be attached to the P&F account. It was recommended by Carol and Mary Ann that we have 4 signatories ie, 2 from the executive committee and 2 from the school, these being the P&F President and Treasurer and the Principal and Vice Principal. Dianna has the forms in the office.

4. Incoming & Outgoing Correspondence

Nothing to report.

5. Leadership Team Reports

Barbara advised of the 2015 school formation goal which is for students to be of service by putting into action the beliefs of Mary of the Cross. This builds on the 2014 goal (for students to be active disciples in articulating their faith).

There has been an increased focus on uniform tidiness with boys being reminded to tuck in their shirts, and girls to keep hair accessories/earrings minimal.

Literacy:

- Barbara advised that the 2014 goal for PAT R assessments was to improve comprehension by 80% for students, which was achieved. So the 2015 goal is to improve comprehension skills by 90%.

- Early years assessments are conducted from K-2 at the beginning, middle and end of the year. This testing is multiple choice. PROBE assessments for primary stages are written responses to comprehension questions.
- Lots of new books have been purchased thanks to P&F donated funds.

Mathematics:

- Anthony advised that the Mathematics goal for 2015 is for students to understand and solve number problems and visualise literacy in maths.
- MAI assessments have been completed and collated.
- Miss Leanne is undertaking a Maths specialist course
- There will be Maths challenge groups running throughout the year.
- Primary stage students will again compete in the Maths Olympiad which will be held in May 2015.

PDHPE:

- The swimming program at SOPAC has been finally moved to the last 2 weeks of Term 3.
- Bounceback program is up and running again this year – this provides social and resilience skills to students from K-6.
- Soccer gala days will be held in Term 2 – girls at the beginning of the term and the boys in Week 5.
- AFL clinic will be held next Monday and is a half hour session per class.

Technology:

- Mary Ann advised of her wish list for 2015.

Building & Maintenance:

- Mary Ann advised that the admin area was painted over the Christmas holidays.
- We were successful in our submission for the community building grant. Although we asked for \$28K, we received \$15K. The money will be used to update the CAR.
- Mary Ann is keen to landscape the bare area on the slope near the flagpole. The CEO Facilities Office will be making a visit to offer suggestions.

Miscellaneous:

- Catholic Schools Week begins 9 March. The school will hold an open day for 2016 enrolments.
- 10 March we will have a book fair run by Scholastics, followed by open classrooms and class liturgies for parents and grandparents. Also hoping to have some Maths games.
- 13 March will be the school cross country.
- Mary Ann and Barbara will once again put leaflets into local preschools promoting the school.
- Mary Ann hopes to hold a parent education night for Mathematics.
- Cybersmart have been invited to give separate presentations to students, teachers and parents.

6. Activities since the last meeting

Canteen - Halloween Morning tea 30 October , Subway 12 November, Ice cream day 12 December & Pikelet day 17 February 2015.

7. Canteen

Upcoming canteen dates are: Pizza meal deal 6 March, St Patricks Day Kindy green morning tea 17 March & Hot Cross Bun morning tea 2 April.

8. Parent Reps

All classes now have allocated parent reps.

9. Working Bee and Gardening

Frank, our maintenance man, has advised that we do not require a working bee in Term 1.

10. Upcoming P&F Activities

- Election day BBQ to be co-ordinated by Caroline Burbridge. Angela suggested maybe we could allocate specific baking items to classes? Caroline to cogitate on this. Marketa has a contact for a coffee van – maybe they could pay a nominal fee to the school for turning up? She will look into this.
- Mothers Day Stall – Margaret Flitcroft has volunteered to co-ordinate. Mel McAulay and Bridget Shadforth volunteered their assistance.
- 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.
- It was agreed that the following contributions from P&F funds be made to the school:
 - Year 6 graduation
 - money for Miss Maria's books
 - cost of 2 x BBQ covers which Mel McAulay volunteered to purchase on P&F behalf
 - school supplies which Mary Ann will allocate

11. New items submitted for discussion

- School main fundraiser – Trivia or similar

Lots of ideas flew around the meeting. Ultimately, it was decided to form a sub committee to brainstorm ideas and come up with a suitable replacement for trivia. Sub committee members are: Mel McAulay, Bridget Shadforth, Carmelina Bua, Trish Abrahams, Grace Tallaridi and De-Anne Chatillon.

This committee needs to bear in mind that the parent body already pay a \$100 per year “parent fund” amount which is a fundraising levee.

- CBA Banking via school – Carol is concerned that the school and students are missing out on the benefits of the CBA school banking program. Many parents at the meeting didn't even know such a thing existed. Cathy has contacted CBA and is awaiting a response regarding having a bank rep come to assembly.
- Parking in the school carpark – this will be an ongoing issue as the carpark is shared with the church.
- Canteen on a fulltime basis – Currently, the canteen runs approximately 4 times per term and makes about \$500/term for the P&F. The benefits of canteen run this way, are that because it is

so infrequent, the vast majority of students make a purchase. Also, students have the experience of planning and making a purchase.

As a result of requests, the committee have been looking at making canteen available on a more regular basis. Christ the King use the services of a cafe in Oatlands twice a week. Sonja has drawn up a canteen survey that will go out ASAP to gauge parent feedback to this suggestion.

- At the election day BBQ we will hopefully also run an Easter raffle.
- Grant submissions – Carol would like to set up a sub committee dedicated to applying and writing grants. De-Anne and Mel agreed to look into suitable grants. Trish volunteered to assist with submissions. Mel advised that there is a grant writing workshop coming up hosted by Geoff Lee. Also, Parramatta Council have several small grants available. The grants need to be submitted by the school, not P&F. Mary Ann needs to compile a wish list.
- Allergy updates in the canteen will be updated by staff.
- Sunscreen – it was noted by Cathy that in 2012 P&F approved purchase and distribution of sunscreen to students at school. Is this continuing? Mary Ann advised that there are large amounts of sunscreen in storage and they will be made available to students.
- Angela advised that sport shorts at Lowes have a wide variation on sizing and colour. Could the school please look into this.
- 2nd Hand uniform shop – Cathy advised that she was still happy to co-ordinate this.

Meeting closed at 8:45pm - next meeting to be 11 May 2015.