

P&C ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Date: 15/3/21, 7.30pm

Venue: Cromer Campus

Attendance: Aaron Holborow (AH), Jenni Davies (JD), Matt Soltau (MS), Ada Holborow, Jackie Reevie, Donna Jones (DJ), Kathie Palamara (KP), Rob Feltscheer, Jenny Jones (JJ), Teresa Burgess (TB), Madeline Keene (MK),

Principal: Justin Hong (JH)

Apologies: Jocelyn and Col Huxley, Cathie Butler, Deborah Howard, Neva Imbs, James Brisebois

This is an update of current position holders on the P&C along with the current vacancies.

President: Jackie Reavie (just filled since the meeting – congrats Jackie)

Vice President 1: Theresa Burgess

Vice President 2: Aaron Holborow

Treasurer: Matt Soltau

Secretary: Jenni Davies

Grants Officer: Jenny Jones

Canteen Rep: Kathie Palamara

Fundraising Manager: Donna Jones (+ Neva Imbs?)

Communications Officer:

Technology: Rob Feltscheer

Project Manager: James Brisebois

Principal's Report:

Main issue is that we're still needing a P&C President. Have had some responses to the email to the school community but no firm commitment. Will send out another email. JH also requests that we keep talking to other parents to spread the word and try and garner interest. Mel did a massive job in her time as President and has created a big footprint to follow. However JH was keen to emphasize that the role can fit the person. The main criteria is that we have someone to lead the committee.

With regards to JH's wishlist for use of P&C funding, the primary focus is to improve the year 7 area. More furniture is needed. Currently, with the big increase in pupil numbers, we have kids sitting in stairwells as there is not enough seating.

JH also raised the possibility of restarting the Working Bees x2/year in Autumn and Spring to prioritise tidying up of the year 7 area, bus bay and mulching existing garden beds. It was noted that there are now approximately 100 kids in the SRC who are all really eager to help out. They are logging their hours. Taking part in the Working Bee could contribute to those hours.

Due to the growing size of the school, JH has now employed a 3rd Deputy Principal. This was a much sought after position that will start in term 2. The position has been given to John Hanna, a long standing very committed teacher at Cromer who is well known by all the kids and has a natural leadership presence. Previously the 2 Deputy Principals took care of odd or even years. With the addition of the third position this will now alter to the following:

David will look after years 8 and 12

Jane will look after years 9 and 11

John will look after years 7 and 10

They will continue to follow the year groups through the school.

Treasurer's Report (Matt Soltau):

Income for 2021 has been \$12,753.20 (\$6,080 from the canteen, \$6,672 from My Cause donations)

Bank Acct Balance is currently \$142,755.23

There is a committed expenditure of \$45,000 (bills to pay from International Garden and front of school upgrade completed in 2020) together with the Girls Programme and Band expenses.

This leaves \$83,302.99 in available funds

President's Report: by AH (as President's role remains unfilled at this time)

AH gave a welcome to the new members of the P&C and encouraged us all to work together as a group to continue the good that has been done over the last few years.

Other Business

1. **Canteen Representative Update KP** – the canteen continues to do really well. It's very busy, especially on Fridays with up to 150 orders. Lisa has requested more benches and needs to look at storage options. There may be a need to increase the hours of the canteen staff to cope with the increased demand. It was noted by JH that the SRC have a roster to help out at lunchtime handing out the orders. The possibility of using parent volunteers was also discussed. Conversation needs to be had with Lisa to confirm their specific needs so that they can be appropriately addressed.
2. **Government Grants Update JJ** – Jenny is new to the role. JD will pass the grants excel spreadsheet, that was compiled as a base list in 2020, on to JJ to be developed further.
3. **Projects Update** –
 - a. Canteen needs are to be confirmed as discussed above
 - b. Working Bee – date to be set in term 2 and term 3. Main aim is to tidy up the bus bay, year 7 area and mulch the existing garden beds. AH and JH will do a walk around the school grounds to finalise the specific needs. Communication with the school community is essential to see what talents lie within our current cohort of parents. SRC is to be included. COVID safe measures will be incorporated.
4. **Fundraising Update** – DJ has been voted in to hold the role of Fundraising Manager with the possibility of Neva Imbs joining her as a co-manager. The latter is yet to be confirmed.
 - a. **Golf Day (November)** – this will be the primary fundraiser for the year. DJ encouraged the continued use of the school community and previous sponsors, but also suggested looking 'outside the box' with bigger companies who have a local presence on the Beaches, such as Miele. DJ also feels that we should aim higher with the amount to be raised and is confident that we can achieve this. Golf club needs to be contacted to confirm a date. The Mayor, acknowledged as a great supporter of the school, also needs to be invited, as in previous years, to encourage JH to improve his golfing standard!

- b. JH reminded us that the P&C is not only about fundraising, although that is really important, but also about creating that connectivity with the wider school community and being present at school events to encourage other parents to join.
5. **Student exchange programme** – JD enquired whether there were any links with Indigenous schools to enable the development of cultural understanding in our kids. JH has links with Finlay High School west of Albury. It's a school of approximately 400 pupils. There is the potential for developing some sort of programme with them. Ali, the HSIE teacher, also has a keen interest in developing these links and has previously taken kids out to rural NSW. JH will continue to encourage Ali to explore these options.
 6. **Student volunteering** – JD suggested the possibility of developing a community volunteering programme for the kids as a way to develop links with the community. There are very few options for teenagers to volunteer on the Beaches, outside of sports and surf clubs. JH suggested that the DofE coordinator for the Northern Beaches College would be a good person to contact. MK has the coordinator details that she will forward on to JD.
 7. **Sustainability at school** – KP enquired about how the school was addressing sustainability options – specifically in the canteen. JH assured that this was being addressed but there was always more to be done and he was keen to see this happen. It was noted that there is currently vegetation compost, paper recycling, the split bins in the playground for general waste and hard plastic but no soft plastic recycling. JH noted that the SRC are always looking for projects and invited KP to come and talk to them.
 8. **Support for struggling families** – KP enquired if the school had a system in place to support struggling families. JH advised that there is a very discrete breakfast club that kids can come to in the mornings to eat. Whilst they are there they also have the opportunity to make a sandwich for their lunch.
 9. **Easter eggs for the teachers** – to be coordinated by TB with Lisa in the canteen – a small Easter gift for the teachers with a thank you note from the P&C.
 10. **Year 7 area sports equipment?** – JJ enquired whether it was possible to add some kind of activities into the year 7 area to encourage physical activity and entice kids away from their phones. It was suggested that a ping pong table or similar might be installed. It was also noted that although the year 7 area is specifically for year 7 kids, this does not prohibit them from using other areas of the school such as the basketball courts.
 11. **Period products for the girls' toilets** – JD met the owners of Pixii at the weekend. Pixii are a company that provide period products (tampons and pads) for schools and organisations, to install in their bathrooms. Their products are environmentally friendly (plastic free) and designed to be bought by the school to be provided as free access for the girls to avoid being 'caught short'. JD presented this idea to the P&C to bring awareness to it as an option for the school. JD will forward the brochure onto JH.

Close:

The meeting was officially closed at 8.44pm



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Next Meeting: P&C voted to continue to hold their meetings on Monday nights at 7.30pm on week 2 and week 7 of each term.