

P&C ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Date: 31/5/21

Venue: Cromer Campus, 7.30pm

Attendance: Aaron Holborow (AH), Jenni Davies (JD), Matt Soltau (MS), Jackie Reavie (JR), Deborah Howard (DH), Kim Feltscheer (KF), Jocelyn Huxley (JHU), Jenny Jones (JJ),

Principal: Justin Hong (JH),

Deputy Principal: Jon Hanna (JHA)

Apologies: Teresa Burgess, Kathie Palamara (KP), Donna Jones, James Brisebois

Meeting officially opened by Jackie Reavie at 7.40pm

Principal's Report:

Welcome to Jon Hanna, the new Deputy Principal, who has joined us tonight to talk a little later about the learning conversation developments.

Enrollments:

Enrollments at present are 890, but will grow to approximately 950 next year. This means about 6 extra teachers will need to be recruited. This is a challenge for the school, as it is for schools across the state with a shortage of teachers, especially Maths and Technology teachers. JH is currently looking for a Science teacher and explained that P&C have a role to play with each recruitment process – a parent representative is needed on each panel for interviews. Once a year JH sends out an email asking for parent volunteers to be part of the panel. He will then go down the list calling volunteers to find someone who is available when the need arises. JH gave AH and JR the option to be part of the next process and asked P&C to once more approve this process. **A vote was taken with a unanimous yes.**

To encourage applicants in a competitive market, the school purposely takes a number of student teachers at a time to get them on board and experience the school culture and community to encourage them to work here. There are currently 5 or 6 at the school.

Working Bee:

JH wanted to thank the P&C and especially AH for all the work done during the recent working bee. He noted that the school is now looking great and that next time double the amount of mulch could be ordered and used to good effect. There are areas of the school that didn't get worked on this time that could be the priority next time. It was also noted how great it was to have the kids helping out and how good it was to see their enthusiasm.

AH added that 65 people had come to help out at different stages of the day (including kids) which is a fantastic turn out. The aim is to do another one at the end of term 3. A date was set for Sunday 12th September.

JH noted that Inman Road, outside of the school fence, is still an issue. AH suggested that with the help of about 6 people with correct tools, it could be easily cleared in a few hours. AH will look into this

KF requested some before and after photographs for RF to put up on the school social sites. JH and AH will forward their photos on for use.

School Oval:

JH has had an email from assets stating that the Council will take over the management of the oval for out of hours use. This will mean that floodlights will be installed and the pitch will be maintained to the standard of the Cromer pitches across the road from school. This is a great asset for the school.

Jon Hanna (JHA) (Deputy Principal)

JHA stated that it was great to be at the P&C meeting and was humbled to be part of Executive having held almost all other roles within the school. He noted that his passion was the Learning Conversations programme that he has been a part of since its inception in 2015. Involving parents in their kid's education is great and they are currently looking at ways to expand this, possibly merging the Learning Conversations with the parent-teacher night. In this way there would be continuums set across each subject for each child – at what has been learnt, what is being worked on, and what the plan is for the future. This could potentially be ready for next year (2022) and would lead onto development of assessment practices and reporting formats.

The aim with the Learning Conversations is to try to talk at least once/year with every single year group. Currently working with year 10 on HSC subject choices. Year 8 will be at the end of this term.

In relation to the parent teacher night, JD wondered if the school would be able to provide more notice for school events such as these to allow for parents to free up time in their work schedule. JH noted this and advised that this should be possible as the dates are set in the school diary at the beginning of the year.

DH complimented the school for the last parent-teacher night, noting how valuable it was to have the full 10' with each teacher.

Treasurer's Report (Matt Soltau):

The current finances as of 31/5/21 are as follows:

Total In Bank	\$149,381.91
Girls Program	\$11,330.29
Band	\$4,731.60
Committed Expenditure	\$45,000.00
Available Funds	\$88,320.02

President's Report (Jackie Reavie):

Year 7 seating:

Now have the 3 quotes needed for the planned work. Unfortunately, not all suppliers could fulfill the full brief so the quotes were not totally comparable.

Of the quotes, Scully could fulfill all components of the brief including installation. They offered us a 5% discount (excl. shade umbrellas) and were the cheapest overall. This quote came in at just under \$60,000.

It was noted that Scully are Sydney based and have previously done a lot of work around the school. All previous work has been of a high standard and has worn well. JH noted that safety standards with the installation were crucial on school grounds and that the Scully representative had demonstrated a thorough knowledge of the work that would be needed to ensure the safety standards were met. He also suggested that the Scully Rep. would likely be able to give their opinion, from previous experience, regarding the colour scheme that we might choose.

The turn-around time for Scully would be approximately 8 weeks. Once the order is confirmed Scully will liaise directly with the GA with regards to installation.

With regards to overall expenditure, JR raised the question on how much to spend and whether we should be spending more at this time to add additional facilities in other areas of the school. JH and MS encouraged not to spend all the money at once so we have some in the bank for unforeseen expenditure.

Vote to agree with Scully Quote: unanimous yes

Signage for front entrance:

JR brought in samples from Peter Reavie for the lettered signage on front entrance. The suggestion is to use a laser cut steel with or without a background colour to highlight the lettering, with or without an overlay of Perspex for protection from vandalism. Discussion ensued about the merits of each option with a general consensus being reached that a Perspex overlay would show scratches very quick but any damage to steel could be buffed out of it. It was agreed that the highlight colour behind the letters made them stand out more, but this also needed to be vandal-proof. AH suggested that a Teflon coating on the background would resolve this issue. He will make some calls regarding the possibility of this. JH will hold the samples up to the wall tomorrow and take photos to help us make a final decision.

Dreamtime Mural:

JR heard back from the artist who was delighted to provide a quote for this work. His quote is \$990-/day all inclusive of materials, insurance etc. He noted that on average, murals take 4-5 days to complete. JR will confirm whether he is happy to involve the kids or not. JH noted that we have a number of Indigenous kids in the school, including the School Captain, and that their involvement should be a priority.

As part of the process, the artist works with local Elders to form a culturally appropriate story for the area. DH suggested that the kids were also involved in forming this story so that it is also relevant to them and what the school means to them.

AH mentioned that his neighbour recently lost their daughter to a brain tumour and wondered if some of her artwork might be included in the mural as both her and her 2 brothers are past students of Cromer. The family has good links to local Elders who could provide input into the local story.

AH will measure and take photos of the suggested wall, behind the flag pole, tomorrow so that they can be provided by JR to the artist for a more accurate quote.

JR will present the idea to the SRC to get their input and ask for their involvement.

JH requested time to consider the correct location for the mural, noting that there is not supposed to be any painting on the school buildings and that as this location is at the front of school, it needs to be considered carefully.

Parking:

A meeting was held, onsite, with the Council Road Safety Officer. At the time of the meeting she agreed that the bus bay would be a good option for this parking area for the additional needs transport. However, the report received back by JR noted that using this area posed a safety risk for the buses and suggested the area just before the bus bay where there is currently 8hr parking for 3 vehicles, be used instead. JH will discuss this further with her.

Other Business

1. Canteen Representative Update (JR on behalf of KP):

A new canteen employee, Nancy, will begin tomorrow.

She has a current WWCC number and a new clear Police Check. She'll be working alongside Tanja and the ladies for the remainder of the week while in training.

Tanja's last day will be this Friday, however she may return next Friday as Nancy will be working without Lisa.

KP is in the process of organising a farewell gift for Tanja to thank her for her 6 years of service to our canteen.

On a side note, JJ noted that during the working bee litter pick, the small soy sauce plastic fish and lids were a significant part of the litter. She suggested the canteen may use a soy sauce jar and also a

large sauce dispenser that remained at the canteen to reduce this issue. JH very supportive of any initiative for sustainability and environmental options for the canteen.

2. Government Grants Update (JJ):

JJ and JR listened to grants information session from a consultant. Although overwhelming in the amount of detail that was recommended and the fact that basically a professional team was needed for successful grant applications, they were hopeful that this was really only applicable for the large grants. Other key points were that that format is similar for each application, that the use of key words/language is vital and the school has a noted record of delivering projects on time, with good value to the local community.

JJ has since compiled a document of all the possible grants. Of interest are a couple of science and sports grants. However, the main grant to apply for this year is probably the Sustainable Schools Grant that was mentioned at the last meeting. JJ has requested more information from the school as to the what is needed by the school so that the grant applications can be put together. JH would love more bins, gardens, composting, horticultural projects and will provide JJ with the names of specific teachers to contact.

3. Return and Earn Project:

Last year the school received approx. \$400 from the return and earn scheme at the Time and Tide. The programme this year is bigger with an Australiawide app that means bottles can be deposited in non-local areas but linked to the Cromer donation site. JR will re-register for this as it needs to be done annually.

4. Fundraising Update:

Friday 29th October is the date that has been given by the golf club. Concern was expressed by JH and JHA with regards to it being on a Friday. In previous years it has always been a Tuesday or Wednesday. JR will go back to golf club and try and change this date to a Tues or Wed.

The Club is yet to provide a formal quote. Once this is received, a 20% deposit will be required 3 weeks before the event.

5. Sports Facilities:

JHU raised the topic of the cricket nets being upgraded. Collaroy Plateau Cricket Club are keen to use the nets and have previously wanted to apply for a community grant. Unfortunately there was insufficient time to put the application together. This could be combined with a school application in future.

JD questioned if lighting improvements in the school Hall would be a grant or school funding issue. JH advised that the hall was also due for the flooring to be redone and that it was mainly a Dept. funding issue that would be a big expense. The school is currently saving the revenue from hall hire to provide padding at the ends of the hall for basketball.

Close:

The meeting was officially closed at 9.20pm

Next Meeting: Monday 19th July 7.30pm