

P&C ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Date: 19/7/21

Venue: Online Zoom Meeting due to COVID lockdown

Attendance: Jackie Reavie (JR), Matt Soltau (MS), James Brisebois, Jenni Davies, Deborah Howard, Jennifer Jones (JJ), Theresa Burgess, Kathie Palamara (KP)

Principal: Justin Hong

Apologies: Aaron Holbrook, Michelle Hoffman, Jocelyn Huxley,

Principal's Report (Justin Hong):

1. We're now in week 2 of online learning. JH sent out an email today to let the community know that the staff and JH are here to support the kids as best they can during this time. They know that some families are doing it tough and so the school is doing it's best to keep the kids engaged and active.

With this being the 2nd lockdown to affect teaching time, the teachers are transitioning quickly to online learning using a lot of the tools set up last time.

In addition, JH has asked the following specific tasks of the teachers to give some certainty and structure to online learning, also to allow the school to assess the engagement of the kids and identify those that need specific help:

- a) To mark a role each lesson
- b) To provide a differentiated learning goal for each lesson
 - a. A must do task (all kids expected to be able to complete this)
 - b. A should do task
 - c. A could do (extension)
- c) To provide some type of assessment each lesson. For example, this may be a piece of work that needs to be handed in or a questionnaire so they can judge what's been achieved by the kids
- d) To check in with the kids. Research data shows that teenagers feel lonely, isolated and anxious during periods of online learning. This daily check-in provides a social connection with both the teacher and classmates

Data that the school has already taken shows that there are only a handful kids who are struggling with online work and not engaging. The school has sent an email to the parents of these kids asking how they can be supported better. JH is hoping the parents will respond to the email. If not, then the school will call them direct. This will be done by either the Deputies or the Learning Support Staff.

At the end of last week JH took a survey of 56 teachers to see how they were handling online learning. A key question was: "how did it go?" The vast majority of responses were either "better than I thought it would be" or "as I thought it would be". When asked "are you pleased with the way the kids are engaging" 41/54 were 'really pleased'. Only 9/54 were not pleased. This tended to occur in the year 9/10 classes and those that were practical based such as PDHPE. The final question was how they felt about teaching online – 48/54 were happy with it, a few asked for more support, and no-one was struggling.

Overall, JH is proud of the teachers and kids for how they're handling this situation and wants to extend that pride, with thanks, to the parents for their support.

2. From tomorrow there will be minimal staff on site – 2 office ladies, 1 deputy principal, Learning Support Teachers, JH during the morning and the cleaners. So far, there has been a maximum of 8 kids on site at once. The Learning Support teachers are supervising them.
3. JH noted that he generally only finds out about any new rules regarding lockdowns or home schooling at the same time as it's announced publicly. He is doing his best to quickly pass on as much information as he knows with the school emails.
4. The school canteen is not open at present due to the very low numbers at school but will reopen as soon as the kids go back to onsite learning
5. HSC trials were supposed to be in week 3, but have been moved to week 5. JH is really hoping this will go ahead as planned as it's such a valuable experience for the kids

Questions:

JR asked how us parents can support the teachers optimally. JH responded with the following:

- Main concern is kids in year 12 and to some extent year 11
- The more junior kids need much more motivating – especially those in year 9 and 10
- Great support is helping kids maintain a routine, helping them to get online, providing food, encouraging outdoor exercise, and minimizing unnecessary screen-time – with the acknowledgement that their main social time is online at present

JH, KP, JJ and JR thanked JH and the teachers for how well the school is handling the online learning.

Treasurer's Report (Matt Soltau):

Net Position at 17/07/21

Balance bought forward	\$149,381.91
Income	\$11, 427.73
Expenditure	\$564.30

Total in Bank **\$160,245.34**

Girls Programme	\$11,330.29
Band	\$4731.60
Committed Expenditure	\$45,000

Available Funds **\$99,183.45**

MS noted that the canteen brought in \$10,000 last term.

He also noted that the bank accounts will be consolidated with Community Bendigo who are a partial sponsor of the school and already manage the building fund.

President's Report (Jackie Reavie):

1. The year 7 furniture has been ordered from Scully who gave an extra 5% discount. The decision was made to go with mainly black base with a timber finish and some orange, together with burgundy shade cloths. The curvy benches will be blue. The order is still on track to be completed in mid-August. Scully will get in touch when it's ready to be installed.

2. JR noted with regret that Donna, our fundraising member, has resigned. This leaves a position open to be filled. JR has spoken with a couple of parents who may be interested in helping and will follow this up, but we, as the rest of the P&C, will need to absorb some of the work ourselves.
3. The Golf Day is now booked for Tuesday 19th October from approx. 3.30pm onwards. JH noted that the club will organize most things. P&C will need to organize the extras – like the events at different holes, sponsorship, raffles etc. There will be a number of volunteers needed for the day to meet and greet, run events at holes etc. It was noted that the main money from the event is made through sponsorship. Last time, bookings and payments were done through a website – possibly TeamApp – MS will look into this.

Overall, JR will liaise with the golf club, and also make a to do list which can then be delegated to volunteers. She also requested JH to send an email to the parents, once the details are finalized, asking for sponsorship and/or raffle prizes.

Other Business

1. Canteen Representative Update (Kathie Palamara)

- a. As the canteen is now closed, the canteen ladies are no longer being paid. However, KP has provided them with the details that they need to apply for Government support. JR recommended that, if it was possible, the P&C top up the remainder of their wages. MS confirmed that this was possible, definitely for the short term. There may also be more Government assistance available to them in the longer term should the lockdown be extended. KP is keeping in close touch with them to ensure that they are ok.
- b. KP is investing whether we can get the merchant fees waived by the bank. Otherwise, apart from the internet, that Telstra is highly unlikely to fee waive, there are no other outgoings.
- c. JH clarified that Lisa can come onto site to sort out perishables and ensure the kitchen stays functional, as long as the QR code is used. He advised that she should call the school first.
- d. Otherwise all small jobs in the canteen have been done and it has been running well.
- e. JR has been in contact with Lisa about plastic waste, including the suggestion of using soy sauce bottles instead of the plastic fish. Lisa advised that, due to no supervision, soy sauce bottles would be too messy. A discussion followed about the environmental issue with the soy sauce plastic fish and vote was taken, with unanimous agreement, that we will do a trial for the rest of the term (assuming that we return to onsite learning) of having no soy sauce option for the sushi. Sales of sushi will be monitored, together with overall canteen takings to see if this has a significant effect. JH acknowledged that the P&C have the school's full backing to get rid of the fish.
- f. Lisa also raised ongoing concerns about the litter the kids are creating. JH acknowledged that this has been an ongoing discussion but no solution had yet been found.
- g. Lisa also noted, when asked about minimizing packaging, that it's too expensive to move to environmental packaging.

2. Government Grants Update (Jenny Jones)

The main grant for this year is the Environmental Grant that was discussed at the last meeting. JJ has emailed Ms Kirkpatrick but hasn't had a reply. She will now aim to set up a meeting with a teacher and SRC reps to figure out a project so that she can then put the application together. The grant would be worth approximately \$1,000 - \$5,000 and will be a good trial application that can then be upscaled for bigger grants next year. Further discussed realized that getting funding for more recycling stations to go out the back of school by the new COLA would be incredibly useful. This will now be the focus on the grant. JR will get a cost on the bins for JJ

3. Projects Update

- a. Signage – waiting for the latest update
- b. Mural – JR went back to the gentleman who did the murals – he’s an ex-teacher so happy to get kids involved and make lessons out of it. JH ran the mural idea by Uncle Neil the local elder who was involved with the flagpole ceremony. He was really happy with this idea. Community questioning also agreed that the location by the flagpoles would be perfect. JH is keen for this to happen this year if possible. JR will follow up.

4. Fundraising Update

Nadine Peacock (NP) is interested in doing a dance fund raiser in August to raise money for costumes and mats. They have got sponsorship and want to sell raffle tickets. NP asked if the P&C would support this event, with help for the sausage sizzle – buying through the canteen. KP confirmed that the canteen is happy to order sausages etc but the details need finalizing with Lisa. The P&C BBQ will be used. JH noted that the preference is to avoid collecting cash on the night, but if possible to do it as a pre-paid event, including food/drinks.

The use of a square reader was discussed as a cheap way of collecting money during an event, thus avoiding the issue of cash on the night. MS agreed that it would a good idea to get one for the Golf Day

Close:

The meeting was officially closed at 9.10pm

Next Meeting: Mon 23/08/21