

MINUTES

Woonona Public School P&C Association General Meeting

Wednesday 9 June 2021 | Chair: Justin Dixon (President)
Location: WPS Staff Room and online via Zoom | Time: 18.30 – 19.50

In Attendance

Justin Dixon (JD), | Terri Toneguzzo (TT) | Janelle Roby (JR) | Sonya Kinsey (SK) | Bronwyn Sedgwick (BS)
| Kristy Smith (KS) | Angelika Wachs | Sarah | Christy | Alison Strinic (AS) | Emma Phillips (EP) | Tim Fisher (TF)

Apologies

Loren Marsh

Acknowledgement of Country

Welcome, Introduction, Apologies and Acknowledgment of Country (JD)

“We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the lands we are meeting on today (the Wodi Wodi people and the Dharawal nation), and pay respect to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, Elders past and present, and their rich and diverse cultures.”

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the 12 May 2021 general meeting were approved by BS.

Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

Strategy for communication of student progress

The preparation of school reports had already commenced since this topic was raised at the last meeting. TF has discussed this with AS, talking through ways to pass on information in a more transparent manner to identify where a child is at and how to move forward. The aim will be to examine this for implementation in Semester 2.

It was agreed this topic will be kept as an agenda item. TF said we can discuss what this might look like for next term at our next meeting or the following one.

AS noted that pre-COVID, the school had stage showcases where parents could see their children's progress and was a way of keeping parents in the loop. This is something worth revisiting with the easing of COVID restrictions. AS also mentioned Seesaw and how it may assist with parents recognising their children's

learning gaps.

It was agreed Seesaw was a useful tool, especially during COVID.

The plan is for Seesaw to be rolled out to all years (currently K-2 only).

Update on STEM, gifted and other school programs

TF said that for each meeting, we had agreed that information about programs being run at the school would be shared. TF explained that EP runs the Student Representative Council (SRC) with Nicole Lambert and TF asked EP to provide an update on the SRC program.

EP outlined that the SRC, once elected for each year, comes together for meetings usually on a weekly basis, with senior students taking a lead role and partnering with the junior students. This is a big commitment from them. Each year, students speak to classes about what they'd like the SRC to do. That information is then brought to the next SRC meeting and tabled. They then nut out what an idea might look like, with a view to developing projects which are managed by the students, including fundraising activities. The ideas are columnised and voted on, with a discussion on what's possible. EP noted that some things the SRC suggest they want can't be done overnight, or is out of the control of the school and is more broadly controlled by the Department of Education (the Dept) and this is part of the learning process for them as well.

The senior SRC students then speak to Tim about the proposals, considering what tasks are involved. For example, they might run a fundraising activity or sporting activity. Then it becomes project time with the fundraising activity of lunchtime activity (as examples).

By this time of year, the juniors in the SRC become more comfortable in being involved.

EP noted there are over 40 students on the SRC spanning the 24 classes in the school.

EP said they have a mural running at the moment and are looking to use visible walls for this. An artist has been contacted and a "fun beach theme" has been decided on. This is to commence in Week 9. Small groups of students will be able to help with the painting.

JD asked if there was any role the P&C could play, including generally, be it with people/labour or financial support, to let us know.

It was noted that the students are enjoying the book boxes. This was something the students enjoyed during the lockdown period of COVID when the outdoor libraries were set up.

P&C Meet & Greet – date reschedule

It was decided the Meet & Greet would be rescheduled after school holidays on one of three proposed possible dates (16 July, 23 July or 30 July). BS to speak to Woonona Bulli RSL and to book in a date.

Update on school bathrooms

TF has followed up with cleaners, soap dispensers being checked frequently. There have been some issues with dispensers due to their incorrect usage at times, but an eye is being kept on this.

TF said the school had a quote for lighting in the bathrooms and they intended to sort this out soon. The Dept have announced they will funding LED lighting through the school, so the school is checking on the timing of this to determine whether the school will replace the lighting or whether to wait for the Dept funded lighting.

JD noted this may not be an increase to light numbers, more so a replacement of existing lights as this is what has occurred in other state funded organisations.

TF noted the urinal in the boy's bathrooms is now automated and confirmed there are currently no broken doors on the cubicles.

Reports

President

JD noted there had been some receipt of correspondence via email which has been communicated to Tim offline; people specific queries such as information re kindy for next year. This is for the school to manage.

TT said a 2022 kindy Facebook group has been set up -with some information provided to them. JD asked whether this information is available on the school website, noting if it isn't, then it is for the school to manage any information gaps.

It was noted that a lot of information is covered at orientation, which will happen around October. We want to avoid having the Facebook group used as a tool for primary information.

JD said we were still looking for things to support; working bee etc. JD asked for the school to bring ideas to us and see what interest there is in helping out.

TF noted the lifting of COVID restrictions, so for semester 2, they were looking at bring things back in.

Principal

TF referred to the recent NAPLAN testing, noting that the feedback is due to come through early Term 3, around next month. It was a huge job to manage, with EP in charge. NAPLAN is done by our school online, which comes with its own challenges such as the technology freezing due to the government website trying to accommodate thousands of users at once. Before it went online, for May testing, results used to not become available until around October which isn't as effective in addressing any learning gaps, which are often addressed already by then (before they are identified by NAPLAN).

TF said we had been busy with the dance festival. Also, lots of wins in sport, with the boys' and girls' soccer teams in the South Coast state wide knock out through to quarter finals. Also doing well in netball and touch football.

TF noted Reconciliation Week last week, with activities arranged including 4-5 posters set up around the school with various activities between the posters. The students really enjoyed this. TF noted the theme this year is "reconciliation is more than a word, it takes action". Bellambi Public School shared some resources for this. TF said that for the last day of this term, the school would be undertaking a NAIDOC celebration.

TF noted there is a focus on trying to improve Aboriginal education.

TF said the Athletics Carnival note went home with students today and that Tuesday of week 10, school reports would be sent home with students.

AS noted the Athletics Carnival is in week 10 on 23rd June, with Declan and Matt largely organising. AS told them she would mention at the meeting tonight in respect of where previously the P&C had put up a shade shelter and water stand at the carnival, and if the P&C would like to and is able to do this for this year, it would be appreciated. The school's marquee can be used and would need to be set up possibly before 9am (with some events starting prior to 9am) until about 3pm, for the conclusion of the carnival. Some P&C committee members mentioned they may be able to assist – to be confirmed.

AS raised the issue of the school uniform, referring to the recent newsletter with observations arising from the recent exec meeting. Some observations have been there has been a decline in uniform standards over the last 12 months, particularly with respect to socks and also use of non-school jackets/jumpers. The school is trying to pick up momentum for correct uniform, by rewarding those in full uniform (as opposed to providing consequences to those not in correct uniform). They are trying to promote this, and are allowing white or grey socks.

TF noted the strictness of Woonona High uniform standards, and that given the large majority of Woonona Public School students will attend Woonona High, we want to prepare students for this high standard.

AS said there have been a lot of lost jumpers around the school recently. Everything with a name on it will be put in the lost property boxes; everything without a name will get washed and kept in the office for a little while and if not claimed, will be donated to the uniform shop.

TF explained that the Sentral app (“Sentral app for parents”) will be broadening to include information about students’ attendance. Some information would be communicated about this in the next few weeks. These updates will allow us to see our children’s attendance and enable parents to report their child’s absence from school. Reports will also be stored on there and past reports are currently being uploaded. Notifications will appear on the app as communications come through. This is expected to be up and running in Term 3.

Treasurer

TT advised still to action new signatories on the P&C bank account and still to close the CBA account.

TT said we had been able to electronically pay for things now, such as the school iPads and year 6 items.

The P&C fundraising report was generated and presented at the meeting.

Uniform Shop

TT said that the hats for donation to new kindy 2022 students have been ordered. Most things are in stock. New sports shorts are due at the beginning of August and new library bags presented at the last meeting have been ordered.

TT discussed the second hand stall which was put up on Facebook. Second hand items are also listed on QuickCliq. People are also still able to email through for uniform orders.

Events

BS said a meeting with TF had been organised for tomorrow to discuss end of year fundraising. Father’s Day items have also started to be purchased. BS said there is an opportunity for some fundraising with elections coming up – something to explore. It was identified that it was a local government election occurring in September.

New Business

No new business.

Other Business

JD asked whether it would be possible to organise a bike week, ride to school day or week, etc.

TF said that some NRMA road safety correspondence just came though and that idea might work well with this. Interest has to be communicated by the school by 18 June. NRMA will allocate a time slot between 23 August and 27 August where they come and talk to all students from K-6. We could make it a road safety week. TF said in the past, they would usually invite kids to bring in their helmets on this day.

TF noted the recent 'walk to school' day made a great difference to drop off and pick up traffic. With the NRMA, JD said with respect to grant apps etc one idea might be to bring in someone to talk to the students about how to maintain their bikes.

TF said they may have more feedback on this for the next meeting.

JD said this could be funded partly by the school and partly by the P&C.

JD asked how the canteen was going. TF said it was going really well and that it brings in about \$10k - \$12k a year to the school for a fee paid by the canteen operators on a monthly basis.

Close and next meeting

Meeting closed at 19.50.

Next meeting: Wednesday 14 July 18.30.