

Wahroonga Public School P&C Association General Meeting

Monday 18th February, 2019 in the Staff room

1. Acknowledgment of country, welcome all attendees and President's address

Present: JG, GG, DM, KT, NS, AB, BC, MF, KC, TC, AH, LR, IVL, SG, CF, AM, HG, EK, RL, JL, AB, HL. RL opened the meeting at 7.35pm.

2. Apologies – JG, VH, AS, MF.

3. Previous Minutes

General Meeting held 3rd December, 2018

Accepted as a true and accurate reflection. Proposed: AM Seconded: KT

4. President's report

Audit report recommendations done. Discussion around additional funds for amphitheater seating, AM commented that the P&C would like to pay as little as possible of the difference. General agreement that the P&C would look to fund the gap to ensure the project proceeds.

5. Principal's report

Welcome to the members of the P&C Committee, Wahroonga Public school is very fortunate to have a group of people who are committed to improving the school for the benefit of the students. Thank you in advance for the social support you provide to the school community and all you offer that improves the learning environment for the students in the school.

If anyone is interested in being an ethics Coordinator or being an Ethics teacher please contact Louise Ord.

I would like to ask the P&C permission to reallocate the Staff Development Days on Thursday 19 and Friday 20 December.

Vote: Unanimous

CLASSES 2019: This year we have almost 700 students, 27 classes and 1 MC class.

2019 SCHOOL PLAN: Strategic Direction 1-Curriculum and Assessment; Strategic Direction 2-Effective Classroom Practice, Data Skills and Use; Strategic Direction 3-Well Being

This 2019 School plan builds upon previous work on grammar, punctuation and fractions. This week the teachers will complete Professional Development on fractions by Anita Chin (Mathematics consultant). An instructional leader will be used to further develop teachers' skills in reading (shared, guided and independent reading practices) and mathematics, this was highly successful in 2018. Students will continue to develop and reflect on goals in these focus areas.

The 2019 new focus will be on wellbeing and reading. The school would like to purchase new home reading books looking at a range of books including literature which is of high interest to boys. New books have not been added to the Kindergarten and Stage 1 Home Reading Scheme for the last 20 years. There are no Home readers for Stage 2 or Stage 3. Class libraries need to be evaluated and updated. The school would like to ask the P&C to donate money to provide books for home reading for Kindergarten to Year 4 classes. Approximate cost will be \$30,000 to supply new readers for all year levels. Discussion around fundraising initiatives to support the purchase of readers. Kris Graham conducted surveys about reading with parents, students and staff. The

teachers will participate in professional development on reading through webinars and discussions at a stage level and through one to one work with Kris Graham to improve specific pedagogy.

In 2019 the school will also be focusing on wellbeing. Dr Kirsty Goodwin will be conducting a Parent Seminar on Raising Your Child in the Digital World (Tuesday 12 March 6:30 – 8:30pm). Bookings can be made through <https://www.schoolinterviews.com.au/> Booking code 4EKNQ COST: \$10 cash per person, to be collected on the night. (No EFT/credit cards.)

The school started the year off with Wellbeing Weeks for the first 2 weeks of the year. Staff were given a range of lessons to complete with students to enhance wellbeing and to help settle students at the start of the year. A wellbeing toolkit was provided for each class. New furniture was purchased for Year 3 classrooms to facilitate flexible learning spaces. Year 3 parents at the Parent Information evening were given information about flexible learning and open classrooms in line with department of Education future focused learning initiatives.

Ian Jukes (21st century skills researcher) will present professional development for the teachers in the network of schools to develop strategies to improve students' critical thinking and collaboration skills. The process of implementing the new Science Syllabus and new Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Syllabus will begin in 2019.

ASSETS UPDATE

Sportsfield: The sportsfield should be finished by early March. The existing long jump pit was made wider and extended. The work was delayed due to a gas leak, which has now been fixed.

Fences and Gates: Fences and gates will soon be fully functional. The gates will be open before and after school but the only access gate for entry during the school day will be Gate B, the boardwalk entry. This will increase safety and security for the students. Please note: parents are not permitted to drive on school driveways. Parents or students with a mobility disability will need to provide the school office with a copy of an RMS disability sticker to receive permission to access the driveways. HG commented on extending the fence to enclose after school care, CF commented that the DoE focuses on keeping kids safe during school hours, not after school but LR and CF will look into separate fencing options for after school. NS asked why we can't have self closing gates (like pool gates to allow easy access). CF commented that DoE sets the rules for children's safety.

Pool pump room upgrade: Work started on the pump room last year and will be completed soon. It is being upgraded to be in line with Department of Health standards. The initial work will cost \$4250. New testing equipment was purchased at a cost approximately \$1000. There are no Department of Education funds allocated to pool maintenance. Please can the P&C consider paying for a new chemical monitoring system as the current system will need to be replaced in the next two years? It costs approximately \$7000. The overall system that monitors the heating and the equipment in the pool pump room will need upgrading eventually and could cost \$25 000.

The pool is heated by gas (approximately \$17 000 per year), the school should investigate solar heating for the pool in the future as it may be more cost effective over time. The gas heating could be used only as back up on a cloudy day.

Ku-ring-gai Grant: A quote came back for \$80 000 for the upgrade of the amphitheater, we've since had another quote which will be approximately \$58 600 which will include replacing the wooden seats with aluminium seats which do not require maintenance. The grant will pay for \$40 000. The scope of works is being written and should be tendered soon. We will be able to write a completion report for Ku-ring-gai Council by 31st March.

K Block: A classroom in K block has been turned into a TLC room, where children have a number of activities that help regulate their emotions with support from a Learning Support Teacher or Student Learning Support Officer.

F Block: The building will be levelled, then repaired and painted. The wire at the bottom of the building will be removed and it will be replaced with wooden slats.

Three buildings will have new roofing, a number of rooms will be re-carpeted and 5 will be painted and repaired.

Mini Mulch: As a part of (area near the tennis courts) to be redesigned to include a yarning circle, low ropes, nature play, construction and team building with natural materials and footpath to access. Artify and ERC will be involved. We might need a working bee to support the construction. The completion of the sportsfield will include levelling the ground in the mini mulch area and covering it in mulch.

PERFORMING ARTS UPDATE:

The Wahroonga Public School students are very fortunate to have:

Band: The Band program is off to a great start:

Recorder Groups: currently receiving registrations.

Beginner Band: conducted by Tim Ferrier with 90 Year 3 students. They had their first rehearsal with the whole band on Friday. It was very exciting! The Year 6 students supported the younger students by putting instruments together.

Junior Band: conducted by Barrie Gott with 50 students

Intermediate Band: conducted by Rebecca Heather with 35 students.

Concert Band: conducted by Camilla Bellstedt with 35 students.

Dance: Students will try out during Weeks 3 and 4 for the Intermediate and Senior Dance Groups.

Ruby Kerr is the Dance Coordinator.

Choir: Students have tried out for Choir and 3 choirs have been formed. The Junior Choir for Year 2, Intermediate Choir for Years 3 and 4 and the Senior Choir for Years 5 and 6. They look forward to participating in a number of events this year.

6. Treasurer's report

Budget for term 1 presented. Audit will be sent to auditors in the next 2-3 weeks and we will have an idea after then when we can present the accounts for the membership and announce the date for the AGM.

RL and SG signed document confirming bank account access.

Vote: budget for term one unanimously passed.

7. Uniform Shop Committee

The Uniform Shop opened successfully before the Kindy play in the park and the first four days of Term to take advantage of the Kindergarten Best Start appointment system and provide extra service to the community for the start of school. There was a high volume of customers and Flexi school orders. Many thanks to the handful of volunteers that supported me over that period and the community for its patience with my first Start of year.

New shop hours are being trialed, now open two full days, Tuesdays and Fridays: 8:30 to 11am and 2:30 to 3:45pm. In the intervening hours, HG will get to do shop admin with the door closed.. Flexischools has been updated to reflect the new hours and order deadlines for those days. Flexischools orders are emailed to HG after 5pm each day. Orders placed any day after 5pm, won't be sent to me until the next day after 5pm. Logging in to check orders on their website in advance is not always possible and if too many customers are waiting, HG doesn't inconvenience them by even trying. That's not a rule, just a courtesy I keep in mind when the shop is full.

Current Priorities

- Overdue monthly accounts for the Pre-AGM audit as well as the audit and queries.
- Review inventory levels for 2019 winter.
- investigating Spartan supply contract. This would guarantee prices, eliminate bulk deliveries and store at least 50% of our inventory volume until needed.
- Finish shop equipment upgrade, shelf space lost to cookbooks. so more shelving needed. Second hand donations thriving so well that single height hanging space needs doubling to hang the mountain of donations and allow people to make selections.
- Review the contract hours for the Uniform Shop Manager. Original contract has proved insufficient for current level of service provision to the 700 families in the school and to balance often less than optimal volunteer numbers.

Inventory Update

- Year 6 Jerseys – awaiting 2019 order
- Sports socks: The socks with 3 colour school stripes have a long order cycle (12 - 16 weeks). Off the shelf sports socks with two green stripes are available as an alternative. These are almost immediate delivery and will allow us to order custom school colour striped socks for summer 2019/2020.
- length of new style sports tops has been revised, shorter cut now in stock and being sold on request for shorter children.
- Vests have been hugely popular, 2 sizes out of stock, new order made with additional sizes for seniors, expected mid term 1.
- Girls winter trousers re-ordered, supplier has extended sizing to include 3 larger sizes not available last year, expected to now fit almost all seniors this year. Delivery depending, very long custom order lead time.

Upcoming Priorities

- Stocktake and assessment of POS.
- Analyse the 2018 Term 4 and 2019 Term 1 sales to determine the best opening hours for the 2020 Kindy intake.
- Look at the 2020 Year 6 jersey design.
- Review new Uniform Shop Hours and admin duties for sustainability.
- Additional software for inventory management, finances and supply. Trial of Xero in parallel with older system.

Discussion around air conditioning the Uniform Shop as it is so hot during summer terms. CF to investigate options and cost.

8. Events and Fundraising Committee

NS has kindly agreed to share the role of Social Committee Coordinator with KT as she is planning to be away for 4 months during this school year. We are hoping to turn the Social Committee in a larger group with parents keen to volunteer at various social events & perhaps even organise an event! The call for volunteers in last week's newsletter has already given us 3 new 'members'.

Tea's and Tissues > 04/02/19 9:15-10:30

A smooth start of the new school year with a successful tea's and tissues. Year 1 parents provided a nice selection of cakes and cookies, tea's and coffees were provided by the P&C. Good turnout of P&C volunteers to welcome the new Kindy families.

Breakfast BBQ > 15/02/19: Well attended, great feedback from all that attended!

Cookbook: On sale since the 3rd of December. Update on sales & which sponsors still need to be acknowledged. We need a new Certificate of Appreciation, anyone with graphic design skills?

Spring Fair 07/09/2019

We are delighted that we have 2 parents have taken on the role of Spring Fair Coordinators! A Spring Fair subcommittee needs to be formed & budget approved ASAP so the Spring Fair committee can start booking the essentials for a successful event.

Vote: Unanimous vote to approve \$25000 working budget for the Spring Fair

Suggestions for 2019:

Term 1, 2019

- Swim Carnival 20/02/19 > budget, times for canteen, volunteers?
- School disco 22/03/19 > update, need to approve a budget, dj booked, event will be organised by Christine LoebI
- Election day 23/03/19 > sausage sizzle/ cake stall/ cookbook sale? Budget & Volunteers
- P&C meeting week 8, date?

Term 2, 2019

- Film night?
- Term 2 BBQ > Friday 10/05
- Mother's Day stall > a volunteer to organise presents!

Term 3, 2019

- Athletics carnival canteen 31/07
- Term 3 BBQ – Friday 02/08?
- Father's Day Stall 29/08
- Spring Fair! 07/09

Term 4, 2019

- Fun run? (first day of Term 4?)
- Halloween event? Movie night?

Term 4 BBQ

- Tea towels December > sell as Christmas presents?

9. Correspondence

Nil

10. General matters

JL mentioned community grants that the school may be interested in. CF and JL to discuss further.

SG presented dates for future P&C meetings. All agreed better to set the dates up front to allow for people to allocate time to attend. Dates approved for publishing.

Meeting closed at 9:13pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 27th March 9:30am