

## **Cammeray Public School P&C Association Meeting Minutes – 21 October 2009, 7.30 pm**

**Attendance:** P&C 2009 Executive - Evan Predavec, Nadine Foley, Ian Davies, Bruce Tulloch, Ben Escudero, Donna McNatty, Ingmar Taylor

Teaching Body – Pam Crawley, Tim Witney

Members of the school community – see attachment

### **1. Apologies**

Geraldine Mack, Karen Pearson, Jan Scott, Pamela Moore, David R

### **2. Acceptance of Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted. (Mover: Donna, Seconded: Nigel)

### **3. Social Events**

#### ***3.1 Spring Fair***

The Spring Fair was declared a success; it was a great celebration of community and the children enjoyed themselves. Attendance was up on last year and it was determined that it has only cost the P&C \$30.80. However, there is more money to come in and a small profit is eventually expected. Any profit will be put towards the cost of the next community event.

It was suggested that we consider hiring an additional coffee cart at future events to reduce the waiting time. A cost/benefit analysis would need to be undertaken to establish viability.

#### ***3.2 Camping***

300 people have registered for the camp at Cockatoo Island. As insurance cover could not be obtained for the treasure hunt and food, the P&C is no longer running the event and individuals are now responsible for bringing their own food.

### **4. Road Safety**

The RTA has formally rejected our request to install a right turn arrow from Palmer Street northbound onto Miller Street. Surveys undertaken by the RTA considered that the volume of pedestrian traffic at the intersection of Miller and Palmer Streets are not high and therefore does not pose a significant safety risk.

### **5. Building Works**

The \$200k that we obtained for Zone 4 is part of the National School Pride money in Phase I and needs to be spent by December 2009. The work is to be managed by Spotless but we have had no indication as to when the project will commence. The meeting was concerned that the money could be withdrawn if the timescales do not fit the original deadlines laid down. Pam will investigate to ensure that this money will not be withdrawn if the work is not completed within the deadline as the project is out of our direct control.

Development of the new classroom building on Zone 3 is expected to commence during the summer holiday period. Bovis Lendlease have appointed a Site Manager and are progressing the project.

The new toilets will be completed by the beginning of Term 1 2010.

6. **Stationery Purchasing for 2010**

Planning for this is in progress and Pam will report progress at the next meeting.

7. **Interactive Whiteboards**

The 30 day trial of the '2-Touch' interactive whiteboard is due to start on 26 October. DET is currently undergoing its own evaluation of this product but we have no indication as to when their evaluation will be completed.

Whilst the capability of the boards implemented and their price are important, the meeting agreed that our aim should be to have an interactive whiteboard up and running in every classroom by the start of Term 1 2010.

A further report will be presented at the next meeting with a view to making a final decision on which interactive whiteboard to order and how many.

8. **Parent Feedback Survey**

**8.1 Proposed Ethics Program**

A parent has raised the issue of the Ethics Program trial being run by St Jame's Ethics Centre and has asked the P&C to survey the views of school parents with a view to Cammeray Public School taking part in the trial. It is proposed that the ethics lesson would be an option in the current Scripture Program.

The meeting recognised that this is a divisive subject at CPS and discussion should only be entered into if we are empowered to make changes. As it stands, the school and the P&C have no authority to provide an Ethics program at the school, regardless of the views of parents. A decision was made, therefore, to provide parents with a summary of the issue and details of how to take action as a parent.

A review of this issue will be made if a change of policy is announced in the future.

**8.2 General Survey**

As we are now in Term 4, it is considered an appropriate time to evaluate how the school is traveling and if there are any areas open for improvement. Suggestions for topics to be included in the survey are class sizes, homework, speak-offs, fundraising, community events, sport, the band and the canteen. Janet Morgan has kindly offered to write the survey once the question areas have been established.

9. **On-line Newsletters**

The efforts of the office staff, in particular Anna, in co-ordinating the electronic distribution of the newsletter was formally recognised at the meeting.

10. **Band News**

Sandy Hall, Treasurer of the Band Committee, discussed the Band Program at Cammeray and explained how it works.

There was a discussion surrounding the need for additional financial assistance for the Band Program in order for new instruments to be purchased. These instruments are then hired out to students at a lower than market rate with a view to making it more financially viable for members of the Junior Band to try it for a year.

Fundraising attempts by the Band have been largely unsuccessful to date given the effort involved. A nominal increase in band fees may be an option but the question of whether the P&C could contribute funds for the purpose was discussed. The general feeling of the meeting was that the Band represents the school and should be supported by the school and the P&C.

A formal proposal will be prepared on what funding is required by the Band which will be considered at a future meeting. Nadine and Sandy will progress.

#### 11. **School Council**

Nigel Fortescue, President of the School Council, summarised the new constitution and informed the meeting that the election for members of the School Council for 2010 would be held after the P&C AGM next month. The School Principal and the President of the P&C sit on the School Council. They will be joined by the 3 parents and 3 staff elected next month.

Pam Crawley presented the draft Student Welfare Policy. The framework was distributed to the meeting and feedback on the policy was invited by those present. Once the policy is finalised, an abridged version will be made available via the school newsletter and the complete policy will be available on the school website.

#### 12. **NAPLAN Results**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

#### 13. **Principal's Report**

A report was presented by Pam Crawley.

#### 14. **Treasurer's Report**

As at the end of September, the General Fund stands at \$60k and the Building Fund stands at \$14k. Since then, \$14k has been spent on uniform stock and \$600 has been authorised for the Spring Fair.

Meeting closed: 9.00pm

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday 18 November at 7.30pm in the Staffroom