

**Cammeray Public School P&C Association
Meeting Minutes – 17 March 2010 7.30pm**

Minutes

Attendance:

P&C Executive - Nadine Foley, Ian Davis, Simone Spitznagel, Bruce Tulloch, Donna McNatty, Karen Pearson, Geraldine Mack, Jenny Riseborough, John Goumas.

Teaching Body - Pam Crawley, Jan Scott, Tim Whitney, Alexandra Ball

Members of the School Community - See attached

Apologies - Melissa Nyholm, Geraldine Mack, Ben Escudero

1. Acceptance of Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.
(Mover: Bruce Tulloch, Seconded: Evan Predavec)

2. Welcome Back BBQ

All sausages were sold and the BBQ made a profit of over \$600. Thank you to all of the volunteers and also to Hudsons Meat for their support. Consider sending a letter of thanks to Hudson's either from the school or the P&C.

3. Zone 4 Opening

The opening celebrations continued despite the foul weather. It is recommended that a football match be adopted as an annual inclusion at all future Welcome Back BBQ's.

4. Cockatoo Island Camping

Scheduled for 30 October and the entire island has been booked. Information on the event has been uploaded on the P&C website and will be included in the school newsletter. Early bookings are required. Request was made and approved for funds up to \$100 for the preparation of signage advertising the event.

5. Fund raising update

Of the 740 students enrolled at CPS, 389 have paid their semester fees and of those students, 339 have made a P&C contribution. This equates to an 87% participation rate with an average \$190

contributed. The total in the P&C general account stands at \$65,000.

6. Building Works Update

A special taskforce within The Department of Planning have taken over the approval process of building works from Council and in turn have held up the progress of works at the school. The school's contact at the Department has indicated that they will look at Cammeray this week.

7. Uniform Shop News

A 2nd hand uniform sale was held at the Welcome Back BBQ and sold \$830 worth of clothing. The store is still managing to open 3 times a week thanks to parent volunteers. On-line orders are picking up.

8. Environment Committee Report

The working bee was a huge success. Given the support from the school community, what was originally estimated to be two full days work, this project was completed by 2pm on the 1st day. Eight new garden beds have been installed.

Special mention was made of staff members Mr Land, Mr Smith as well as Mrs Stephenson who were on-site to help parents with the working bee.

9. Traffic Concerns

Work with Council to establish what viable options are available. Prepare a note for school families outlining these options along with a voting form. A progress report will be prepared for the next P&C. John Goumas will assist with the coordination of this.

It was proposed that in addition to including the information letter and voting form in the school newsletter and on the P&C website, it should be handed out to people dropping off and pick up children one morning and afternoon so that all relevant families are given an opportunity to provide their views.

10. Ball Games/Morning Congestion

Given the reduced space in Zone 1, it has been requested by some individuals that ball games on Zone 1 be either restricted or relocated to another area of a morning.

It was noted that from 8.45 in the morning, the playground is supervised by staff and children are entitled to play in what is a

designated “play ground”. As a parent community, we need to be conscious that it is a school and therefore principally for the benefit of the kids.

Despite this, staff will discuss this issue and if necessary put a note in the newsletter about what might be done to help ease congestion – this might involve relocating class congregation areas to the perimeter of the school.

11. Band Report

Performed at the Welcome Back BBQ.
Have been invited to play at a North Sydney Bears game.
Senior and Junior band camps are in the final planning stage.
The Concert Band will be preparing a video to showcase their talent with a view to participate in some larger, more prestigious competitions.

12. School Council Report

A 2nd meeting has been held with the minutes now uploaded on the schools website. Bullying remains the main focus of the Council with the development of a process of tracking bullying incidents so that if any patterns develop they can be identified and addressed.

Next meeting will discuss views on homework. Parent’s views on this topic have been invited and responses can be placed into the P&C box.

13. Treasurer’s Report

Building Fund remains at \$14,000
P&C General Fund \$70,000
\$5,000 has been spent on uniforms, band insurance and band bags.

In recognition of the staff’s dedication at CPS, it was decided that profits raised from the annual Welcome Back BBQ’s will be allocated for use by staff. These funds will be used for staffroom provisions including tea, coffee, biscuits, etc. and any other items the staffing body deem appropriate.

14. Principal’s Report

Harmony Day celebrations are being coordinated. Over 26% of students at CPS have English as Second Language. Last year, Alison Walkers efforts with coordinating the Harmony Day program were held up as “best practice” by the Department of Education. Parents have been invited to present their backgrounds, experiences and cultures to the school community.

CPS has been reclassified from Primary School P2 to P1. As a result, the school is entitled to a second Deputy Principal (a teaching role) as well as extra funding. The school is now adopting an extremely strict policy about enrolments. If a student is from "out of area" they are no longer able to apply for a position. Boundaries have been reviewed and have contracted slightly.

Nanyima, continues to struggle to fulfill requests for additional places. They have approached the local Church about the possibility of utilising their space however it was indicated that alternate plans are earmarked for the area and therefore it is not feasible. Sharon is liaising with Council to understand what options might be available.

35-38 kids remain on the waitlist.

Looking at a playground plan. The Working Bee has created extra play area. Plan the area around Frog Hollow. Keep swampland but maybe include a walkway. A specialist will be brought in.

\$5,000 worth of grass was laid behind demountables down towards Zone 4. Maybe utilize the money from the Year 6 trust fund for the development of a new play area quiet zone. Quotes are being sort for landscaping around the rock area. The Environmental Committee is looking at Zone 4's long term planning including sustainability issue.

Linked with student's nutritional education at school, are the planting of edible gardens. Kathryn and Melissa from the canteen are on a steering committee exploring healthy food options for the school.

15. Technology update

Regional representatives have been to the school. Given the technology provisions within the school i.e. the whiteboard and size of the school they have estimated that an annual budget of \$25,000 for maintenance and replacement would be appropriate.

A discussion was held about how we might more effectively utilise the external IT consultant who is on-site once a week.

16. Correspondence

Questions have been asked about the schools Support Teacher Learning Assistance (STLA) and Gifted and Talented Students (GATS) program. For the STLA and GATS programs - how are these children identified and how is the funding allocated?

For the STLA program:

The Department funds ½ day a week.

This allocation is based on school results and because school results are strong we are awarded only the ½ day.

The School funds another ½ day and the P&C funds a further 2 days.

We employ a teacher Sally Ericson with Jan Scott supervising this program. Children who are part of the support program work both within the classroom and are drawn out of group. For Semester 1 of 2010, Years 1, 2, 3 & 4 have received this assistance.

Multilit program is run by volunteers.

GATS program:

2 days a week is funded by the P&C. This program works both within the class as well as within separately withdrawn classes across Years 1, 2 and 4. Children who are selected for inclusion in this program are identified through external test results and class results. It is felt that the results from testing held by the University of NSW results are more relevant than NAPLAN.

The GATS program is funded wholly by the P&C.

Lexia Learning might be introduced to highlight gaps in reading ability.

17. Any Other Business

The Spring Fair will be held in Term 3. Current dates proposed include 12 and 19 September.

A formal thank you was extended to the individuals involved in supporting the school across items such as the uniform shop, welcome back BBQ's, etc.

Next meeting - 19 May 2010 at 7.30pm in the Staff Room

The meeting closed at 9.00