



Denison College

Bathurst High Campus P&C Association



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held 6th March 2013

Attendance: Sandra Hamer, Vickie Osborne, Darlene Macri, Mandi Irwin, Jenny Arthur, Gillian McNarey, Trevor Liu, Geoff Hastings, Sarah Veilande, John Browett, Melanie Baines, Wendy Inwood, Leanne Jones, Robyn Jonassen, Linda Ralls, Carol Neary, Margaret Sewell and Lyndall Ross (minutes)

Apologies: Craig Petersen, Rachel Bailey, Jenny Stirling, Penny Packham, Bev Nancarrow

Meeting Opened: 7.35pm

Acceptance of AGM Minutes of 2012:

Moved by: Carol Neary Seconded by: Melanie Baines Carried: Unanimously

Presidents Report:

- As tabled by Carol Neary

It is purely coincidental that the AGM for the Bathurst High Campus P&C Association should fall on the day designated by the Federation of P&C Associations as National P&C Day. Nonetheless it gives us a chance to look back and reflect on the role that the P&C Association plays at the Bathurst High Campus of Denison College.

Not too many years ago the P&C was viewed largely as a fundraising body which operated the canteen and carried out various other fundraising activities. Our changing society where parents and carers seem to have less and less free time has meant that many of these activities were no longer feasible. This however did not mean that the P&C became redundant; rather it forced a change of focus for the group. The change happened to coincide with a requirement for a more consultative approach between the Department of Education and students, parents and the wider community, although I am happy to say that this approach was already the norm at BHC. Thus the primary role of the P&C has shifted to become the representative consultative group for the principals and staff of BHC. I feel, and I hope that Geoff feels the same, that we have adapted well to this role. There are a number of us here tonight, whose children are now in year 12, who came along to our first P&C meeting five years ago. To say it was a little scary would be an understatement: tension was high and discussion was heated. We wondered what we had let ourselves in for. I hope and believe that we have come a long way since then. Discussions now are open and frank and it is heartening to note that there were occasions in the last twelve months where we said "no" or "sorry but something is not working". This is a good thing as it demonstrates the respect and trust that has developed between the P&C and Geoff and his staff.

Of course most of the time we didn't say "no" and in 2012 we were able to contribute in many positive ways. A major achievement was the appointment of the school welfare officer through the Chaplaincy program. This involved a ground-breaking partnership with Headspace which is proving successful.

More of our members were trained and took part in the merit selection process for the appointment of new staff. I'm sure anyone who has the chance to be involved in this vital example of the consultative approach would agree that it is an enlightening and very worthwhile experience.

Once again we combined our efforts with staff to hold our annual Trivia Night. The night is now entrenched as a BHC tradition and is always great fun whilst raising a few more dollars. We also managed to squeeze in one sausage sizzle at Bunnings!

The P&C was once again represented on the finance committee and consulted on how to spend funds raised by the canteen and uniform shops.

Our meetings continued to be one of the best places to find out the things that teenagers don't tell you about school and when I talk about P&C to new parents this is one aspect I always stress.

Of course no review of 2012 would be complete without mentioning the Nobel Prize of the P&C Association – funding for the gymnasium. The time was right, the political climate was right and we were the fortunate ones who were in the box seat at the time of the announcement. We gratefully acknowledge our predecessors whose combined efforts over a period of nearly two decades resulted in achieving this goal in 2012. It is a testament to the power of the P&C working for and with our school. We wanted it, we needed it and in 2012 we finally got it!

As always at this time I would like to thank Geoff and his staff for working with us and for all the efforts above and beyond that they do for our kids. I thank Craig for his continued work to grow and improve our unique Denison College model and for allowing us to be part of this adventure.

My fellow executive members have once again supported me more than ably in 2012. Lyndall and Wendy have continued to be models of efficiency when it comes to the minutes and managing the money and I am very grateful for their support. I thank also Trevor and John for being ready and waiting should they be needed to step in. There are members who have served on the finance committee, merit selection panels and committees for grad ball and trivia night and I thank you all for giving up your precious time. Most importantly I thank all of you who turn out month after month for our regular meetings as without you all there wouldn't be a P&C.

Treasurers Report:

- Wendy Inwood advised that all financial information is continuing to be gathered and reported in the P&C General Meetings.
- An independent audit and financial review of the P&C finances will take place by the appointed bookkeeper.

Principals Report:

- Geoff Hastings referred members to the Annual School Report for a summary of happenings over the last year.
- Geoff thanked the P&C for their efforts throughout 2012. He particularly noted the benefits of having an active executive and an interested group of parents to provide a sounding board for happenings at the school.
- Other matters deferred to the P&C General Meeting.

Denison College Principals Report:

- Craig Petersen echoed the sentiments of Geoff Hastings and thanked the P&C for their interest in the continued development of Denison College.
- Other matters deferred to the P&C General Meeting.

Election of Office Bearers for 2013:

All positions were declared vacant by the Returning Officer, Geoff Hastings. Elected were:

- **President:** Carol Neary
Nominated by: Wendy Inwood Seconded: Melanie Baines Carried Unanimously
- **Senior Vice President:** Trevor Liu
Nominated by: John Browett Seconded: Sarah Veilande Carried Unanimously
- **Junior Vice President:** John Browett
Nominated by: Wendy Inwood Seconded: Melanie Baines Carried Unanimously
- **Treasurer:** Wendy Inwood
Nominated by: Lyndall Ross Seconded: Mandi Irwin Carried Unanimously
- **Secretary:** Lyndall Ross
Nominated by: Trevor Liu Seconded: Melanie Baines Carried Unanimously
- **Auditor:** Jo Bright
MOTION: P&C will engage Jo Bright to complete an independent review of the P&C finances
Moved: Wendy Inwood Seconded: Gillian McNarey Carried Unanimously
- **Patrons:** Trent Copeland, Barbara Anderson, Paul Toole

ACTIONS:

1. *Carol to write to the nominated patrons to confirm that they are willing to fulfil the role of patron.*
2. *P&C to monitor for events that Patrons could be invited to.*
3. *P&C to include other people on to the list of Patrons as deemed appropriate.*

Meeting closed: 7.55pm