



Bathurst High Campus P&C Association



Minutes of the General Meeting held 5th September 2012

Attendance: Sarah Veilande, Melanie Baines, Vickie Osborne, Jenny Arthur, Mandy Irwin, Darlene Macri, Carol Neary, Wendy Inwood, John Browett, Robyn Jonassen, Geoff Hastings, Trevor Liu, Gaye Dunshea and Lyndall Ross (minutes)

Apologies: Sandra Hamer, Gillian McNarey, Margaret Sewell, Craig Petersen, and Manuela Giovenco

Meeting Opened: 7.30pm

Special Business: The School Counsellor, Stacey Stafford and Sarah gave information about what self harming behaviours are seen in teenage populations and some of the research that is occurring (including by PhD student Madeline Wishart). There was particular discussion that self harming behaviour should not be seen as attention seeking behaviour. It was stressed that self harm occurs across a range of students and backgrounds.

Stacey also outlined the development of the schools policy regarding self harming behaviour.

Acceptance of the June Minutes:

The June Minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Wendy Inwood Seconded: Carol Neary Carried unanimously

Business Arising:

- Swimming and athletics carnivals – there remain pros and cons for continuing the traditional format of the carnivals vs trying something new. There has been poorer attendance at the swimming carnival since stricter Dept guidelines have been in place that limit free swimming and novelty type events. All present thought that it would be good to enhance House competitions and have more recognition of achievements (e.g. winning House receiving trophy as a part of Presentation Day). Ideas for other inter House competitions included dance, music and debating.

ACTION: *Geoff to ask the new leadership team to develop and foster ideas*

- Revenue and priorities for school spending.
 - After the finance committee meeting the favoured project to direct finances to was investigating the feasibility of and obtaining a bore for water, particularly to water and maintain the oval and gardens. Other items discussed included Dell data projectors.
 - Discussion about water sources included: bore water is not free – it is still metered and charged. There would need to be electricity costs factored in to run pumps etc. Some people wondered if it would be more cost effective to look at tank or storm water harvesting systems.
 - The P&C Treasurer, Wendy Inwood, outlined the financial situation and indicated that P&C could contribute up to \$20000 from our interest bearing account.

MOTION: The P&C will contribute up to \$20 000 to jointly fund a project with the school. The P&C agree in principle to a project of harnessing water but recommend that a range of options be investigated and quotes sought from relevant businesses and presented to the November P&C meeting for a final decision to be made.

Moved: Carol Seconded: Melanie Carried: Unanimously

ACTION: *Geoff to obtain further information and quotes to present at the November P&C meeting*

- Election process for school leaders. Geoff reported that voting for the school and vice captains was conducted as a preferential / cascading system this year rather than by separate votes. This seems to have gone smoothly. This year the Leadership team will be announced at the same time as the captains.
- School Chaplaincy. The three year program and liaison with Headspace has been confirmed. The program will commence as soon as the Federal funding is made available.
- Girls uniform – skirt. Mandi advised that Daylight can supply a suitable knee length skirt for approximately \$38. Supply will initially be offered to the Leadership team and then opened up to other students.
- Jungle Drums. Everyone agreed that this production was fabulous – a great school effort. Staff are to be thanked for taking on this extra workload so willingly.
- Parent access to daily notices. Geoff reported that the main difficulty in giving parents access to the daily notices via the parent portal is that children are named / identified in some messages.

Correspondence:

- **In:**
 - P&C Journal
- **Out**
 - Sponsorship to the Royal Far West Childrens Service
 - Emails re Bunnings BBQ

Presidents Report:

- As presented by Carol Neary:

We have had a long break since our last meeting owing to the very busy start of this term. This busy start included the staging of the schools production of 'Jungle Drums' and on behalf of the P&C I would like to congratulate the students and staff involved on what I understand was an outstanding show.

Swing Factor also performed in Sydney recently to great acclaim and several of our senior students have also been recognised for achievements in areas such as science and photography. No doubt we have had sporting achievements as well and I would like to congratulate all these students on their success.

The inaugural Probus Denison College debating workshop was also a great success and the prizes of chocolates were much appreciated.

Thanks to Bev and Wendy for their work with the finance committee. Thank you also to all the people who put up their hands to act as panel members on Merit Selection Panels to fill staff vacancies. It is great that so many people wanted to be involved and to have some more people trained in the process.

Thank you to all those who assisted with our Bunnings BBQ. The weather could have been worse, although the multi-tasking skills necessary to make change whilst holding onto the canvas awning in high wind were a little beyond me. Thank you in particular to Wendy for putting the event together.

As we approach the end of term we would like to wish all our students participating in the Bathurst Eisteddfod good luck.

As this is likely to be our last meeting before HSC exams I would like to take this opportunity to wish all our Year 12 students the best of luck in their exams and for their future, whatever direction it may lead them. I hope that they will look back on their time at Bathurst High not only with fond memories but with pride.

Lastly, I would like to remind all our members to ‘never let a chance go by!’ At a recent primary schools PSSA District Athletics carnival I was asked by two different parents what I thought of Bathurst High and Denison College. Needless to say I gave them my best sales pitch and I exhort all of you if you are presented with similar opportunities to sing the praises of our great school.

Treasurers Report:

- As presented by Wendy Inwood:

It’s been a great few months! Thanks to everybody’s efforts we made a profit of \$1805 for the Trivia night and \$424 at our Bunnings BBQ which is a total of over \$2200 ☺ I can’t emphasise enough how much we appreciate the efforts of Wendy and Geoff Hastings in organising the Trivia Night.

We donated \$50 to the Far West School and while at our last meeting we agreed to sponsor Lydia Nancarrow to the value of \$100, unfortunately Lydia was unable to make the event and the cheque was cancelled. We also paid \$1063 for membership of the P&C Federation and for insurance which covers things like public liability. It is a huge amount considering it’s half our fundraising and we may be able to reduce it next year if we don’t have our big term deposit.

Our current bank balances are \$2882 in our working account and \$23436.39 in our interest bearing account.

Our chocolates continue to go well with our profit so far this year being about \$1400.

Principals Report:

- Geoff acknowledged:
 - Ruby Conlon-Barretts receipt of a Ministers Award
 - Dance and choir students participating in the Schools Spectacular. Both groups are having a number of trips to Sydney to rehearse and consequently will be doing fundraising to help to subsidise the cost.
 - Year 12 and extended an invitation to parents to attend the yr 12 final assembly and morning tea.
- Geoff also gave an overview of various programs being implemented:
 - Great Teaching, Inspired Learning. This will include policies for the accreditation of teachers and school leaders. Information is available at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/news/greatteaching/index.php> Consultations are taking place over the next couple of months with final version released in 2013. Comments and submissions can be made to email: greatteaching@det.nsw.edu.au by 2/11/12
 - Every Student, Every School – implementation in 2012 – 13. This is a State Govt initiative (with the Fed partnership funding) that will particularly impact on the ways students with a disability are supported in mainstream classes – especially those with lower levels of support funding. Bathurst High Campus will be writing their response in Term 4.
 - Local Schools, Local Decisions. The program will see schools have more control over their budgets (rising from control of less than 5% to around 70%). There are 229 schools

in the pilot program. BHC is not in the pilot and will become involved in 2014. P&C involvement and decisions will become more important.

- Resource Allocation Model – 2014. Money will be allocated per student but with various weighting categories.
- Empowering Local Schools – 2013.
- Staffing Agreement Policy will become effective in term 4. This will give some schools the opportunity to be more involved in the selection of staff. No significant changes are anticipated for BHC.
- Learning Management Business Review
- Australian Curriculum – 2014. There will be a national curriculum for English, maths, science, geography and history for years 7-10. Curriculum for Yrs 11 and 12 will be implemented in these areas by 2016 followed by other subject areas including PDHPE and technology. NSW has had a significant influence on the curriculum as NSW already uses outcome statements.
- Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership

Denison College Principals Report:

- No report tabled.

Fundraising:

- Chocolates – continuing to be sold at the LPI.

General Business:

- Concept plan for gym and hall. Geoff gave an overview of developments in the project including:
 - Gym
 - Now to be a standalone building
 - Building should start and finish in 2013 – aiming to tender during T4 2012.
 - There will be 2 levels with the gym on the ground level.
 - Will contain a space for the Uniform Shop
 - Current hall
 - Will be developed in to a dance and performance area
 - Hoping to include retractable seating
 - Redevelopment will include lift access to Hope and Piper street wings.
- Presentation Day and Night.

MOTION: P&C will contribute a total of up to \$500 for prizes for the various ends of year ceremonies.

Moved: Mel

Seconded: Carol

Carried unanimously

Business Without Notice:

- Canteen. A new canteen policy reportedly came in to effect on 1.7.12. It is particularly aimed at ensuring healthy eating. Discussion occurred about the need for some balance in these types of policies as canteens also encourage students to be or stay at school.
- The Burr (yearly school magazine) is currently being developed. Gaye would welcome any contributions – especially if anyone has photos of events during the year.
- Buses. Some parents expressed concern about students having to stand in the rain while waiting for the buses in Piper St in the afternoon.

ACTION: *Geoff to determine if the hall can be used as a waiting area if needed.*

- Smoking. There has reportedly been an issue with smoking near the dance room in the “dungeon”.
ACTION: Geoff to follow up.
- Yr 12 Grad. Darlene reported that details (incl. venue, menu, DJ and cake) are mostly finalised and booked. Panthers will not sell alcohol on the floor the dinner is on.
- School jerseys. A request was made to ensure that advisors for the current year 9 and year 11 start planning for next years jerseys so that they are ordered and received to allow use for most of the school year.
ACTION: Geoff to pass request on to the relevant Advisors.
- NAPLAN results. The NAPLAN results are due at school (electronically) on 15/9/12. They will be forwarded to parents soon after this. Parents wishing to discuss the results of their student will then be able to arrange a meeting.
- Parking and student drop off. Parents have expressed concern for student safety due to the unpredictable way cars stop to drop people off at the front of the school. Following discussion it was recommended that the school seek a drop off zone in the existing timed parking zone. There should be a 5 minute parking limit between 8am and 9.30am and then the zone could revert to the existing half hour parking limit. All agreed that it would be more difficult to use this sort of zoning in the afternoon as students wouldn't always have arrived at the pickup zone when the driver did.
ACTION: Geoff to discuss options with Council
- iExplore. Positive feedback has been received for the program helping students from feeder school integrate to high school. While Wednesday doesn't suit some of the feeder schools it is the best day for the BHC as the timetable is freest when some of the senior students aren't at the school.
- Yr 12 information night. Parents noted that the information presented by Des Crawford was very useful.

Meeting closed: 9.20pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday 7th November 2012 at 7.30pm

Future agenda items:

- Student laptops – where are we heading with their use?