

St Bernadette's Primary School, Dundas Valley Parents and Friends Association (P&F)

12 August 2019

Minutes

Present:

Lisa Gerrard
Anthony Kensell
Souzan Nakhoul
Nancy Assad

Adeline Surjo
Katherine Cicala
Marina Lin
Jim Dellas

Anne Afeaki
Richard Bruce
Cathy Nagy
Chantelle Boyle

Apologies:

Alexis Bonita Jenny Lampard Corrine Brooker Leanne Cackmakci

1. The meeting was opened at 6:30pm with a prayer led by Lisa Gerrard.

2. Business Arising from the Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted by Adeline Surjo and seconded by Souzan Nakhoul. Nancy welcomes everyone to the meeting.

- Lisa advised that when the 2020 fees are confirmed, the levy descriptions will be updated at that time as well. Cathy confirms that there is a definition on the P&F Levy in the meeting minutes from 2014, possibly Oct meeting, and suggest Alexis to look up the minutes for further details.
- No update on artwork in the undercroft. Lisa advised that the light switch is in the Stage 2 corridor and that we need to remember to switch it off as the fathers have had to switch it off at night because it was left on.
- Update on speech therapist – Lisa still looking into this. The speech therapist who came for kindergarten orientation is unwell and unavailable. Putting it out there for anyone who may know someone that is available facilitate like our O/T arrangement.

3. Treasurers Report

- Adeline explains that there hasn't been much activity as we have only Canteen days since the last meeting, but we have a few bigger fundraising activities coming up over the next few weeks with; Bunnings BBQ this weekend, Father's Day Stall, and Colour Fun Run + Canteen. Available funds as of 20th May is \$10,884.98.
- Adeline reported that there has been a big price jump on the Skoolbag App subscription, the amount is double what was paid last year. We are looking at other possibilities, or if the new subscription fees is at market rate, then we may stay with Skoolbag. Lisa advised the possibility of using Compass, however they are rolling out the functionality over the next 2 years, so probably won't have what we need for a while.

4. School Banking Report

- Cathy reported that school banking participants are all stable and rolling, with numbers as expected.
- Jamey will attend Kindergarten orientation as per prior years.

5. Leadership Team Reports.

Religion:

- Lisa sends Corrine's apologies for her absence and reported on her behalf.
- We have had a whole school mass run by year 6, Father's foundation celebration – Lisa advised gifts were sent on behalf of the school community to the fathers for this.
- Corrine has been attending on-going Personal development at St Pats, developing a new curriculum that is rolling out next year
- Coming up: Leaders Mass – SRC to attend with Lisa to represent the school
- Staff Personal Development – having a look at framework of new syllabus. There will be information session to learn what staff are doing.
- Corrine has been running groups for Seasons for growth and this is going well. Completion celebration this Friday.
- PJ Day – Letters to Vinnies sent this week. Theme for year 6 was refugees. Our school community is looking at how to make children more aware of the needs of Australians (people "in our own backyard"). Lisa mentioned that usually the donations go to those in need overseas, but recognizes that our children should have more local awareness. Corrine and Lisa are looking at indigenous communities in NT. Corrine has some connections. Children can then learn how to communicate and how best to help that community etc. so they can be more socially aware.

Literacy:

- Leanne sends her apologies for her absence. Lisa gives update on Literacy.
- Continuing along with on site teacher educators working one on one with staff within the classrooms.
- Simone has been gradually stepping into the role which Lisa has stepped out of
- Looking at upscaling teachers, how we teach, how we learn, etc

Numeracy:

- Anthony explains that we also have had teacher educator for numeracy, Nadine visiting frequently. Trying to secure her for next year as well
- Anthony has been taking the early infants, while Leanne is taking on Stage 2.
- Anthony explains that the goal is to ask children to explain their thinking and to see math as a process rather than just getting the answer.
- Trialing rubrics to help with assessment.
- Math Resources – Anthony advised that some of the math resources are getting worn out and that we have used up the Woolworths' earn and learn credit to get all the things requested by the teachers: 3D shapes, teaching clocks, etc

PDHPE:

- Anthony informs us that Zone athletics was good, it ran smoothly, and thanked Cathy Nagy, the parents and staff who were there to help run it.
- Seaview Afeaki sang the national anthem which was really beautiful. The possibility of Seaview singing the anthem again was encouraged. All in all it was a successful day
- Lisa specifically congratulates Anthony for putting in lots of extra time and effort in to running and organizing the zone athletics, as we were hosting it this year.
- The diocesan athletics carnival will be held on August 23rd.
- Update on Heidi swimming – She competed on a National level in Melbourne– an outstanding result. She won 8 medals in 8 events. 4 gold, 2 silver 2 bronze.
- Stage 2 students sport days with St. Pat’s has been going great. 2 more to go.
- Netball Gala is coming up - we have 6 teams and practice starts next week
- There is a new personal development syllabus that will start next year.

Science & Technology:

- Anthony informs us that they have held back on STEM purchases due to a number of them being untried.
- Looking into STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) technologies that come as a set rather than components and getting these for 2020. This will be a large outlay. Lisa approximating ~\$15k.
- STEM tech will be for K-6. Giving children a head start in STEM and on par with the other primary schools in the diocese.
- Lisa advised that to move forward we also would need to upskill staff
- Cathy asked if there are a lot of Parra primary using this. Lisa advised that yes it is now part of the digital technology syllabus
- Chris has been working with the infant kids and this has been going great.
- Lisa mention possibility of having a session where parents can “play” with the technology with their children, so that parents are also aware of the technology being used.

6. Activities since last meeting.

- Adeline provides feedback for Breakfast Snack Day. The kids loved it, it is something different. Lots of milk leftovers but we were able to sell them off
- Souzi and Nancy provide feedback for Pasta Meal Deal. Had a good response.
- Souzi and Nancy reports that Hot Dog day also went well. 1 parent raised concern on hot dog being cold, but other than that all good. The kids loved it. Had kids come up to canteen to get more sauce, which we were happy to give. Adeline clarifies that the reason it was on the same day as Zone athletics was due to Monday sushi day and a very busy Term 3 schedule.

7. Canteen

- Adeline sends Alexis' apologies and reported on her behalf.
- Linda's lunches is going steady with an average of 72 orders a week

8. Class Contacts

- Anne reports that she has contacted the Year 2 parents for any feedback for the meeting, but nothings come back yet. Will let us know if there is anything.
- Cathy mentions that class contact details haven't been received for Year 4 and Year 6. Katherine confirms that Year 4 contact list was sent out in term 1. Year 6 rep wasn't present to confirm on Year 6 contact list.
- Lisa advised that there may be confusion regarding class contact list and what it is for. School can't just simply give out contact lists for birthday invites etc., only parents who have consented are on the class contact lists.
- Lisa advised that she's looking at different approach in the future. A possible solution that she has seen work well before, was a whole school contact list booklet of all those families who give consent at the beginning of the year. This would be compiled and distributed as a whole school rather than class by class.

9. Working Bee

- Lisa advised Barry has been really good. There was a problem with the treehouse due to the previous builders not leaving sufficient space for the tree to grow. Some boards are lifting etc. Tried to contact them, but no progress. Barry has a construction background, so he had made some fixes to give the tree space for now.
- Lisa provided an update on the new electronic sign. CEO will be paying for this and Lisa is looking at a couple of options. Lisa advised that position of the sign is still to be decided, where best to put it, facing etc. There are some council issues with overgrown trees etc. Cathy raised a concern that neighbors may complain (e.g. yates ave sign being very bright). Katherine mentioned it may depend on the colour of the font. All details are yet to be decided. The current signage has been cleared of any dates/events.

10. Upcoming P&F Activiteis

- Bunnings Sausage Sizzle to happen on this Sunday 18 Aug. Organised by Adeline and Alexis. Sausages have been ordered, Adeline will increase order as the leftovers sausages can be frozen and used for Father's day BBQ as well. This was a suggestion from Cathy. Sauces will be tomato, bbq, mustard, and will add sweet chilli sauce. Lisa advised that there is actually no banner, only the one used at church. We can use the signs from election day. Lisa offered to volunteer with her husband at the Bunnings event.
- Father's day stall . Alexis advises that all gifts have been ordered. There is minimum 2 of each gift to ensure all students are accommodated for. The stall will be held on Thursday 29th August and notes to be sent out this week.
- Father's day breakfast will be on 30th August and run by Jenny and Nancy. Numbers will be confirmed after notes go out and returned response.

Colour Fun Run

- Cathy provided feedback regarding the prizes as incentive. Was not thrilled that it creates competition amongst the kids. It's not a good fundraising model.
- Ann raised that although she supports fundraising, the colour fun run went too far with online profiles etc and put too much pressure on parents, especially when there is more than 1 child in the family attending the school.
- Katherine relays that Alexis is running this event and that Alexis' goal was to promote donations from the greater community and that there has been overseas donations from families and friends because of the platform. According to discussions with Alexis, it has been received well.

- Adeline advises that the structure of the fundraising (with the prizes and online profile) comes from the Fundraising company, and that the online profiles mainly helps us tracks how the fundraising is going for the school as a whole and can be used even if it's for cash donations only. And we can pass feedback (e.g. how you have to choose prizes to set a goal etc) to the fundraising company.
- Anne and Cathy expressed concern about how the prizes are being delivered and raised that it creates competition amongst the children as they will receive different things. Adeline will check with Alexis, possibly distribute in class?
- Cathy added that 2:00pm Friday is not family friendly. Nancy advises that this is in consideration of the staff as well, Lisa confirms this is correct and that she cannot ask staff to be there on a Saturday.
- Lisa and Anthony inform the meeting that they're discussing the activities of the day with staff. It will be in the format of stations of activities and will make it fun for the kids. All kids can participate in activities, and don't have to have colour thrown at them.
- Disco- A date for the disco has been confirmed. It will be held on Friday, November 15th. Alexis has been in touch with year 3 class reps in regards to this.
- End of year Christmas get together.– Nancy reports looking at 5pm – 7.30pm, it'll be a Christmas picnic with BBQ provided by P&F for everyone as a thank you for supporting the school, and Santa to give small gifts to the children. Possibly dance fever recital. Lisa informs we will use the COLA.

11. New Items Submitted for discussion

- Feedback was submitted in regards to soft plastics being brought home in lunch boxes. Lisa informs that the general and recycling gets dumped together by the rubbish contractor. The contract is under review and may change. Anthony asked whether we need to ask special bin from Red Cycle for soft plastics. Cathy raised whether this is for Year 5 to be responsible for.
- An update on the back gate – a lot better now. Lisa informs to send any parents concern to her directly. Electric gate is too expensive (~\$9k each).
- Skoolbag app – Lisa inform yes P&F can have access, just need an email and password
- Katherine gave positive feedback on the new Newsletter format, Lisa informs that they're using new program and Emma is loving it.

Meeting closed at 7.44pm

