

P & C Minutes, Elanora Heights Public School

Wednesday 13 May 2020 – Via Zoom

Attendance: Leesa Martin, Jono Rosconi, Cassie Hotchin, Janine Ralston, Jade Browett, Linda Smith, Suzy Gilbert, Lee Milligan, Allison Salmon, Anna Davis, John Drake, Jade Fernandes, Jasmine McEvoy and Ro Brazel.

ITEM 1: Welcome

AS opened the meeting at 7:00pm. Alison welcomed everyone and ran through the etiquette of Zoom.

ITEM 2: Apologies

Carly Skeers, Darren Greenow.

ITEM 3: Review and accept previous minutes, 11 March 2020

Accepted by JRa, seconded by RB.

ITEM 4: Principal's report Term 2 Week 3, 2020

Welcome back to Term 2 and Happy Mothers' Day to all our Elanora mums and carers. We hope you enjoyed some spoiling last Sunday.

Phase 1 of the Managed Return to School program commenced this week, with students now attending school one day per week. So far the system is working well and hopefully providing some much needed relief for our families who have been incredibly responsible and supportive in following the Department of Education guidelines. We are very grateful for the support.

At this stage, we are unsure as to how long Phase 1 will be in place as much will depend on community outbreaks and advice from the Department of Health. We are hoping that life can return to normal in the near future.

With so many unknowns for the year ahead, it is very difficult to determine future school and P & C events. We are also aware that payments were made for excursions which will no longer go ahead, so we are looking at potentially rolling those funds forward into 2021 to cover future events, (with Year 6 students being refunded).

Hazard Reduction of our Site:

Our bushfire prevention program has been underway over the past couple of weeks, with the Department of Education conducting clearing of the land within the asset protection zone of the school to remove ground fuel dense scrub. With the recent summer of bushfires, this work is essential to ensure our school remains a safe site for our students and neighbours.

We have been advised that this work will be undertaken on an annual basis from here on to limit the amount of regrowth.

Works Around the School:

The following projects have been completed since the last P & C meeting:

- New asphalt has been laid under the K-2 lunch seats area, with a substantial garden bed created.
- The ramp near the 3-6 toilets has been amended to include stairs, providing better access to the top oval.
- A new path has been laid leading to the Science demountable to improve access for students and staff.
- New basketball/netball hoops have been installed, with repainting of the courts.
- New carpet has been laid in 2BN and 4S.
- New grass/turf has been laid on the Kindergarten playground area.

Unfortunately, the Department of Education have recommissioned two of our existing demountable buildings, meaning they will be removed from our site in coming weeks. This is a great loss for our school, but essential for other schools who are desperately in need of classrooms due to recent bushfires or rebuilds.

This will mean that our band program will need to relocate back to the hall and Mr Tier's music program will now be located in the computer room.

Staff Changes:

This term sees the return of Jill Hover to 3HW (Mon-Wed) and Charlotte Costa to 6C. We welcome them both back to EHPS.

As part of the Department's initiative to provide ongoing work for our casual teachers, 7 staff have been allocated to our school for 2 days per week each over the remainder of this term. These staff will be utilised to provide supervision for students of essential service workers or those needing to attend school each day, to allow class teachers to focus solely on the students in their class.

Roadworks on Elanora Road to commence 21 May

Yesterday I was advised by Northern Beaches Council that roadworks on the strip of road between Elanora Rd and Kalang Rd would commence on May 21, lasting for approximately 1 week. During this time, the road will be completely blocked to all traffic, except buses.

I have requested a detour route map from the council and, once received, will be sent this out via the app and newsletter.

Student Reports for Semester 1 2020. We are currently awaiting advice from the Department of Education regarding what format the upcoming student reports will take for the end of semester 1. As you can appreciate, it will be very difficult to report accurately against a 5-point scale at this time, when teachers have not seen their students for a large portion of the semester.

We will inform the community once we receive clear guidelines regarding this issue.

Roll over of paid school fees from this year to next year with the exception of year 6 student who would be refunded. LS asked could the fees from this year be held in advance for younger siblings – LM to follow up. If families need the money returned they can request a refund this year. The meeting supported this plan.

RB – Thank you to the staff for their unbelievable work and dedication during this very difficult time.

ITEM 5: Work, Health & Safety Report, JRo.

Increased hygiene, enhanced cleaning, additional cleaners, hand sanitizer in classrooms and safety guidelines have been implemented at school.

ITEM 6: Treasurers Report, LS.

All committees bank accounts are following the same trends. Jobkeeper has been implemented for 4 staff, 3 in the canteen and 1 in the uniform shop. \$10,000 cash boost from the ATO from the March BAS. All accounts are in good stead.

ITEM 7: Social and Fundraising Committee Report, CH.

Postponement of the Fair event until next year. However, would still like to commemorate the 60th year for the school in some way. There were lots of ideas including documenting how this year was different by asking children to journal their experiences during this difficult time home-schooling, send in photos etc to put in a time capsule. CH to organise this and involve people who wanted to help with the Fair.

It was agreed to set up a Wellness Hub on our schools' website to help support our families that need support at this time. JRa, JF, SB, JM, LMil and AS to get this up and running, Plan to use Barrenjoey's site as a guide and reach out to local families/businesses.

Thank you wall and messages for the teachers, there was a lot of support for this. Two main ideas – thankyou signs/notes from the children to be placed down the driveway and an online platform where people can upload a thankyou message. Need helpers with this.

ITEM 8: Canteen Report, RB.

The canteen reopened on Monday for online orders only, the canteen has been busy the last 3 days, so it is great that it is back up and running.

ITEM 9: Music Program Report, AD.

Moved to an online model, children are having a Zoom meeting with their conductor weekly, trialling Smart music software and trying to keep the continuity of the program happening.

ITEM 10: Uniform Shop Report, JRa.

Uniform shop is busy filling the winter uniform orders. Online and phone order seem to be working well.

ITEM 11: Other Business

LM asked how everyone felt about the new format for the newsletter, seems everyone is happy with the new approach.

LS asked whether playground equipment, handball and normal lunchtime activities would return to normal when children return to school. JRo - handball will recommence next week and slowly other activities will increase as the restrictions are lifted. The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

ITEM 12: Next meeting: Wednesday 10 June at 7:00pm, most probably via Zoom again.

Items to be carried over to the next meeting: None.