

P & C Minutes, Elanora Heights Public School Wednesday 5 August 2020

Attendance: Leesa Martin, Jono Rosconi, Cassie Hotchin, Janine Ralston, Carly Skeers, Anna Davis, Allison Salmon, Lee Milligan, Suzie Gilbert and Linda Smith.

ITEM 1: Welcome: AS opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

ITEM 2: Apologies: Renae Godden, Jade Browett and Sue Garrity

ITEM 3: Review and accept previous minutes, 10 June 2020:

Accepted by AS, seconded by JRa.

**ITEM 4 & 5: Principal's Report and Work, Health & Safety Report, LM
Principal's report – Term 3 Week 3**

Happy Education Week! This week we celebrate Education Week, with the theme, Learning Together – never more relevant than in 2020! Our staff have been incredibly busy over the past month, filming their virtual tours to share with parents and grandparents in lieu of an on-site visit. We hope these are appreciated and enjoyed by our community. They would be an excellent addition to the time capsule as a record of life in 2020.

As the term commences we find ourselves still in uncertain times and managing a potential outbreak in NSW. Our thoughts have very much been with our neighbours in Victoria as we all watch in horror and hope that they are able to turn the corner soon.

This has meant a continuation of some of the restrictions from last term and a slight winding back of some of the easing of restrictions for this term.

Parents are still not allowed on site without prior approval from the principal and all visitors on site must sign a form at the office for COVID tracing. This means we are once again operating without invaluable support from our volunteers – we hope to see an improvement to this situation soon. Excursions are still on hold for this term also.

Parents are reminded to read all updates sent out via the app to keep themselves informed.

Traffic Situation at Drop-Off and Pick-Up

The strategies implemented at the end of last term have had a positive impact on our student exit procedures, with streamlined communication ensuring that all students are safely accounted for at the end of each day. We have also seen an improvement in the traffic flow as parents are making the decision to arrive a little later. Thank you for your ongoing support –we have also benefitted from increased support from the council.

Professional Learning

Our focus this semester is on improving reading comprehension through the development of student vocabulary. The staff have been engaging in ongoing professional learning to determine the most effective teaching strategies to improve student vocab, setting goals around student

performance data improvement and determining how to best measure their impact on learning. Jono Rosconi has been delivering a great deal of this professional learning, which will also involve working with our external English expert, Jann Farmer-Hailey over the next 2 weeks. This focus on vocab transcends all key learning areas and is also a particular focus in our ongoing mathematics professional learning with Dr Lomas.

Online Book Fair

This year we will be trialing an online book fair through Carnival Books. Parents and grandparents will be able to purchase books online either directly for the school or for their own children. In each instance, the school will also receive 20% of sales returned to the school in books. Whilst we are aware of potential financial hardship currently being experienced, this no-pressure means of building our school library resources will provide an opportunity for those parents and grandparents who are looking to help the school with an excellent avenue of support. We are looking to run the online book fair towards the end of this term.

ITEM 6: Deputy Principal's Report, JRo

A big thank you to LM for all her hard work and to our librarians for the implementation of new procedures.

An athletics carnival is planned for Week 6 on Tuesday 25th August. Only year 3-6 students and teachers will be able to be on site due to number restrictions. Buses will take students there and back – fee credits can be used to pay for this event. There will be no Zone carnival this year to progress too. The infant's students will be having an athletics carnival on site helped by Sport Pro staff.

A huge thank you to Kirsten and Nicole in the office for their management of our fees this year – it has been quite the journey!

Years 4-6 PCS Emotional Health Surveys

These surveys were completed this week for students in Year 4-6. Parents will be notified if their child scored higher than average on any of the items assessed.

Years 3 and 5 Check-In Assessments

As NAPLAN was cancelled this year, an alternate assessment will be distributed by the Department of Education for students in Years 3 and 5 at the end of this term and early next term. Data obtained from these assessments will provide us with valuable information regarding student growth in English and Mathematics. More information will be sent out closer to the assessment dates.

ITEM 7: Correspondence In/Out, CS, None

ITEM 8: Adopt amended P&C prescribed constitution, JRa

AS moved to adopt the new P&C prescribed constitution, unanimously approved. AS to complete paperwork and update hard copy in office.

ITEM 9: Business arising from previous minutes

- **Wind and water proof jacket** – SG hesitant to add another jacket to the existing uniform line. The P&C's view is that a new jacket would offer something different (warm and dry) and replace an existing jacket. AS and JB to move forward with a survey of the community (via survey monkey or Google Forms). The survey will ideally include photos of the proposed jacket, price point and any additional feedback on the uniform. One option could be to order now, rather than have the stock sitting in the uniform shop.

ITEM 10: Treasurers Report, LS

The Uniform and canteen accounts continue to track positively. This trend is supported by on-going Jobkeeper payments to four staff members. The continuation of these payments is uncertain post-September. Excess funds from the canteen and uniform shop could be transferred to the Main account. LS and JRa suggested that \$30k is available to spend on the school.

ITEM 11: Investment ideas from P&C Funds, AS

The P&C has previously spent funds on indoor spaces and technology so would like to direct funds outdoor.

Some ideas include: -

- **Additional bike racks** (to accommodate higher number of bikes being rode to school and relocate away from stair – near Possum place is proposed);
- **Beautification of school** (Robyn Martin mural proposed along the back of the Year one block facing the carpark, add movement and a nice welcome, cost estimate \$10k);
- **Regeneration of Pickle Town** (build natural rock wall and then back fill with soil and rock so student digging can continue, potentially add bush tucker plants, fruit trees and rock tables, budget estimate \$40k).

The P&C decided to direct funds to restoring Pickle Town. The P & C will canvas the community for any landscapers who may wish to quote for the project. This project will hopefully be completed by the year's end.

LM said the old demountable space could be converted into raised vegetable gardens.

ITEM 12: Social and Fundraising Committee Report, CH

CH said that entries for the time capsule book are starting to trickle in, thanks to the office staff and newsletter articles. Pickle Town history would be a welcome addition to the book. Father's Day events will be on hold this year.

ITEM 13: Canteen Report, JRa

Sales continue on Munch Monitor. Order volumes have been high. Friday's remain busy due to the earlier lunch time. Volunteers are still not allowed on site, the three staff members continue to manage well

ITEM 14: Music Program Report, AD

Semester fees have been sent out this week. The Music team is working on an orchestra project for term four and an extracurricular recorder group for Year 2 students. Performance opportunities are obviously not available at the moment - LM suggested they could film their practice and show on the Zoomanora assembly.

ITEM 15: Uniform Shop Report, JRa None

ITEM 16: Class Parent Report, JRa

The school app has largely replaced the weekly class parent email.

ITEM 17: Any other business: LM asked parents of Kindy 2021 students to please contact the office to begin the enrolment process.

The meeting closed at 8:45pm.

ITEM 18: Next Meeting: Wednesday 2 Sept at 7:00pm.

Items to be carried over to the next meeting: Winter jacket; adopt amended P&C prescribed constitution.