

P & C Minutes, Elanora Heights Public School Wednesday 12 February 2020

Attendance: Leesa Martin, Jonno Rosconi, Ro Brazel, John Drake, Cassie Hotchin, Darren Greenow, Janine Ralston, Carly Skeers, Jasmine McEvoy, Jade Browett, Suzy Gilbert, Allison Salmon, Renae Godden, Amanda Caunt, Mark Mikalauskas and Lee Milligan.

ITEM 1: Welcome: AS opened the meeting at 7:00pm. AS welcomed everyone and encouraged us to spread the word that the P&C meetings are inclusive and encouraging of broad ideas. She said that the P&C's aim is to fundraise for the school and also to build a sense of community. She thanked CS, CH and JF for their help with the successful Tea and Tissues welcome for Kindy parents last week.

ITEM 2: Apologies: Anna Davis, Linda Smith and Jade Fernandes.

ITEM 3: Review and accept previous minutes, 27 Nov 2019:
Accepted by AS, seconded by RB.

ITEM 4: Principal's Report, LM

Welcome back and a special welcome to our new families!
It was lovely to see the P & C out and about on the first day of school for our Kindergarten students, with the welcome packs adding a personal touch to the first day excitement! Thank you to our wonderful parents who provided this service.

Thank you for your support

Thank you for the outstanding support from our community with regard to the school closure on Monday this week. We understand these incidents create additional pressure for families and I am very grateful for the community's response to this event.

The school sustained minor damage (leaking rooves, carpet damage), along with a tree falling through a neighbouring fence onto our property and substantial leaf and branch debris throughout the school.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of Andrew Brooks and Jono Rosconi who helped with the clean up on Monday. The Department are now managing the storm damage repairs.

School Routines and Info for 2020

This document was sent out in the first week to provide information for our families regarding school routines. Our thanks to those families who have taken the time to familiarise themselves with this document so that they are well informed of changes.

New routines for this year include a change of lunch times for Fridays to accommodate PSSA Sport and the returning of non-recyclable waste via student lunch boxes. I would like to thank the canteen staff for their flexibility in accommodating these changes on a Friday, it is very much appreciated. I would

also like to congratulate them on their accreditation as a Healthy School Canteen – a wonderful achievement reflecting a great deal of work.

We have a new leadership structure with Dr Laurinda Lomas working as DP – Mathematics Instructional Leader, providing support for quality teaching in mathematics throughout the school. Jono Rosconi will therefore be relieving in the Deputy Principal role for 2020.

Assistant Principals – Lauren Mason (K), Jennifer Renoden (1/2) and Dave Waters (3) will be leading stage teams, supported by newly created Grade Leaders – Di Reeks (2), Brooke Rosconi (4) and Clare Hagon (5). Mr Rosconi will continue to supervise Year 6 for term 1. Vicki Bosler is currently on leave for Term 1.

Communication

In 2020 we would like to streamline our communication processes with our families by making the most of our new school app – SchoolStream. This will involve a change in our newsletter process, notes going home, payments etc.

Parents are able to select which grades they would like to receive the information for to minimise the amount of messages appearing on their phones. We are hoping to broadcast news items as they occur to minimise the need for a newsletter. Parents are also encouraged to deselect grades they do not wish to receive news for to minimise the number of push notifications. We are interested in feedback regarding these new approaches.

Our school calendar is now ‘talking’ to the app, meaning we have up to date information at the ready for the entire year. Details regarding events will be added as they become available as the calendar is synchronized every afternoon. This is a great enhancement for our communication and will minimise the need to class parents to disseminate a lot of information.

Meet the Teacher Sessions Next Week

All information regarding the sessions is available on the app calendar and has been published in the newsletter over the past two weeks. We are looking forward to providing this opportunity for our parents to meet their child/ren’s teachers next week.

Swimming Carnival

We enjoyed an excellent day at Warringah Aquatic Centre on Tuesday with all events running very smoothly. Our thanks to Jack Tier for his outstanding management of the day and to the many parent helpers who offered their assistance.

School Youth Worker

We have been successful in our application for a School Youth Worker for 2020 via the School Chaplaincy program, with interviews being conducted next week to determine a suitable candidate. The Youth Worker will work in the school on Tuesdays and Thursdays, supporting our wellbeing programs in a variety of

ways. This position is in addition to the school counsellor who also provides support to students.

ITEM 5: Work, Health & Safety Report, JRo

Roof replacements and classroom painting has been completed over the summer break. New works have begun including: the K-2 soft fall being replaced with asphalt under the silver seats (Dept Education decision); railings stripped of rust and repainted; and basketball and netball rims replaced and court lines repainted. A company has also been engaged to carry out weed removal and new plantings. The recently upgraded drainage at the front of the school has been very effective over the weekend storms.

ITEM 6: Correspondence In/Out, CS

- Anana Road update – the council has pledged to keep trees trimmed near school signs; consider railing along pedestrian path; and increase police patrols in conjunction with rangers.

ITEM 7: Treasurers Report, AS on behalf of LS

The main account is currently sitting below \$20k due to the P&C contribution to school technology at the end of last year. The canteen and uniform accounts are sitting on higher than usual balances. Given that they are only operating accounts, AS proposed that \$15k and \$13k be transferred from the canteen and uniform accounts to the main account. This motion was passed unanimously.

LS requested that she be added as a signatory to all accounts. This motion was passed unanimously. LS has also implemented a new expense form to increase transparency and efficiency.

ITEM 8: Business Arising from Previous Minutes, All Bookkeeping role

The P&C voted last year to make the book keeping role for the three P&C accounts a paid position. This position was advertised last year. The sole and preferred candidate is JR. She will continue in her role as bookkeeper, with AS and LS to formalise employment details.

Waste Initiative

The school has implemented a “take your rubbish home” policy after suggestions by the LLW@S team and P&C. This has been communicated in the newsletter and will be reinforced during the Meet the Teacher nights. The amount of rubbish in the school has already lessened. Taking lunch tubs out with children to collect containers and rubbish is becoming part of the new year routine.

ITEM 9: Ethics Update, JM

At the end of 2019, the number of ethics volunteers dropped from six to two. There have been a number of new volunteers come forward after

positive press in Pittwater Life over the holidays. There will be an ethics class offered for each grade, and more classes maybe added through the year as volunteers complete their training.

ITEM 10: Social and Fundraising Committee Report, CH

CH and AS outlined the calendar of P&C events for 2020. There will be one event per term – a moonlight cinema night T1; Mother's Day Breakfast T2; Father's Day Breakfast T3; and a Fair to celebrate EHPS 60th anniversary in T4.

The moonlight cinemas is in response to the community's feedback that they appreciated a welcome event at the start of the year. A single event was felt to be most effective. Quotes have been sort to run the cinema. Additional fundraising options may include bean bag hire, food sales and movie advertising. The date has been set for Friday 20th March, with the 27th March earmarked as a back-up option if there was rain on the 20th. A discussion then took place over the price point and the short lead time until the event. The movie to be screened will be G rated and will be picked by the children or by ticket buyers. LM reiterated that it will be a no alcohol event due to Dept Education policy.

SG expressed her views that all P&C events should take a sustainability approach. Specifically on the planned Fair, she said that by keeping to our Elanora message of healthy and sustainable, the event would then become attractive to the wider community. A date will be circulated in the near term for the first Fair committee meeting.

ITEM 11: Canteen Report, RB

The canteen is very proud of achieving their Healthy Canteen certification. RB thanked IT and the rest of the committee for their efforts over the past two years in bringing this about. The canteen committee will meet prior to term two to discuss menu changes coming into winter. Munch Monitor has not forced parents to update their children's classes this year which has caused frustration.

ITEM 12: Music Program Report, JM

The committee meet last week for the first time this year, and there was a sense of enthusiasm and fresh energy.

ITEM 13: Uniform Shop Report, JRa None

ITEM 14: Class Parent Report, JRa None

ITEM 15: LLW@S, CS

The team are focused on delivering Make My Own Lunch in T1W6. CS said that the use of lollies as classroom rewards had snuck back in, and that the food at the Aquatic Centre Kiosk was across the board unhealthy. LM said that unfortunately it was outside the schools control. JRa suggested that the LLW@S team could write to the Aquatic Centre to express their views.

ITEM 16: Finance Committee Report, None.

ITEM 17: Any other business: None

The meeting closed at 8:50pm.

ITEM 20: Next Meeting: Wednesday 11 March at 7:00pm.

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