

## **P & C Minutes, Elanora Heights Public School Wednesday 11 March 2020**

**Attendance:** Leesa Martin, Jono Rosconi, Cassie Hotchin, Janine Ralston, Carly Skeers, Jade Browett, Suzy Gilbert, Lee Milligan, Allison Salmon, Anna Davis, Jade Fernandes, Amy Clarke and Lee Milligan.

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

**ITEM 2: Apologies:** Linda Smith, Darren Greenow, Jasmine McEvoy, Renae Godden and Ro Brazel.

**ITEM 3: Review and accept previous minutes, 12 Feb 2020:**  
Accepted by JB, seconded by JRa.

**ITEM 4: Principal's Report, LM**

### **Wellbeing at Elanora**

*For students:*

Last week we welcomed our new Youth Worker, Taipari Connelly, to the staff at Elanora Heights. 'Mr Tai' will support students in the classroom and playground every Tuesday and Wednesday, funded through the NSW School Chaplaincy program.

Our Student Wellbeing Ambassadors have commenced in their new positions. These students from Year 6 are in the playground to support younger students with minor incidents, encouraging the use of the problem solving strategies taught through the K-6 Second Step program each week. We initially sought 20 interested senior students, but were delighted when 38 volunteered their time - what a wonderful show of maturity and community spirit from our awesome Year 6 students!

*For staff:*

Last week was 'Super 6' wellbeing week for our staff, which involves a week free of meetings, a social activity for our team and a reminder about the importance of maintaining a positive work-life balance.

On Wednesday this week our staff attended a presentation on Supporting Students with Anxiety, run by Professor Jennie Hudson from Macquarie University. 300 teachers were in attendance from our Peninsula Community of Schools (PCS). This strong show of support from staff indicates the high level of commitment to promoting positive student mental health in our public primary and high schools.

*For community:*

We hope to see many of you at our upcoming parent workshops on Emotionally Intelligent Parenting, held on March 25 and April 8 at 7pm. These free seminars, run by the team from Northern Sydney Health will look at ways to manage big feelings and provide parents with lots of ideas to help develop positive

behaviours at home and school. Upcoming workshops will be focused on setting limits and resilience.

### **Class Parent Meetings**

Our first Class Parent meeting was held this week, where we looked at the role of the position, upcoming school events, school communication channels and community health issues. We look forward to working with these important community members over the course of the year and thank them for the time they devote to our school.

### **Staff Performance and Development Plans**

Over the past two weeks I have met with each staff member to review their individual learning goals as part of the annual Performance and Development process. This ongoing commitment to excellence in teaching practice involves the development of goals to specifically improve student performance and includes much discussion, reflection and refinement as we progress.

### **Coronavirus update**

Information was sent home today for parents to provide advice on how to discuss this current situation with their children. Parents are encouraged to teach their children good hygiene habits and stay informed as to travel bans and isolation information.

The school will continue to provide information as it evolves. All classrooms have soap available for hand washing and the department are developing contingency plans to manage schools potentially closing in coming weeks.

### **ITEM 5: Work, Health & Safety Report, JRo and LM**

The soft-fall has been removed under the silver seats near the lower oval. Asphalt will be laid in coming weeks, and the rusting railings will also be treated. The bush track has received regeneration work involving planting and the laying of sandstone.

### **ITEM 6: Deputy Principal's Report**

The Tell Them From Me survey will be sent out in the coming weeks. The community, students (Yr4-6) and teachers will each have the opportunity to fill this survey out. The survey is run by the Centre for Educational Statistics and Evaluation (CESE).

JRo had the pleasure of accompanying the Year 6 leadership team to the Halogen young leaders' event at Homebush. The event featured inspiring speakers and the opportunity to connect with other leaders.

EHPS had wonderful success at this week's zone swimming carnival. More than a dozen students reached finals, and a handful of children will be progressing to regionals.

### **ITEM 7: Correspondence In/Out, CS**

- Parent David Hayes sent an email detailing his concern about road safety for children crossing Elanora Road to get to the steps to Dewrang Avenue. The P&C agreed that they had also noticed the increase in foot traffic and were concerned for student safety. CS will correspond with DH and AS will send a letter of support on behalf of the P&C.
- Jason Falinski sent a letter to AS encouraging her to provide a list of school needs. AS will respond.

**ITEM 8: Treasurers Report, JRa on behalf of LS**

The canteen and uniform accounts have both transferred excess funds of \$15,000 each to the P&C main account (as detailed at February's P&C meeting). The canteen and uniform accounts continue to track previous year's patterns, and the band accounts are receiving incoming fees.

**ITEM 9: Social and Fundraising Committee Report, CH**

Movie night ticket sales have now passed the breakeven point. The use of munch monitor for sales has been very easy and efficient and will be implemented again for future events. The event will be publicized at upcoming assemblies at school. The night will be postponed in the event of wet weather or health concerns.

A sub-committee will soon meet for 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary Fair discussions (CH to email in coming weeks).

A Mother's Day breakfast will be hosted on Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> of May in the hall from approximately 7:30am to 8:30am. Served at the breakfast will most likely be fruit and pastries (food will be pre-ordered on munch monitor). Hot beverages can't be served due to safety concerns. Children will need to be supervised during this event as staff will not be on duty. AC, LM and JF will head up the planning of this event.

**ITEM 10: Canteen Report, JRa**

The canteen team will meet before term two to discuss winter menu changes. There may be Easter themed competitions and hot cross buns in the coming weeks.

**ITEM 11: Music Program Report, AD**

The first offsite music day camp will happen for all ensembles this term. All conductors and ensembles have settled into the year smoothly.

**ITEM 12: Uniform Shop Report, JRa**

The uniform shop will reopen this Friday. New winter uniform ideas were floated, but this will have to be carried over until next year.

JRo asked if there was storage space to hold Pittwater Zone jumpers (that are sold at carnivals). Unfortunately, there is no additional space at the school for these.

AD proposed that a wind and water proof jacket be introduced. The poncho is not being worn by the primary children in particular. JF said that other local schools have a similar good quality jacket in their uniforms that retail for approximately \$80. The P&C were very supportive of this idea. The uniform team and JRo will meet this Friday to hopefully bring this new uniform item on stock in time for winter.

**ITEM 13: Class Parent Report, JRa**

The first meeting was held last week and was a great introduction to new and existing volunteers. It was a nice mix of fresh ideas and experience. The weekly emails began this Friday, so all parents should have received an email from their class parent by now. The request has been made for help at this year's big fundraiser, the fair.

**ITEM 14: LLW@S, CS**

The team completed the MMOL program last week. It was a huge success and many thanks to all of our team of volunteers who make the days run so smoothly. There was a noticeable lift in the student's nutritional knowledge and bravery in trying new foods. The home challenge will run over the next fortnight, with Show Off Your Lunch days the following two Thursday's.

**ITEM 15: Finance Committee Report, None.**

**ITEM 16: Any other business:**

SG said that fundraising proceeds could be focused on programs for the kids, such as Growing Trend a gardening program that local preschools have engaged in. There are grants available for this program that she will look into. SG also suggested that she would like to see programs in the visual arts space, where children's creativity could be expanded. LM said that time within the curriculum was always stretched, but could be considered for 2021.

SG also voiced that eating time at lunch was too short. A number of P&C members also agreed that their infant children were bringing home large quantities of lunch. CS suggested that lunch tubs could be taken out at lunch time as well as recess to encourage children to take more time to eat. LM and JRo will take the concern to the next staff meeting for their input.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

**ITEM 17: Next Meeting: Wednesday 13 May at 7:00pm.**

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