

CHERRYBROOK TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL
MINUTES OF P&C GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday 3rd May 2016

Meeting commenced at 20.00 hours.

Present and Apologies: As per the attendance book.

Guest Speakers: Damien Tudehope MP and Dr Talal Serhan

Minutes from previous meeting were accepted. (Tim Spencer proposed and Helen Wrench seconded)

Principal's report

Curriculum and Administration

The school development day was very successful with a number of areas of focus these included:

- Sleep and student resilience / mental health
- The middle session was dedicated to KLA time, in particular the refinement and collection of material for the forthcoming BOSTES registration inspection.
- BOSTES inspection for school registration purposes will take place on Thursday 2 June.
- External audit of school finances will take place 30 / 31 May.

Other matters

- A significant amount of work occurred around the school over the holidays. Unfortunately, much of it was poorly done or left unfinished. Talks have occurred with the responsible parties and the matters will be rectified in the near future.
- A two storey demountable is to be included in the building master plan. Mr Townsend and I reviewed the building during the recent holidays and were most impressed.
- Preparation for the new building continues and I understand the tender process will commence in the near future.
- Year 12 exams have now been completed. Staff have talked about some very pleasing results – and have also mentioned the need for greater application from some students. For a significant number of students these tests will serve as a positive wake up call.
- ANZAC day ceremony was a tremendous occasion – solemn, thoughtful and completed with the upmost respect.
- Year 11 students are finishing their AP1 exams next week.
- Year 9 &10 Parent / Teacher night has taken place tonight.
- Payment of fees thus far has been excellent. Thank you to all who have contributed and encouraged others to contribute.
- Anaphylaxis records need to be updated

Important dates

- **NAPLAN** – 10, 11, 12 May – Years 7 & 9
- Year 12 reports posted Friday 20 May
- Zone cross-country Tuesday 17 May.
- Year 7 Parent / Teacher night 17 May
- High Achievers Year 12 Morning Tea 24th May.
- Year 8 / 11 Parent / Teacher night 31 May

Other matters

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- Death of Paul Brock and memorial service at the university of Sydney
- Trip to Japan was hugely successful. Japanese students will return next year
- Chinese exchange for 2017 in the pipeline
- Annual School Report is now on the school website

Federation Report

Federation Report – CTHS P&C General Meeting

Tim Spencer reported on the activities of the P&C Federation since the last P&C General meeting. One of the major issues dealt with recently was the Ministerial review of BOSTES announced back in March. We are still at a loss as to why the Minister targeted the BOSTES for review when there are other organisations more urgently in need of such attention. The P&C Federation have had the opportunity to meet face to face with the review panel and enter a written submission to put forward the P&C Federations views on BOSTES. One of the major concerns raised was that we did not want to see parent representation in any way diminished on the Board and that we were opposed to reducing the Boards size and composition only to be replaced by a small panel of experts. We await the review panel's recommendations at this stage.

The P&C Federation have also had the opportunity to make a formal submission on the 'next generation' HSC which is due to be implemented for those sitting the HSC in 2020. There are a number of significant changes such as the introduction of a minimum numeracy and literacy level and the introduction of new subjects such as psychology. The overarching theme is more depth and less breadth across the curriculum. Those children currently in years 7 and 8 and likely to be the first cohort to sit the new HSC.

P&C Federation elections are also under way. Tim Spencer indicated that he had successfully submitted his nomination and that ballot papers would be issued to P&Cs starting 16th May. Elections close 12 noon 26th July.

The Federation has also been very active in addressing a number of key issues with the Department of Education that are impacting on P&Cs. These include the phasing in of Working with Children Checks (WWCCs) which are now mandatory for all P&C employees in secondary schools. There have been a number of incidents where Principals have acted beyond the guidelines and policies making life very difficult for parents and the P&C. This is only one area of several where P&Cs are being squeezed by DoE policy. We are working with the department to try to address the issues.

Damien Tudehope discussion

Stephen welcomed Damien on behalf of the committee members.

Damien covered the following topics during his discussion

- Education funding is an issue and it is not yet finalised. But NSW Government is committed to Gonski;

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- The results of CTHS continuously stand out in terms of ATAR, NAPLAN. The school is a shining example of what can be achieved in public education and also demonstrates great unity between school, P&C, parents and community;
- CTHS building programs in progress has only minor issue regarding relocation of demountable;
- Tree Policy of Hornsby council has changed to provide more autonomy to schools on dealing with dangerous trees;
- There is a review on board of studies and its operation. Gary commented on board of studies (BOS) - curriculum review. Schools have not heard about the review, it appears to be taking a one size fits all approach with a national tendency, and runs risk of watering down the NSW gold plated curriculum. Damien responded by saying there will be a consultation process. The review will produce a document that will be available for consultation in June timeframe;
- Damien mentioned the KAKADU leadership program and the development of resilience as an important part of schooling. Gary indicated there is a similar program in CTHS;
- Damien appreciated WOOTUBE that has been created by Maths Teacher Mr Woo;
- There is a community building partnership program sponsored by local member. Last year the grant was approximately \$200k. Damien highlighted there is a significant opportunity for P&C to put in an application for worthwhile purpose;
- Major audit for school approaching;
- A question was asked on the outcome of scripture review. Damien will follow up to get response. Gary confirmed there is no issue in CTHS.

President thanked Damien for his address to P&C.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer reported that Rod visited the canteen and met with staff regarding the need for additional facilities for hot food.

The meeting was advised that the P&C executive had agreed to fund stainless steel bench tops and a new Bain Marie as per the quotes received.

P&C ACCOUNT BALANCES at 1st May 2016

NAB St George Total

General 730.15 116,073.46 116,803.61

Grounds 261.90 45,732.65 45,994.55

Building 250.00 210,812.85** 211,062.85

** \$195,000 is in a term deposit @ 2.95% pa (maturing 19 July 2016)

Canteen Accounts (Westpac)

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Savings \$66,416.94

Savings – Leave Provisions \$29,861.26

Transaction \$177,427.07

Other Business

Guest speaker Dr Talal Serhan was invited for the P&C meeting and he spoke about the generous offer he made to provide a 10% discount for medical services to anyone who is associated with CTHS.

It was agreed there were no other matters requiring attention at the meeting and the rest of the agenda was closed out.

Meeting closed at 21:00

Next Meeting: To take place in the Staff room, on Tuesday 7th June 2016 at 8 pm.