

General Meeting – Minutes

Meeting Date & Time: Tuesday 9 February 2021, 7.00pm

Meeting Location: Zoom - Nicholson Street Public School

Attendees: Ashley McGrath, Sandy Pedley, Hayes Montgomery, Taylor Moore, Carly Freel, Geoff Watkins, Sue Ross, Sarah Straker Williams, Mark Lee, Jane Morgan, Sarah Cranney, Larni Malcolm, Todd Buncombe, Kirsten Gleichman, Devina Solanki, Andrew Robinson, Daniel Lee

Apologies:

	Topic	Person Responsible
1.0	Meeting Opened & Welcome <i>New Members: Taylor Moore, Geoff Watkins, Kerrie Ferguson, Sarah Cranney, Rosie Malcolm</i>	Sandy Pedley
2.0	Approval of November Meeting Minutes - <i>The minutes from the previous meeting were confirmed as accurate by Committee.</i>	Sandy Pedley
3.0	2020 – Six Months in Review	
3.1	Operations – <i>We plan to always have a two-year rolling plan in place.</i> <i>Since July last year, we have increased membership by more than 20%. We have created a website – critical part of that is the Nicho shop.</i> <i>We did an audit and achieved charity status. We also achieved our DGR status.</i>	Ashley McGrath
3.2	Education – <i>COVID was incredibly challenging for everyone –that goes without saying. We had an Inspirational Speaker in Term 3. Whiteboard and teaching support was funded. Supplied musical equipment and staffing. Funded and supported development of the school song. Sports survey was completed.</i>	Ashley McGrath
3.3	School Environment - <i>Master plan has been completed and is approval ready.</i>	Ashley McGrath

	<p><i>Community garden has been expanded.</i></p> <p><i>AC is now installed across the school.</i></p>	
3.4	<p>School and Local Community Engagement - <i>We wanted to focus on the school community throughout COVID. We increased communication in an attempt to fill the parent/school gap.</i></p> <p><i>We kept our focus on local events – suppliers and venues were all local. Halloween Tricks and Treats Book was solely peninsular based.</i></p>	Ashley McGrath
3.5	<p>Fundraising/Grant Submission/Uniform Shop - <i>We increased our focus here because we would normally have much more school-based activities. Father's Day event and the trivia night were a big success and we still pulled in our Halloween sponsors. A second trivia night was organised as the first one was such a success.</i></p> <p><i>Fruit and Veg boxes were a success and the spooky tea towels were a huge hit.</i></p> <p><i>We were also successful with our grant submission.</i></p> <p><i>Uniform shop is an ongoing activity and stream of activity for the P&C. Request for volunteers please if anyone has time available on Thursdays and Fridays.</i></p> <p><i>Our events brought in \$39k net profit – that was within six months, which is incredible. We are very proud of this.</i></p>	Carly Freel
4.0	2021 – Year Ahead	
4.1	<p>Three Month Workplan and Medium-Term Objectives- <i>The P&C Exec has a meeting with Sue on Friday.</i></p> <p><i>We are planning a welcome event for new families. We have pencilled in Thursday 11 March</i></p> <p><i>Music and Arts Program – We are trying to build on this. Historically we haven't had an Arts program so this will be something new for us.</i></p>	Ashley McGrath

	<p><i>Review of lunch order supplier – we will try and push this a little harder.</i></p> <p><i>We are also keen to organise a working bee (COVID permitting)</i></p> <p><i>Longer term we have other events planned - and will assess what Halloween looks like for Nicho this year.</i></p>	
5.0	CAPA Sub Committee	
5.1	<p>Artist in Residence Program/Music Program – These are ideas that the Sub-Committee is thinking about – weekly art workshops, Bell Shakespeare involvement, Photography workshops, dedicated art space.</p> <p><i>Music Program – Kathryn is pulling back and Brendan (teacher) is moving. Some of the members of Concert Band have moved on to secondary school.</i></p> <p><i>Instrument Discovery Day will be on Monday 15 February where children can discover instruments they might like to learn.</i></p> <p><i>We are thinking of lots of ideas to keep children engaged. The school has a great music program and we are thinking of ways to extend this. We are keen to keep the momentum with the school song and to keep the children learning it.</i></p> <p><i>With the smaller numbers in our senior numbers, we are tentatively looking at joining with another school on the peninsular.</i></p>	Ashley McGrath/Jane Morgan
6.0	Outdoor Learning Sub Committee	
6.1	<p>Air Conditioning/Solar Power/COLA/Outdoor Sports Area Upgrade –</p> <p>AIR CONDITIONING - <i>Thank you to everyone who was involved in this. It was a large investment from the P&C and the school. It was well needed and solves the long running issues of heating and cooling in those rooms.</i></p>	Ashley McGrath/Larni Malcolm

	<p><i>This idea had been around for ten years so it has finally come to fruition!</i></p> <p>SOLAR POWER – <i>this is a program that is done in conjunction with council and the Department of Education to get solar into schools.</i></p> <p><i>We don't have an update yet as to timing for this.</i></p> <p>COLA – <i>Master plan is approved, subject to final review. We will now support Assets and the school. Have made some significant movement here. Now need to see how quickly we can move this forward.</i></p> <p>OUTDOOR SPORT AREA – <i>We have a final option selected for the surface. We have had three different quotes for resurfacing, new line marking, fixed equipment and fencing. This can potentially be addressed independently of the Master plan/COLA. We will discuss whether we move ahead with this, while the COLA is in for council approval.</i></p> <p><i>Quote was around \$42k for all the items listed above (surfacing, new line marking, fixed equipment and fencing). There was a quote for \$10k less which would be a totally different surface.</i></p> <p><i>Todd said could be up to six months for approval of the COLA. We are ready to make it happen quickly. We have to now wait for Assets.</i></p> <p><i>Sue informed us that she applied for a grant at the end of last year (approx \$140,000). The proviso is that the P&C would cover 40% of that. We have been advised that we have been successful but no specifics have been sent through yet. More than 2000 applications were received and approx 790 projects were approved. It is great that we have that extra funding (approx \$75k). They are yet to provide Sue with official documentation to share with the wider community. It is in the pipeline and Sue will let us know when/if that is confirmed.</i></p>	
7.0	Other	
	Uniforms– <i>moving off Flexischools entirely</i>	

	<p>Lunch menu update - We are looking at changing lunch order suppliers.</p> <p>Working Bee - Please let us know if you can help over a weekend in March</p> <p>Musical parents - Please let us know if you can help</p>	
<p>8.0</p>	<p>Reports</p>	
<p>8.1</p>	<p>Treasurer's Report - Quiet last few months. We normally see Dec-Feb where uniform sales peak. We will see that ramp up a bit more, or maybe p</p> <p>Year to date we have approx \$68k income (mainly from fundraising)</p> <p>We have a large forecasted fundraising (it does include grants that we are confident of receiving)</p> <p>We are running on track to what we budgeted for the year. Generally we are in a healthy position.</p> <p>Halloween brought in the bulk of the profit (\$22k). Trivia has been highly lucrative. We are in a good position given the challenging year.</p>	<p>Larni Malcolm</p>
<p>8.2</p>	<p>Principal's Report-</p> <p>We are thinking of getting some swim caps for the children. Sue said that Birchgrove public school has a source for swim caps.</p> <p>Welcome to our new families. Thank you to the teachers and the community for the positivity they have shown at the start of this year.</p> <p>Official enrolment is 117 students across five classes.</p> <p>Meeting on Friday with the P&C Executive Team to discuss how to move forward with our strategic plan.</p> <p>Strategic Directions</p>	<p>Sue Ross</p>

- *All schools have this as number one - Student growth and attainment (literacy and numeracy)*
- *Wellbeing and student engagement in learning (1. A whole school approach 2. Boys and girls' education 3. Gifted and talented education)*
- *Parents and Carers – (parents and carers partnerships).*

Filming happening for the K-2 children next week in conjunction with the Department of Education, which will be very exciting.

Please be mindful of road safety when dropping and picking up the children. Rangers will be sent to patrol the area, particularly in the afternoon.

Meet the teacher sessions will be held via Zoom. The links will be sent to the parents, for confidentiality.

Random acts of kindness was a wonderful gesture. Thank you!

Thank you to Miss Nunik and Sarah Straker Williams for maintaining the Community garden over the summer.

Thank you for the AC installation over the summer. Thank you to Todd who spent a lot of time on site over the summer.

Thank you to all Nicho staff who worked on planning and programming over the school holidays.

Huge thank you to Elizabeth who runs BESC. She runs a wonderful before and after school service, and

	<i>vacation care. Sue said she has not seen a better one in all the schools she has seen.</i>	
9.0	General Business	
9.1	Funding Requests and Required Decisions – none at this time	Ashley McGrath
9.2	Any other business - none	Ashley McGrath
10.0	Meeting Closed: <i>Next Meeting : Tuesday 9 March at 7pm. Via Zoom</i>	Ashley McGrath