Rose Bay Secondary College School Council

Minutes 10 August 2010

Present: Jim Linton, Denise Lofts, David Abulafia, Steven Hayes, Judy Koerber, Evelyn Mike, Gaby Munro, Irene Ulman

Apologies: Cassie Watson, Louise Hawkins, Chris Hughes, Phil Horrel

Meeting commenced: 7.45pm

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** - adopted with minor amendments

2. **Languages**

Jim Linton is empowering the School Council to draft the school’s LOTE policy and recommend what languages are taught at RBSC. The School Council’s position paper on RBSC’s LOTE policy and direction (discussed in the previous meeting) will be, in effect, a review of the status of LOTE at the school and its purpose - to inform parents. A draft of the paper will be ready for the members of the School Council in three weeks’ time.

Denise Lofts set up an Edmodo function for the School Council members to discuss Council matters. The LOTE position paper will be posted there.

3. **National Solar Schools Program**

Jim Linton asked the Council’s opinion on the following:

Rose Bay Secondary College has registered for the National Solar Schools Program (NSSP). It’s received Green Vouchers funding of $43920 and is eligible for a National Solar Schools grant of up to $6080 (GST exclusive) for eligible items. We can now proceed with preparing an application for funding from the NSSP. In order to be considered in the 2010-2011 funding round, the application must be submitted by 20 August 2010.

Jim has contacted suppliers and it seems there are two options for us:

1. Install energy saving devices such as timers that switch off air conditioners after hours and sensors that detect body heat in rooms, switching off lights when unoccupied.
2. Install a 1.5KW solar array. NOTE this will cost $15,000. As such we would need to ask the P&C to top up the grant funding.

Council decision: Option 1 – install energy saving devices
4. **Emerging issues in national politics**

Jim Linton gave a brief overview of the emerging issues in national politics and what they mean for education and for our school. There is not much to expect from either side of politics with both favouring private schools; teacher performance pay will be resisted by the union; funding for improved results will benefit our school because our results are already good. Labor provides more information about schools, but the quality of the information is questionable.

The introduction of the “Australian Baccalaureate” is an interesting new announcement.

5. **Business arising**

World Toilet Day: discussion postponed.

Suggested roll call changes: In the public education system using roll call for teaching or welfare is not possible for industrial reasons (the Department’s strict definition of teaching). There are however other possible ways to develop the school culture and to work on the discipline and welfare issues, for example through the Values project.

Meeting ended at 8.50pm