Rose Bay Secondary College School Council

Minutes 8 March 2011

Present: Lucy Andre, David Abulafia, Steven Hayes, Jim Linton, Gaby Munro, Irene Ulman,

Meeting commenced: 7.35pm

Last meeting’s Minutes: adopted

1) School Council

• Election of the new School Council to be done at the next meeting with quorum

• The SC President will report regularly to the P&C to increase awareness of the SC’s role

• The President gave a report about the RBSC School Council on school Presentation Day; an edited version of the text will be placed on the school website in the School Council section of Parents and Community

2) School anti-smoking policy

• Gaby Munro tried to contact Quit as suggested at the previous SC meeting. It was a frustrating experience. Gaby to take this further and seek advice from relevant state MPs.

• Policy to be revised at the next SC meeting.

3) Secondary /Central School Data Summary Sheet: 2010

Jim Linton advised that the My School website is problematic and the data on it can be easily misinterpreted. The Government’s warning has not stopped the SMH from publishing league tables that are very simplistic. However, there are statistics in the schools’ possession which are credible and need to be studied and discussed. They are contained Secondary /Central School Data Summary Sheet and Jim presented a copy of the sheet for 2010. The key concern arising from the figures is that there is a problem with English writing standards at RBSC, Year 9 data being a particular concern. We at the national “average” standard, together with some disadvantaged communities. The school is taking this very seriously and is implementing a program to improve writing.

Other concerns: The first selective cohort at RBSC did not perform strongly in English in last year’s HSC.

Further discussion of the Summary Sheet to take place at the next meeting.

A more detailed description of the writing improvement program also to take place at the next meeting.
4) Other Business:

- There is an opportunity in June to have a stall on Bondi Beach to promote our school. Discussion about whether or not this is also a fundraising opportunity, with most members agreeing it’s best not to fundraise this time.

- There is a need to improve the look of the front office and promote a better rapport between reception staff and visitors to the school.

Meeting ended at 8.55pm