RBSC P+C Meeting 7 May 2013

1. Apologies: Steve Hayes, Ulli Radtke

2. Correspondence: email from NSW P+C Federation acknowledging the state Govt agreeing to the implementation of Gonski Report. Invitation to annual P+C Federation conference late July, Bankstown – we can send up to 3 delegates, anyone interested? You don’t have to go for all 3 days... Let us know by June meeting.

3. Minutes of April meeting accepted: moved Debbie Walker, seconded Gaby Munro

4. Business arising from last minutes:

Late buses. Gaby has not been able to contact Rick who was on the late bus committee. Lucy says bus punctuality not bad, 682 from Mascot the only one that’s regularly late – depot has been informed; update next meeting.
Alex from Vitamin X present – Richard Skinner will talk about that in his report.
Steve Hayes took on eco-school grant $2000, he would look to see if anything to apply for; two ideas which Gaby will mention later.

5. President’s report:
• Big discussion at first P+C meeting this year about asking parents to pay a P+C levy to the school of $50 per family; Gabi was opposed; but at this stage almost $5000 has been raised!

• Shade/seating – have about $30,000 left from last year, decided not to earmark that till new principal got into the swing of things; priorities: technology, then more seating, more shade (from ‘vision and values’ project a couple of years ago). Gaby recently met with SRC, Louise Hawkins and Rye Clarke, walked round school to look for more seating and shade. Louise Hawkins has about $3500 for possible construction - kids to make some picnic benches, on the way now. Librarian wants seating in front of library. Shade? Grassy area opposite basketball courts down the back but it’s used by sports. Could put shelters there. Gaby did some research and they are expensive, about $10,000 per shelter. Green wall in the plaza came up as idea on walkaround. Looked at professional supply, that’s very expensive – so pots and wire up the wall is the way to go.
6. Principal’s report (summary):

- Di Fetherston relieving principal at Alexandria Park School term 2, replaced by Juliette McMurray.

- School development days at beginning term 2 – on introduction of Australian national curriculum.

- Bus plan: new plan for arrivals and exits implemented in co-operation with State Transit.
  - Priority bus pass – if they have an appt, they can be given a priority pass and put on first bus to go to front of line;
  - Buses all gone by 3.40pm, better loading than before, much more orderly.

- Technology: Laptop program finishes end of this year. Lots of issues to be considered:
  - Infrastructure, the servers, interactive whiteboards, network – ageing and has reached its capacity.
  - Pedagogy – what do the teachers want? – some want whiteboards, some want data projectors; some students love laptops, some don’t and use their own. So what sorts of program would it look like if there were tablets instead of laptops?

Three technology teams:

1\textsuperscript{st}: Technology Committee: Richard oversees – for big ticket items
2\textsuperscript{nd}: Laptops, etc: Louise Hawkins, Juliette McMurray, parents, etc.
3\textsuperscript{rd}: Communications/marketing group – Lucy overseeing that with parents Alex France/Tania Viscovitch.

Combined meeting first to do some ‘blue sky’ thinking about where we want to get to? And how?

- V Fest up and running.
- Tournament of the Minds training commenced
- MEP camp very successful
- Debating – won 3 at Cranbrook last week.
• Cabaret rehearsing in sports time this term.
• Won a free anti-bullying workshop for Y7.
• July trip to Beijing for Y10-12 has been cancelled due to difficulty of risk assessments.
• EOI for 2014 Y7 have come in. Out of zone applications – enrolment policy endorsed by last school council. High School Enrolment committee – parent rep needed. Give name to Gaby.
• Donna Masterson has put in her retirement papers. In position to form a CAPA teacher selection panel – would make sense to get parent from MEP.
• Karla Hayes selected for 2013 Board of Studies Student Advisory Group.
• P+C wishlist – need for small committee to meet and determine areas we wish to fund now. Propose not to assign 100% of funding now.

7. Treasurer’s report:
• Suggests with income from P+C levy that it be added to the $30,000 to be spent this year.
• Term 1 profit $38,000. Best in recent years ($25,000 from uniform). On track to have another good year financially.

8. Presentation from Alison Kyling Y7 parent who runs canteen at Coogee Public School using Flexischools online ordering system.
• Flexischools is a privately run company, now 600 schools Oz-wide.
• If you don’t like it after first year, money back.
• Log in, order online. Can be done via smartphone.
• Parents open an account and put some money into it, then login and spend that money.
• 3% of turnover goes to Flexischools.
• Parents can put $ limits on high school students.

Craig will investigate the company – due diligence.
Alison volunteers as a parent to help if we introduce it. Gaby and any others will go and look at Coogee.
Wendy makes the point about kids not wanting to order because of the lines. Alison says kids can order via their phones. There are individual class pick-up areas.
Thank you Alison!

9. Presentation on sustainable schools by Fiona McCrossin – son in Y10, teacher at
Sydney Girls, before that at Nth Sydney Boys. Implemented NSW Environmental policy.

- Last 30 years working on sustainability. Waverley Council runs a sustainability program for all schools in east. Wider context: intergenerational equity – important principle for our children; students need to solve real-world problems in order to decrease stress and even depression. Often policy not implemented.
- Because we’re implementing a new curriculum, window of opportunity to implement sustainability. It is one of the 3 over-arching curriculum priorities (other two are Asia, relationship to indigenous people.)
- Fiona distributes for future consideration: Sustainability briefing note and Sustainability policy. Does the school have a policy? Principal says he has not come across it.
- Thank you Fiona!

10. Need a canteen/uniform committee as Gaby will retire from her position next year. Canteen manager retiring this year. This income very important to P+C. Debbie Walker says she needs committee to make decisions on uniform changes and throw ideas around and maybe come up with volunteers. Alison Kyling interested and will discuss with others. If interested send email to Gaby or talk after meeting.

11. Els Termaat will go on teacher selection committee.

12. Need volunteers to put time/energy into seeking grant money.

13. Debbie saw lots of laptops that have been turned in. What will happen to them? Richard says those laptops are past use-by date – need to put this to the technology commitee.