RBSC P+C minutes February 5, 2013

1. Apologies: Trevor Graham, Jeff Millard

2. Gaby introduces the P+C executive and new principal and Vice principals.
   Gaby talks about her own involvement in the school.
   RBSC P+C got the Education Director-General’s Parent-School partnership award in 2012.
   Working bee in November – 100 parents.
   Re-turfing of oval last year.
   Farewelled last principal Jim Linton end of Term 3, 2012; parent Anne Arnold on interview panel; advertised nationally to draw attention.
   2012 eight meetings of P+C; sent representatives to school council and many interview panels, to P+C region and annual conference, to education funding action day in November; we have input into website; personal best committee. Parent co-ordinates debating program; MEP program run by parent volunteers, uniform shop, canteen workers are parents. P+C runs uniform shop and canteen.
   Contributed $60,000 to oval, homework centre, new computers – almost $120,000 to school. Huge combined effort.
   As a public school, we rely very much on enthusiastic parents.

3. Principal Richard Sinner welcomes new parents.
   Starts by acknowledging Gaby and Anne; interviewed on Melbourne Cup Day, felt like he won the cup.
   Passionate about public education; 4 grown up kids; two kids Y10 at RBSC, Y6 at Bondi Beach, committed to provide best education for his own kids, which includes sending them to RBSC
   Dubbo since 2006. Wife is a Head teacher.
   Biggest challenge is to see that this school stands high surrounded by private schools.
   Motto of our school – achievement, opportunity, community.
   HSC results last year show that teaching is of high quality.
   Has spoken to students at year assemblies – to have pride in the school.
   Part of his job is to promote all the good things the school is doing. About 80 people present – they need to promote the school too.
   Pride in uniform, respect for teachers, pride in the classroom.
   Students come up in playground and introduce themselves - terrific sign.
   Not naïve – always a small number of kids who will embarrass the school. Will be telling students very clearly, that if they are in uniform and misbehave, they will be dealt with under discipline code.
   Have met the student leaders. They have a big responsibility in that message too.
   School has made inroads in improving punctuality, uniform...
   Questions: Ilana: kids chatting and ignoring teachers? A: This is something he wants to address .
   Q: Funny smell in toilets? A: His policy is zero tolerance for smoking.
   Principal’s report:
   Richard thanks Lucy for being relieving principal and welcomes Di Fetherston back.
   As of this week, 992 students.
   Nine out of 22 honour students in HSC were from non-selective stream.
   Has asked head teachers to analyse their HSC results, what worked well, what areas do we need to work on more closely; look at boys/girls, NESP, etc.
   Lots of things to celebrate but still looking at data.
   Homework Centre has started Mondays, Thursdays in Library, 3.30-5pm.
March 6 – Y7 parents meet the teachers, followed by open night.
Thursday full school assembly partly to open oval.
Honour roll presentation March 18
Swimming carnival 26 Feb
Feb 14 SRC fundraiser – Question about anaphylactic allergies – A: need to look into this.
March 5 school photos
Suggested working bee for March 7.
Q: About roll call and SMS – Lucy: the systems are down so SMSs aren’t working due to big storm.
Wanted to minimize student movement – so students go to period 1, teacher spends first 10 minutes reading out info, then go straight into teaching. Marking roll every lesson.
Q: Vaccination of Y9 boys didn’t happen – Di says will ask Heidi and put update in newsletter
Q: Only ever focus on high ATARs, how do we know how much value adding we do? – Richard: lots of graphs in annual school report. NAPLAN also gives you some info
Richard comes from background where lots of people doing it tough, had to work with families. It’s a passion of his.
Q: One kid selective, one non-selective – how do we get that message across? A: That’s the challenge of a partially selective school. Di speaks about the VP first ports of call, learning support strategy; the A class going along with the selective stream, that’s a benefit; looking at kids as individuals.
Someone points out that selective ends after Y10.
Q: Are classes streamed? A: Two selectives, one A class, identified from primary data. Then the other 3 classes are non-streamed, put together by gender/language. Will look at Y7 classes at end of T1, review.
Electives Y9 all students together. That is our aim.
Q about languages A: can enrol from Y9 into Open High school.
Di looks after Y7, 9, 11, Lucy evens.

4. Minutes of previous meeting: approved, moved Ilana Cohen, seconded Misty.
Business arising: oval. Gaby, Godby and contractor had meeting in November, give it more time; another inspection Dec 14, very happy, oval looked fantastic. Contractor responsible for another few weeks then will enter contract with maintenance company.

5. Craig: exceptional year of fundraising: spent $120,000, including $65,000 to oval. Three accts, uniform, canteen, P+C. Current in P+C $67000. At some stage need to look at what we’re committed to.
Committed to $5000 to magazine, $5000 to debating, (from nothing to 60 kids) homework centre $7000, $10,000 oval maintenance, plus miscellaneous = $30,000-35,000.
So about $30,000 available.
Uniform shop and canteen work really hard and enable us to do all we do.
Gaby: we need to discuss whether to do small projects or a big project eg shade and seating.
Q: fundraising initiatives? Would love a fundraising co-ordinator. Catered last year at NSW Bands Festival made $16,000.
Only 60% of parents pay their voluntary contribution. Have tried a P+C levy. Maybe try again.

6. Introductions:
Kelly Robinson a parent who co-ordinates the website, employed few hours a week to update. Son Y10.
Contact her about anything at all = spelling mistakes, stuff missing, etc.
Change to Dept of Education policy for permission to publish – requires formal permission to publish anything at all, even names of parents in P+C minutes.
Update the permission every year. Can’t do the opt-out, must send form to every family. Please send it back!

Debbie Walker co-ordinator of uniform shop – took $17,000 in one day…
Debbie Dukes debating co-ordinator – will start training on Friday afternoon, starts competition on March 1,
no experience needed – 3.30-4.45pm. Lots of benefits, social and fun. L5 of B-block.

7. AGM will be March 5, all positions declared vacant. Can nominate even if can’t make the meeting. School council meetings also up for re-nomination. Steve Hayes president of School Council: 4 positions plus 2 reserves. School council doesn’t raise or spend money – acts as consultative committee, eg on security cameras,

Ends 9.10pm

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