Annual President’s Report for 2011

I would like to start by thanking the executive members of the P&C: the vice-presidents Di Adams and Susan Ardill, the treasurer Craig Prosser and the secretary Michael Palmer for all their hard work and efforts this year. Thank you for the invaluable support, advice and input you give me throughout the year.

A particular ‘thank you’ must go to Michael, who has served the P&C for longer than I have been on board and will be stepping down from his duties as secretary at this AGM. Michael has been secretary since 2005 and during that time has served the college well beyond the call of duty. His skills in diplomacy and wording the most beautiful motions and his ability to think calmly, clearly and without judgment will be sorely missed by all. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Meetings
We held a total of 8 P&C meetings last year. Thank you to all the parents and school staff who attended and contributed as well as those parents and carers who followed our progress via the minutes and the parent email list. Your interest, suggestions and involvement is what makes us a valuable and productive parent body.

Representation
The P&C elected 6 parent representatives at the last AGM who, together with this president, represented the P&C at school council meetings last year. Thank you to all of the ones that attended. We also sent representatives to several selection panels for new teaching staff members.

Steve Hayes and I, together with the relieving principal at the time, represented the school at a ‘White Tie’ event that advocates the end of violence against women.

I represented the parent body on Orientation, Open and Presentation Days.

We made contact with our newly elected state member for Vaucluse, Gabrielle Upton and invited her to visit our school. She has since visited the school several times and has been very supportive of our activities and projects, lobbying the state government to approve our request for funding for the oval upgrade. As the only public high school in Gabrielle’s constituency we are looking forward to her continued support of and interest in our school.

Thank you to Claire Keating for making contact with our local federal MP, Malcolm Turnbull. He consequently attended the Year 12 Graduation Ceremony a well as a special morning tea to celebrate our HSC students’ results.

Committees/Interest Groups
The following groups were all initiated and are mostly run by parents in collaboration with the school’s teaching and/or executive staff.

Communication:
The communication committee has continued to maintain the school’s website and it has become an invaluable resource of up to date information on every aspect of our school. Thank you to Irene Ulman, Ian Close, Kelly Robinson and team.

Sport:
The sport committee ran three major fundraisers this year, catering for the NSW Band Festival and organizing a raffle and a trivia night. The profits from these will go towards the upgrade of our oval.
With other fundraising money plus a starting grant from P&C the sport committee managed to raise the profile of sport at our school by arranging extra coaching and entering many sporting competitions. Thank you to Wendy Goldman, Lauren Broit, Ian Godby and team.

**Debating:**
The debating program is attracting more children every year and demonstrating rising skill levels. The P&C voted to finance the running of the debating program again in 2012 as it seems an excellent opportunity to present our school’s skills to the public.
Thank you to Debbie Dukes and teaching staff.

**Academic Achievement/Personal Best:**
This group started meeting with the deputy principals last year to address the management of students’ academic performance.

**Behaviour Management Group:**
Together with the deputy principal looks at managing students’ behaviour in a positive and non-punitive way.

**MEP**
The Music Ensemble Program became a P&C subcommittee at the AGM in 2011. It has continued to offer outstanding musical opportunities to students of RBSC. Changes in the directorship of the program promise lots of new opportunities in 2012.
Thank you to Celia Donovan and her team.

Please find attached individual committee’s reports.

**Oval**
After the school received a $45,000 grant from the state government towards the upgrade of our oval and factoring in the profits from the sports committee’s fundraising projects the P&C committed to finance the remainder of the project.
As the government grant has to be used by June 2012 the P&C voted at their meeting in February 2012 to appoint a project manager to see the project through. A quote by ‘Narelle Sonter Botanica’ was accepted. ‘NS Botanica’ is currently preparing the tender process.

**Uniform Shop and Canteen**
Both these are run by the RBSC P&C and all the profits made go back to the school to finance programs and projects and purchase additional teaching resources after consultation between the parent committee and the school executive.

The uniform shop sources and sells high quality uniform items. Thank you to Debbie Walker and her team of volunteers for running the uniform shop smoothly and efficiently while being a friendly contact person for both parents and students.

The canteen sells healthy and tasty mostly home cooked food to our students and teaching staff. It is run very proficiently by Ann Quin and her team.

Both the uniform shop and the canteen made very pleasing profits in 2011 which will enable us to finance the oval upgrade and other needs the school has.
Finances
All our accounts are now accessible online and using Commbiz allows for a speedy and transparent financial process. All transactions have to be approved by at least two signatories. Our treasurer, Craig Prosser, does an amazing, very time consuming job monitoring the P&C’s finances, preparing trading, expenditure and income statements and arranging the end of year audit. He is helped by Ross Munro who prepares the payment of wages and invoices each week. Thank you Craig and Ross!

In 2011 the P&C financed:
* the purchase of two interactive white boards, one of these for the support class
* the production of the college magazine
* refurnishing of and signage for the school’s main entrance area
* a student’s attendance at a science forum
* a lunch for the teachers in appreciation of all their hard work and dedication
* the purchase of new science kits
* the debating program
* a school promotional stall at a local fair plus the design and printing of new promotional material
* a contribution to the Year 12 Formal

On behalf of the P&C executive I would again like to thank everyone for their many and varied contributions throughout 2011.
A special thank you must go to the school executive, Jim Linton, Diane Fetherston and Lucy Andre for their willingness to listen and their support of RBSC P&C in 2011.
It is a privilege of public education that we as parents can have an input into the school’s running and decision making processes. As a public school we rely on the input of enthusiastic parents. Your involvement will not just benefit the school and its students but also give your child the message that their schooling and education are relevant and important.
I’d like to encourage you to remain or become involved in 2012 and make this another successful and productive year for our P&C.

Gaby Munro
P&C President
Rose Bay Secondary College