RBSC P+C Meeting 7 September 2013

1. Apologies: Els Termaat

2. Address to the meeting by Senior Constable Matthew Smith, local police liaison officer.

- He is one of 40 officers throughout the state who liaise between police force and unis, TAFE, schools. Talked to RBSC students today about safe partying.
- Cyberbullying: in the past, if students were being bullied at school, home was safe, where bullying wouldn’t follow. With cyberbullies, there is no escape, it follows them home. There’s been an increase in suicide due to bullying, because of this.
- Advice: Don’t allow kids to have computers in their bedrooms. Pedophiles can remotely access cameras on computers in kid’s bedroom. Computers should be somewhere everyone can see it.
- Physically take phone off your child at a certain time so that they can actually sleep (rather than checking social media). Looking at mobiles before you go to sleep can interfere with your sleep rhythms.
- Age of vulnerability is low now, Y5 and Y6. A dangerous culture has surfaced in sexting.
- In social media, kids are adding ‘friends’ who they don’t know. Paedophiles add lots of people and because they then have 6 friends in common, kids will add them.
- Q: in holidays, found my kids on Ask.FM, horrific. This site has exploded. A: Report problems to the website and ask for it to be deleted.
- Kids are putting all their personal info, eg phone numbers, online.
- Reality is there’s no real security. Someone can access you thru your friends. Hacking is easy. Finding people is easy.
- Q: could the school have a dedicated theme/week on this issue, flood them with the info? A: from another parent – they’re risk-
takers, feel safe.... they're so naïve.

- Q: What are legal consequences of cyberbullying for under-18s? A: there is a criminal offence with 3 yrs in jail, anyone over 10 can be charged. Parent or guardian can make a claim on behalf of the child. Child can make a report. Police must investigate a report. Each case investigated on own merit. There are warnings which are formal can be taken.
- Q from Principal Skinner: Has always been advised, if bullying happens out of school, the parents/child should report. A: Best practice, the complaint should be from parent or child. There are cases where the school can’t formally complain.
- Q: What if kids ringing and harassing another kid. A: Police can trace the phone number and then warn the kids. Prank calling = cyberbullying.
- Q: Are there any factsheets on this subject? A: Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) website.
- Q: How can you se what your children are doing online? A: create a fake Facebook account and add your child as a friend, they will add you, no question asked.
- Suggest put ACMA in school newsletter.
- Thank you Senior Constable Smith for a very informative talk.

3. Review of minutes from last meeting: Ilana Cohen moves to accept, Steve Hayes seconds.

4. Business arising from last minutes: email from Els: canteen committee have so far investigated the Flexischools system in operation at 3 different schools (2 secndary, one primary), Each have all had very different canteen set-ups from each other and from RBSC. In each case we felt we learnt something new interesting and useful. We look forward to continuing our investigations and making a report with our recommendations as planned at November P+C meeting.

5. Gaby’s report:
The issue of uniforms for students representing the school. Need more blazers than we currently have. P+C paid for prefects’ blazers last year. Prefects don’t wear them regularly. Doesn’t justify cost. They will donate back to the school when they finish. School captains get to keep theirs. Graduation is on 16 Sept, then see how many we get back. Currently have 8-10 blazers. Boys will be expected to buy their own shirt. Ties often don’t come back.

Motion: Gaby moves: the P+C provide up to $2000 to purchase blazers after Sept 16, depending how many come back. Seconded Debbie. Passed unanimously.

Last meeting, discussed panels for choosing teachers. Workshop on 12 September in Bankstown to train parents for panels – ask Mr Skinner if interested.

Di Fetherstone left school to be principal at Alexandria Park High School – Gaby moves motion: the P+C will allocate $300 to buy Di a leaving present and also invite her to the December drinks. Seconder: Craig. Passed.

Gaby tables P+C Federation brochure on alcohol.

5. Richard Skinner’s report, highlights:
   - Y12 graduate on Sept 12. Practicals are being marked. Annual challenge Y12 play the teachers in futsal, basketball, football. Teachers won. Ferociously competitive.
   - Subject selection for Y8/10. Interviews are on for Y10 students, 94% success at getting their subjects.
   - Y11 final prelims next week.
   - V-Fest 17 Sept. Entries rolling in.
   - Integrated sports model for 2014. Document tabled for discussion, endorsed by school executive and supported in
principle by School Council. Proposal is that sport be held at different times for different year groups rather than on a Wednesday afternoon for the whole school. Teachers will be with one group for whole year – so truancy will reduce. More structured. Opens up classroom flexibility too.

7. Report: Craig: last meeting there was a suggestion to open a bank account to get better interest. Probably will do that. In process of researching and setting up.

8. Any other business:
   • 690 from Bronte to school is late every day at the pickup corner Hewlett and Murray Sts. Parents have written complaints to Buses. Skinner says has been disappointed, they don’t respond to emails etc. Skinner asks for copies of any correspondence to be sent to the school. Steve: if this is affecting our lateness figures, it can be raised with state MPs. Gaby will write to Gabrielle Upton MP about this. Gaby will follow up on man who came to meeting and said he would pursue the Buses on this issue.

   • Letters about intersection at bottom of Hardy St have been written, awaiting responses. Suggest forward letters to three ward councillors.

   • Question about numbers of tables/chairs in the playground – more are being made as we speak. Students are making 5-6.

Meeting closed at 9pm.