

Glenmore Road Public School
Minutes of a meeting of the School Council

Date: Wednesday 5 May 2021
Time: 4.10pm
Place: Principal's Office
In Attendance: Karen Sinclair (Principal)
Sally Baker (P&C President)
Dan Zammit (2021 Parent Member)
Jono Friedrich (2021 Parent Member)
Tamsin Hunter (2021 Parent Member)
Apologies: Alexis Martin (GRPS Teacher Representative)
Kathy Fitzgerald (GRPS Teacher Representative)

1. Nominations and voting for 2021 office bearers

- a. **President** - For the position of President, Tamsin Hunter nominated Dan Zammit. Jono Friedrich seconded the nomination and it was unanimously resolved to appoint Dan Zammit.
- b. **Secretary** - For the position Secretary, Dan Zammit nominated Tamsin Hunter. Jono Friedrich seconded the nomination and it was unanimously resolved to appoint Tamsin Hunter as Secretary.

2. Reports

As it was the inaugural meeting of the 2021 School Council, no reports were tabled.

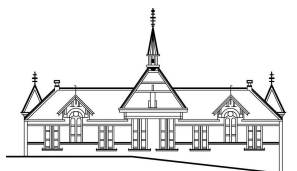
3. Business Arising

3.1. Acceptance of minutes from the AGM 31 March 2021

The minutes from AGM 31 March 2021 School Council Meeting were approved.

3.2. Suitability of the 2012 Constitution and potential amendments

The President outlined the structure and high level content of the current Constitution dated 4 September 2012 (found [here](#)). The Principal provided background and broader context around the existence of School Councils, including that there are very few remaining in NSW. The Council discussed the spirit of the relationship between School Councils and schools and the desire to





have the Constitution reflect the collaborative nature of that relationship and the function of the Council as an advisory body representing the interests of all members of the school community. The Council discussed the different types of policy in the school – those mandated by the DoE and those that are developed within the school.

The Council agreed the key areas where it was important that the School Council has a strong advisory presence and these are:

- School developed policies and guidelines like homework, 'kiss and drive', technology (eg mobile phone use), out of area policy, uniform, The Cottage, access to facilities and services, wellbeing initiatives
- DoE mandated policies with bespoke elements like the School Strategic Improvement Plan, the School Charter
- Other areas like the physical school Masterplan, budgets and expenditure

The Council decided to continue to discuss possible amendment to the document after seeking advice on the amendment process.

Actions: KC to seek advice from DoE Legal department on document enforceability and amendment process; DZ to mark-up document with potential changes for discussion

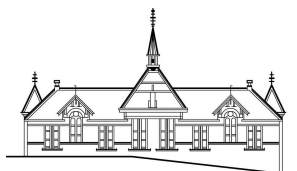
3.3 Amendment to mobile phone policy

The Principal outlined an amendment made this week to the mobile phone policy to include smart watches.

3.4. School Budget and Expenditure process

The Principal explained the school budget and expenditure process, including the allocation of funds between accounts and the existence of the "School Community Fund" (6300 fund) which is the funds that come from school community sources to cover the cost of additional learning experiences, excursions etc, and is not from the State government (which is called Consolidated Funds 6100). The 6300 funds are part of the school account and are drawn upon when the Principal overspends the Consolidated Funds (6100) or plans a project in the school budget from this account. The Council will include in future meetings an agenda item for discussion of budgeting and expenditure within each of the accounts.

3.5. Consultation and School Council priorities for 2021





The Council reaffirmed its position as a body representative of all stakeholders in the school. The parent representatives reaffirmed their role as representatives of the parents and carers of the school. The Council agreed that consultation with the parents and carers of the school was imperative and would be the main priority for 2021. The Council agreed to pilot a variety of consultation methods, beginning with a comms plan and potential survey to receive feedback on priorities and a presentation at the P & C meeting for term 2.

Possible priorities to be canvassed with parents and carers for prioritisation include:

- The School Charter
- Start/finish times for school
- Parking permits for staff
- Stage based learning
- Extra/intra-curricular activities
- Kiss and drive policy

3.6. Inclusion of “App Review of the Week” from ySafe

The Principal had received a complaint about inclusion of an app review feature in the newsletter. The Council discussed the inclusion of the review and agreed it was a useful and informative addition to the newsletter to help parents and carers navigate the appropriateness of individual apps for their children.

3.7. Next steps

- Dan Zammit and Tamsin Hunter will present an introduction to the School Council at next week’s P and C Meeting
- The Council will investigate a survey for distribution to parents and carers to inform priorities for this year
- Council to meet again on 18 August 2021

The meeting closed at 6pm.

