



Minutes of School Council Meeting

6.00pm, 2 August 2017 Staff Room

Attendance: Dorothy Bosnar (**DB**), Debbie Brandon (**RPDB**), Lisa Brown (**LB**), Amber Cleary (**AC**), Sonya Olsen (**SO**), Harriet Price (**HP**), Jessica Smith (**JS**)

RPDB reported on the following:

Finance: RPDB reported that the School remains on track financially. A sound system for the top playground was purchased using a Community Engagement grant. Some of this grant remains and may be used to improve exterior signage.

Tell Them From Me: Like in term 1, this term Years 4, 5 and 6 will be asked to participate in the NSW-wide survey which focuses on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices. Parents and staff will also be asked to participate in this survey this term.

School Plan: Community consultation will commence on 29 August.

Sport Selection: Student and parent surveys have been finalised and will be sent out soon so the School can provide preferences to the PSSA. The PSSA have indicated that subject to the amount of interest, softball or T-Ball could be replaced by Girls' Cricket.

Recycling Update: Recycling contractor, Remondis have provided a large paper and cardboard recycling bin at the cost of \$20 per week. As a result the School might be able to reduce the cost of Woollahra Council's garbage collection (and also the amount of bins stored in the shed). The Remondis service can be increased from once to twice a week if needed. Unfortunately, the Remondis bin does not fit into the shed. In the event the School can reduce the Woollahra Council bins, the Remondis bin can be moved. Remondis also offer co-mingled recycling which would mean the children could put everything together into small bins in the playground.

The School will keep this option under review and RPDB will report further at the next Council meeting.

Community Users / Sunday Markets Update: Local schools hosting weekend markets have provided RPDB with positive feedback regarding their experiences.



On the whole they run smoothly and generate significant revenue for the host schools. RPDB explained that it would be a 12-18 month process to launch markets at GRPS involving a Development Application (DA) and a letter of support from the community (signed by the President of the P&C). LB will raise the possibility of markets at the next P&C meeting to gauge community support. Before that, RPDB will email assets and confirm the steps required (including the tender process, the fee GRPS could charge and details concerning lodgement of a DA (including confirmation of who is responsible for lodgment).

RPDB will report further at the next Council meeting.

Discipline Policy: This is one of the two policies on which the School has to report to the Department in 2017. How should our current policy be amended? At the very least, the wording needs to be changed to reflect that the fact that the School Medal has now been replaced by a pin to be worn on uniforms. Does the volume of awards reduce their meaning? Is there a more effective way to recognise children's conduct? RPDB will circulate the policy to the Council for comment before the next meeting.

Communication Survey Results: 105 parents responded which represents approximately 200 students. 98% of respondents access the Newsletter and The Week Ahead. The Newsletter is the preferred method of communication for 50% of respondents with 60% reading it thoroughly. 46% of participants responded that the Newsletter meets their needs, with 56% feeling that way about the Week Ahead. Many suggested the Newsletter lead with a snapshot of key dates and events requiring parental action (e.g. mufti days).

54% of respondents find School Reports somewhat valuable with some suggesting that more subjective comments could make reports seem more personalised. Some parents did not feel reports communicated effectively enough how they could best support their child's learning. RPDB said reports need to meet parents' needs in order to be valuable.

Council members will read through the extensive feedback provided in the Communication survey and send thoughts to HP who will collate in time for our next meeting.

Next meeting: 6 September 6pm.