



## **Minutes of School Council Meeting**

**8.30am, 7 June 2017 Staff Room**

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

**Apologies:** Lisa Brown (**LB**)

### **1. Reports**

#### **Principal's Report**

RPDB talked through the budget; the School is on track financially to roll over with \$18,000 at the end of the year.

The school continues working towards our three strategic directions. Shelley Davidoff will work with teachers on the impact of stress on the nervous system and brains. This links in with student well-being and collaborative community.

Teaching staff are nearing the end of their 12-hour online maths programme and have tweaked the assessment process in line with this programme.

6 members of staff are learning to employ Embedded Formative Assessment. It will take a few years to roll EFA out throughout the school.

The Got It early intervention programme is well under way and the facilitators are working their way through their short list and calling parents to organise the 2 hour weekly sessions. Staff are having their second Got It session this afternoon; these sessions are proving valuable.

#### **P&C Report**

No report as LB absent.



## 2. Business Arising

### a) Acceptance of minutes from 5 April 2017

HP proposed acceptance of the Minutes from 5 April 2017, seconded by JS. The minutes were accepted.

### b) School communications – finalise survey questions

RPDB circulated the survey questions. A few small amendments were made. RPDB raised the idea of including questions about school reports. The Council drafted two questions which JS will circulate for comment.

### c) Community users

RPDB distributed the proposal received from Cambridge Markets who have requested to host 25 to 28 stalls in the middle playground every Sunday, 9am to 2pm. HP suggested we first look at the Department's process for Community Users. RPDB confirmed that any proposals have to go to Assets Branch who then come out to the school to investigate all relevant issues including toilets, parking and the school's projected growth – for example, a future demountable could clash with the needs of a Community User (our student population has stabilised; we currently have a spare classroom). Once approved by Assets, any proposal would have to go to tender. The User would then have to do community research and apply for a Council DA. HP stressed the importance of balancing the impact on the school with valuable income that could be generated. HP discussed a staggered approach such as a monthly market. RPDB raised the possibility of initially hosting a one-off market, but HP suggested that a one-off would not provide a fair representation of how a weekly market might run. RPDB pointed out that all 5 different levels of the school would inevitably be accessed. RPDB confirmed that the school currently raises approximately \$25,000 a year from community users (e.g. karate and The Cottage). She will investigate other local schools' Community User experience, including the income raised.



#### d) Recycling Update

HP asked Woollahra Council about the recycling offered to schools. Woollahra Council confirmed they provide one-off services but not weekly ones. HP discovered the City of Sydney do provide weekly services to their schools.

HP has contacted Alex Greenwich's office to see if any other schools had received some sort of dispensation and found that GRPS is the only school in Woollahra Council and in Alex Greenwich's seat of Sydney. Alex Greenwich subsequently wrote to the Minister for Education asking if he could consider providing standard recycling for NSW schools.

Alex also formally raised the question in Parliament on 25 May; the Government has to respond by 29 June.

In the meantime, The School Council unanimously agreed the school must immediately start recycling, albeit at a cost. RPDB sought a waste management recommendation and Remondis are reverting with pricing.

The Environment Committee has restarted every Monday morning. HP suggested that perhaps they could be tasked with reinvigorating the use of green bins and paper recycling.

RPDB also highlighted the role the SRC can play; they have requested starting a monthly nude food day.

### 3. New Business

#### a) Sport Selection (years 3-6)

Since the beginning of the year a parent has expressed concern that the school does not offer enough team based options during Friday sport. The parent has drafted survey questions regarding sport preferences for both parents and students.

RPDB and HP thanked the parent for raising their concerns and for preparing the draft surveys. RPDB emphasised the fact that student



and teacher numbers ultimately dictate the number of teams and sports on offer. In addition, the rules of the PSSA are to be observed.

RPDB provided the Council with statistics showing how many students tried out for PSSA and how many did not make it into a team: 19 in summer, 24 in winter – 21 of these were accommodated by the School Netball Development Squad. This initiative run by Karyn Ortolani has proved extremely successful and popular. There remains a possibility that a parallel model could be created for AFL or similar. This decision would be based partly on demand and the students' preferences. Accordingly, RPDB in conjunction with the sport teachers, redrafted the surveys and circulated them for comment.

JS raised that fact that year 2 parents are uninformed about how sport runs in years 3-6. HP raised the idea of reintroducing an information evening for parents transitioning from year 2 to 3 and suggested this could be the appropriate forum for explaining PSSA sport, University Sports and the other school options.

RPDB said that PSSA numbers have to be submitted by the end of the year so if the survey could be sent out early term 4 the results could feed into that submission.

b) Next meeting: 26 July 6.00pm.