

Minutes – Friends’ School Parents’ and Friends’ Association.

General Meeting 4/2018, Wednesday 31st October, 2018.

The Green Room, The Farrall Centre.

These minutes reflect the decision making procedures that are embodied in the constitution. Relevant items are recorded as having been “resolved by agreement”, reflecting that the decisions of the committee are decided by consensus, rather than being moved, seconded and voted upon.

1. Opening and Welcome:

The meeting was opened in the usual way with a period of silence and acknowledgement of country.

2. Presentation:

Ina Johnson discussed the funding priorities which determines how the P&F funds are distributed.

Last year’s funding priorities had several underutilised items. Generally the cultural exchange and student presentation items were well spent. Concern was voiced that the guest speakers seemed to not necessarily cover wellbeing/welfare of students or staff.

The P&F requested that students presenting at conferences and student support on competitions be bundled into one item @ \$6000 to ensure it was fully utilised. Ina was in agreeance but it does not seem to have translated onto the 2019 Funding Priorities.

Ina discussed two funding possibilities –

- i) Wells silhouettes – die cut steel figures of silhouettes of children doing activities, to be affixed to the wall of Wells. Ties in with Yr 1 unit on Light. P&F generally felt this was not experiential enough and that the money could be better spent on something more interactive.
- ii) School TV – online resource to educate parents in practical strategies to help manage issues and challenges facing youth across primary and secondary school. Overall the P&F were not sure – seemed a good resource but expensive, some individuals involved with the resource were not highly regarded in some circles, much of the information is readily available in other free high quality online resources, most parents do not have time to spend hours looking at an online resource, and it is unclear how much it would be utilised. In addition parents felt they needed the support, connection and validation of other parents locally, which this does nothing to address.

Mention was made of an internet addiction forum that the P&F planned to hold, but the school felt there was not enough consultation prior. Discussion of issues pertaining to mobile policy and enforcement of same.

3. Attendance:

Nigel Reeves (President), Jane Gorman (Secretary), Anna Shannon (Treasurer), Nelson File (Principal), Ina Johnson (Vice-Principal), Michele Wilson, Kirstan Long, Sarah Hood, Chris Ferguson, Bill Avery (Director of Community Engagement).

Apologies were received from Mary-Marg Gibson, Sally McGushin and Wendy McHugh.

4. Confirmation of Agenda:

The agenda was confirmed.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting:

It was resolved by agreement that the minutes be accepted.

6. Correspondence:

There was no correspondence of note.

7. Reports and Liaison:

7.1) Principal's Report: Nelson File:

Nelson discussed the recent Strategic Plan update (stage 1) which will start to be implemented in about a year's time. Fundraising will be necessary to implement the plan and maintain the school's financial stability.

New teachers have been hired in HS for maths and science.

7.2) Director of Community Engagement Report:

Bill thanked the P&F for contributions to the life of the school The Volunteers Lunch will instead be a BBQ this year to allow more people to attend, and will be held on 28/11 in the Green Room. The school is expecting an increase of 10% in numbers in 2019, primarily into Yr 7 and Kinder.

8. President's Report:

Nigel discussed dates for P&F meetings, and options for additional fundraising events such as the Quiz Night, HS social events in grade level, etc.

9. Treasurer's Report:

See separate page.

10. Fundraising:

The focus of the 2019 fair will be on community engagement rather than fund raising (much like 2018 fair). General discussion around stall holders, staff members to engage and the next Fair meeting.

11. Dates:

Next meeting will be on Monday 25/2 at 7.15pm (after Steve Barratt's talk about Assessment changes at 6.30pm).

12. Closed with a silence as usual.