PARENTS AND CITIZENS MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 16 February, 2015
MEETING OPENED: 7.30 PM
VENUE: School Office

ATTENDANCE: Marianne Amos, Dan Amos, Jan Dolstra, Mark Tishler, Justin Perrett, Sokka Lam, Paul Donovan, Alan Scuder, Melissa Taller, Daniella Fedele, Tracy Smith, Hitesh Chandra, Michelle Wilson

APOLOGIES: Samina Aziz, Khurram Nawaz, Saif Khan

BUSINESS ARISING FROM LAST MONTH’S MINUTES:

• Nil

CORRESPONDENCE IN:

• Bank Statements
• Thank you letter from Breast Cancer Foundation
• Letter from Skool Uniforms P/L
• Check from MFHS for student contributions term 4 2014 $6063.01

CORRESPONDENCE OUT:

• Nil

TREASURER’S REPORT

• Balance $21,765.31

PRESIDENT’S REPORT:

• Thanks to Marika
• Welcome to everyone

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT:

• Welcome to our first meeting for 2015. We have some changes to staff, some only received last week. Mrs Mafi has accepted a position as deputy Principal at Menindee Central School for 2 years. Ms O’Sullivan will be Rel HT and Miss Rebecca Kiss will cover Mrs Mafi’s classes during this time. Mrs Ferris from Science has been promoted to HT Science at Elderslie HS and has been replaced by Ms Rhonda Shakir. We have teamed up with MFPS and have Ms Manassian covering a position as Maths teacher in Years 7 & 8 and working across the school in transition and developing closer professional ties between the two. This is very innovative and should it prove effective, the position will be ongoing. Mr Vujanic has taken on a temporary position in the Cronulla area and we are seeking a replacement. We are about to advertise for a Social Science position.
Our numbers are very healthy, with an increase in the 9-12 component of the school.

We have been selected to be a destination on the first innovation Tour which will occur on 9 March. I am hoping to showcase the very best practice, including our work on practical assessment in Science, our great work in Special Education, Performing Arts, PDHPE and our Collegial Support Program which has been operating at a very high level for many years. We will be involving our students as guides and as presenters. This is a great honour for our school and I am very proud to be able to open the school for visitors from other schools, far and wide.

Progress on School Plan – at this stage, we are developing the next phase of our plan. We have our three Strategic Directions: Leadership, Learning and Well-Being. We now have to complete the section which outlines the what, how and who. Our final task will be to add the “Milestones”, which help us track our progress. It will be on the website soon.

We have employed Daniela Fedele to take on a community liaison/outreach role. She is developing an “ap” which will help us get messages out to parents quickly and which will link up with our website. We also hope to establish a Facebook page as well.

BYOD – we have established a relationship with JB HI FI Educational Services, which has provided a portal by which parents can purchase their child’s laptop. Parents are still free, of course, to procure the device themselves, as long as it fits the specifications. Later in the term, we will be holding an information night and will have representatives from JB Hi Fi there as well as allowing time for parents and students to sign the Laptop Charter as has previously occurred.

Welcome to Year 7 – Progress Report and Poetfest. 16 March, immediately before the P&C meeting which is the AGM.

History Trip – this was an outstanding success. Congratulations to the students on the trip. They were very worthy ambassadors for our school. A huge thank you to the accompanying staff. For many of them, this was their first trip overseas, let alone to the historic sites. Full marks, also, to Academy Travel – rearrangements made following the terrorist attacks in Paris immediately before departure. Robert, the director of the company was in touch with Troy and me and the alternative arrangements ensured a safe and successful experience for all.

Changes to attendance requirements – extended leave.
DP’S REPORT
• Mark
  o Calendar is one website. Swimming carnival on 27th. DPs morning tea, school photographs March 9. See calendar for details
  o Year 10 into 11, will have the ability to get a taste of subjects in advance
  o Presentation day is on the day instead of the night. This should help with the issue of children not being able to appear in the evening.
  o Meeting with Polly from uniform shop to discuss some issues. Polly is wonderful to work with. Polly has asked if it is possible to increase uniform prices. This is fixed because of the contract. The uniform shop will supply caps in year 7 and 9 and a tie for seniors. They also give $3500 towards prize night. The contract will be retendered at the end of the year.
  o Running an anti-bullying planning day on March 6. Going through anti-bullying plan, which is now 2 years old. Invitation for parents for input. Please email Mark or the school. Focusing on face-to-face, cyber-bullying and parental bullying.

• Justin
  o Transition reports for Yr 7 using Sentral. Staff will be helping with initial setup. Justin shared a draft template to show the layout of the reports. Year 12 reports will be the first set. They will have ranks and marks on them.

GENERAL BUSINESS
• Next month AGM will be at 6:30PM, immediately followed by the normal P&C meeting
• Alan asked if P&C funds can be used for BYOD laptops. The government also offers funds for school, and the school has some limited funds for assistance. The school also has a pool of laptops that students can borrow.
• Daniella – School Liaison Officer developing a school app for mobile devices that will notify you of school events. Will link into Facebook and the website.

Meeting Closed: 9:15 PM
Next Meeting (AGM): March 16, 2015 – 6.30pm, followed by normal meeting