

Minutes GAT Support Committee

Date: 7:00pm, Thursday 2nd November 2017

1. Attendance

Rosanna Fanciulli, Louise Chapman, Darren Thompson.

2. Welcome & Apologies

Rosanna opened the meeting. Apologies noted from Terena Semmler, Tina Ho, and Damon Triage.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Accepted by Louise Chapman, Seconded Rosanna Fanciulli

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1. Fundraiser - Roller Skating

This was our first function. It was a great success to kick off fundraising and to provide community support for GAT families. The owner of Morley Rollerdrome was very helpful and accommodating. We raised \$270 from entry fees and cake stall. Feedback from parents at the event was positive. Feedback - Parents appreciated the opportunity for students to socialise outside school and the opportunity for GAT parents to meet up. Parents also indicated that they were happy to help in future events. They recommended that the school send an email out announcing such events in advance. As was expected, most students in attendance were from lower school.

4.2. Movies

Damon unavailable to report on movie night options. Held over.

4.3. Photos

Rosanna had previously contacted the school about getting combined GAT photos (currently split between two languages) – was received favourably and can be done from next year.

4.4. GAT Club Help

Having accepted LPSG's proposal that the GAT Committee help at GAT club, we need to discuss with the GAT co-ordinator what, when and where we need to provide help.

4.5. GAT Committee Meetings on Calendar

Meetings are on calendar. Will continue with same meeting schedule next year - 3rd & 7th Wednesday of the term.

4.6. Improved Communication

It would be good if the GAT committee was more aware of GAT events. For example, GAT/AE Innovation Expo on December 6th, Pompeii Excursion. Not all year levels are represented on the committee, so we are not always aware of coming events.

5. New Business

5.1. GAT Student Enrichment

Discussed ways in which students are enriched. Lots of PL such as 'Gerric Module 5' speaker attended school and met with GAT teachers. This all considered valuable - keeping teachers abreast of issues/techniques/pedagogy in teaching GAT type students.

Tours coming – whilst MLSHS has sister school arrangements with China, Japan & Korea. There is nothing for Italy or France. Italian is a GAT Language. So, this is a missed opportunity for greater cultural immersion on tours. Rosanna to discuss with Department Co-ordinator.

5.2. Complaint from LPSG

Rosanna was emailed by the President, General P&C that LPSG had challenged the Terms of Reference (TOR) of the GAT Committee. The Principal proposed a review of the LPSG & GAT TORs to take place at the next General P&C meeting. Darren attended. He made it known that the GAT committee was unaware of any "issues" with our TOR. We had received no communication expressing concerns over the TOR until it became an agenda item at the General P&C meeting. We have a LPSG liaison on our committee and were surprised this avenue was not used for communications before escalating the issue to the General P&C Committee.

At the General P&C Meeting it was made know, that some staff are apparently confused as to which committee to approach for support. This again was surprising. Perhaps some events over the last 12 months were not well communicated so people were not well informed. This includes:

- LPSG removed the last references to GAT from their TOR last year.
- GAT committee was endorsed this year.
- The LPSG requested that GAT committee take over supplying GAT club.

With this distancing of the LPSG from GAT students, the GAT committee was invited to speak at GAT induction day. This seemed logical rather than 'confused'. The GAT committee is committed to holistically representing the GAT students at MLSHS, and happy to continue doing so.

The history of the GAT TOR is that it was developed with wide consultation within the school community and express input from the Principals. The draft TOR was circulated to all stakeholders for a two-week review period. After which it was placed on the agenda for endorsement at the General P&C AGM, in February, 2017. It was accepted with no noted dissention and one amendment, to read "GAT Coordinator...".

6. Reports

6.1. Gifted and Talented Education Coordinator

All going well – as previously discussed, there is a strong focus on PL. GAT co-ordinator has attended a number of talks/workshops. Referred GAT committee members to organisation Gifted WA (www.giftedwa.org.au) who host a number of events – encouraged parents to also attend.

Request - that the GAT Committee be kept abreast of events and activities for the GAT students. E.g. Yr 7 GAT/AE Innovation Expo.

6.2. Treasurers Report

Treasurer report to come.

6.3. Languages Report

LPSG Liaison in absentia reported success of LPSG Chefs class. They are hosting a dinner for their last meeting of the year at Fitzgerald Seafood Restaurant – all parents/staff/senior language students welcome to attend.

7. Next Meeting

Next committee meeting to be held: 7:00pm, Wednesday 22nd November 2017

8. Meeting Closed: 8:30pm