

Mount Lawley Senior High School (MLSHS)

School Council

MINUTES

Monday 16 June 2008

	ITEM	ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1	Meeting opened: 7:35pm		
2	Introduction and Welcome The Chair welcomed all members to the meeting.		
3	Attendance Christine Richardson (Chair), Milton Butcher, Neil Hudson, Catherine Smith, Jo Furness, Bev Burnside, Sanja Zuljevic, Don Rowe, Gemma Esvelt, Olivia Burmester, Chloe Neilsen, Darcy Rowe and Vicki Nash (Minutes Secretary)		
4	Apologies Anne Griffiths, Kevin Pilkington		
5	Minutes of Previous Meeting The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 May 2008 were accepted as a true record.		
6	<p>Update on Action Points from Previous Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Changes to support provided by Social Worker Christine read to members a letter received from the Department of Health, essentially saying that nothing will change. Christine asked for a collection of examples so the Council can reply asking for the Department's recommendations on how to deal with them. ▪ Early Closure/Traffic Wardens/Timetabling Milton hopes that the early closure will hold. He also hopes to keep the school closure day on 3 July, although applications from other schools have been rejected. ▪ Teaching Partnerships Award Milton and Kevin had a meeting today regarding ideas on partnerships and research projects with ECU (this may involve looking at the need to sustain support). Some ideas may be developed for the next Council meeting. 	Provide examples to forward to the Department of Health for its recommendation	Milton Butcher Neil Hudson

<p>7</p>	<p>Discussion Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Review Milton reported that the Director is concerned that there are some challenges with MLSHS, primarily GATE languages and Year 12 results at subject level, not the macro level. The Director will conduct enquiries to consider matters. Milton does not believe the external review group will come and look at MLSHS, and he thinks Lindsay, who is aware that MLSHS is working on the challenges, will accept the strategies proposed. The Council discussed counsellors' recommendations for students following the Year 11 exams. There are counselling milestones and opportunities to change courses along the way from Year 10 to Year 12. Neil mentioned the Lost Boys project which offered Year 11 students choices, ie to work with the school psychologist or a careers counsellor for alternative pathways. This project had a good success rate and will be repeated for Year 11s. LOTE Gifted & Talented Program Relevant documents were tabled. Milton reported that a meeting was held, with a rich discussion of the languages program. No students were present at the meeting, however, students will be consulted shortly (perhaps using focus groups) to discuss how to strengthen the GATE program. The intent is to look at some more ideas to tackle the issues in the languages program and have another meeting before the end of term for a viable action plan. MLSHS has had the largest number of applications for 2009 Year 8s for some years, and this followed extensive visits to local primary schools. Milton advised that promotion for the Year 5/6 parent meeting regarding the change in time for testing for the languages program was left for the schools to do, and MLSHS promoted it as best it could. Chloe believes it needs to be promoted a lot more. Don advised that students from non-feeder schools are also attending MLSHS. Further areas to look at are the operation of the program - for example, one language to choose but studied more often, rather than two languages -the promotional aspect, the facilities argument, pedagogy and the work students do in the GATE program to extend, enrich and accelerate students, as well as having parent input (which will be brought up at the next P&C meeting) and professional learning for teachers. Christine suggested forming focus groups to find out from GATE students the reasons some continued and some did not. 	<p>Provide statistics on the results from Year 11 exams, examining the link between failure and counsellor recommendations for the next Council meeting</p>	<p>Milton Butcher</p>
		<p>Refine action plan</p>	<p>Milton Butcher</p>
		<p>Conduct focus groups</p>	<p>Milton Butcher</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Opportunities for links with China Don has prepared an extensive background document. Milton reported that ECU is very keen to progress any links. He has a meeting with the Principal of Canning College. It is slow progress and involves a lot of work to engage with the department. 		

Deleted: and the results of students who do not follow this advice.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sponsorship - ICA and Rugby Jumpers <p>The Risk Analysis document was tabled. Milton advised that the Council is required to approve sponsorship proposals.</p> <p>1. The Institute of Chartered Accountants (ICA) is offering a \$100 prize for Years 11/12, as it is keen for accountancy to be promoted as a profession. MOVED by Don Rowe, that the Council agrees there is not a high risk and the school should accept this proposal, noting that Condition 7.VI of the agreement will be struck out by the ICA Seconded by Catherine Smith. Carried.</p> <p>2. There was general discussion regarding the rugby jumpers for Year 8 and Year 9. It was suggested that MLSHS work out its guidelines regarding logos for sponsorship, ie look at the overall policy. Moved by Don Rowe, that the Council approve, in principle, to leave it to Milton to decide - as he receives more information - whether he is still happy with the sponsorship. Council should discuss sponsorship guidelines at a future meeting. Seconded by Neil Hudson. Carried.</p>	<p>Draft a policy regarding sponsorship</p>	<p>Milton Butcher</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ School Budget <p>Milton advised that the budget document, which was tabled, has not yet been approved by Council. He explained that there is still more work to do regarding the imbalance and rationalising accounts (\$16,000 needs to be spent to bring the books into balance). Don Rowe asked if MLSHS made an approach to the Computers for All Schools program. Milton replied that MLSHS was not selected for participation, however, when round 2 opens shortly, this will be investigated. Moved by Don Rowe, Seconded Bev Burnside, That the Council endorse the school budget for the year. Carried.</p> <p>The Council approved this motion, noting that approximately \$16,000 still required adjustment.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Financial Reporting <p>This document was tabled and Christine gave a presentation. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Summary Results - May 2008. ○ Revenue Budget 2008 (May 2008). ○ Expenditure Budget 2008 (May 2008). ○ Budget vs Actual May 2008. ○ Voluntary Contributions. ○ Next Steps (a six point list). <p>This framework will be used for the 2009 budget using 2007 FY actuals and 2008 budget. Milton thanked Christine for her work, adding that she has done MLSHS a great service by producing these spreadsheets.</p>	<p>Monthly reporting</p> <p>Provide reports for the July Council meeting</p>	<p>Various</p> <p>Christine Richardson</p>
<p>Reports</p>		

10	<p>Principal Milton reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the Teachers' Union is urging its members not to provide school reports. Teachers have all the students' information, but have been directed not to enter it into the administrative system. Milton added that it makes little sense producing a report with missing data, which is of minimal value to parents, and he has advised parents of this. However, a parent who would like a report will be provided with one. MLSHS's reporting day will be extended from 10am to 1pm, an hour's break for lunch and from 2pm to 7pm. This will be the greatest amount of time for for some time for parents to talk to teachers about the progress of their child. Christine said she appreciates the efforts put into providing reporting at these difficult times; Students are advised to take the recent salacious report in the <i>West Australian</i> as a warning not to speak to the media; A former student of MLSHS was mentioned in the UniView publication. (Darcy added that the student, Russell Harwood, who praised the Chinese language teachers for their drive and enthusiasm, has taken back to China what he learnt at MLSHS.) 		
11	<p>Staff Neil commented that since the onset of the cold weather, the dress code at MLSHS has become a concern, with numbers of students wearing non-school jumpers and jackets. This issue is a real challenge.</p>	For the attention of the Dress Code Working Party	Jo Furness
12	<p>Any Other Business Health forms for students were discussed, and for convenience, it was suggested parents fill in (without their signature) and photocopy the original form several times for future use.</p>		
13	<p>Meeting closed: 9:30pm</p>		