

Mount Lawley Senior High School (MLSHS)

School Council

MINUTES

Monday 04 August 2008

	ITEM	ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1	Meeting opened: 7:30pm		
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, Don Rowe, Gemma Esvelt, Chloe Neilsen, Darcy Rowe, Anne Griffiths, Kevin Pilkington, Ian Johnston (Associate Principal Senior School 7.30-8.20pm) and Lee Loughnan (Minutes Secretary)		
4	Apologies Olivia Burmester		
5	Resignation Sanja Zuljevic is no longer able to serve on Council as she has left Australia to return to Croatia.		
6	Minutes of Previous Meeting Don Rowe moved that the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 16 June 2008 were accepted as a true record, and seconded by Bev Burnside. All in favour. Carried.		
7	Update on Action Points from Previous Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Teaching Partnerships Award \$15,000 award allocated to the development of links with ECU. ▪ Changes to support provided by social worker Feedback from Student Services. ▪ Early closing/traffic wardens/timetabling Letter to DET indicating Council supports current arrangements of early close Wednesday. ▪ 2009 Ball Communicate the 2009 plans to student group ▪ Sponsorship Develop principles to cover future requests. 	<p>No further progress</p> <p>No further information</p> <p>No further progress</p> <p>In progress</p> <p>DET is currently reviewing policy. Defer until new policy released.</p>	<p>Milton Butcher</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Milton Butcher</p> <p>Milton Butcher Christine Richardson</p> <p>Milton Butcher Jo Furness</p>

Discussion Items

- Reporting on Year 11 Exam performance (mid-year)

The Associate Principal (Senior School) has reviewed the Year 11 exam results and compared them with the recommendations made by counsellors at subject selection in the preceding year. These results were circulated to Council members.

Ian reported that Year 10 counselling is important for selection of their subjects, and that the D&E results hurt our overall Year 12 results. He advised that it is difficult to know what new Year 11 students' academic history is and he was not sure how we can screen these students because they come from overseas, interstate and other schools and they are keen to do the TEE subjects.

Catherine Smith suggested doing a test before the student enrolls into Year 11. To improve our end results and the best outcomes for our students, we need to know what the capabilities of the new Year 11s are.

Ian said it is difficult to understand the reporting system to assess the student's capabilities. Strategies on improving student performance include:

1. Sending out letters to parents of Year 11 and 12 students who received unsatisfactory results; 50 out of 100 responses were received and a number of those students will be going into other pathways soon.

2. All the Year 12 students received a personal appointment with the Senior School Co-ordinator, Ric Marcon

3. Parents of D&E students have received letters saying that they are not meeting the requirements of the course and that their progression into Year 12 could be affected.

4. Year 12 students are being advised not to sit TEE, if it is not an advantage to sit it.

5. He has met with Heads of Department and teaching staff to help improve student performance.

6. Intensive revision has been taking place for Year 12 students.

7. TER Calculator - a TER calculator had been developed and students will be taught how to calculate their TER scores in their English classes soon.

8. Students will be counselled: under 50% - don't sit TEE; 50-70% - strategies to lift their performance; 70-90% - marginal improvement can help; over 90% - encouragement.

9. Year 10 students have been through an extensive counselling program.

10. Meetings with parents of poor performing Year 11 students; choices being: stay at school working with the school psychologist or alternative pathways - career voyages and alternative training programs.

Ian advised that literacy is an **area of weakness** in the school and we are looking into strategies for improvement. Extension programs are being introduced for Maths, Science, English and Society and Environment in Year 10.

Milton advised that we will use the data collected next year at our counselling sessions; this will give parents credible information to allow the student to achieve a realistic education pathway. He would not like parents to misinterpret that the **students are not doing well rather** we are trying to set the student on the best pathway to suit their abilities. Christine thanked Ian for the valuable work he is doing and the Council supports his efforts.

Ian Johnston

Council and P&C to ratify the process of Year 11 entry requirements.

Christine Richardson

P&C to be given statistical data

Milton Butcher

<p>9</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Financial Reporting 2008 <p>Subject to the completion of processes for month-end, members will be provided with summary financial reports for the year to date for July at the next meeting. The Principal sought Council endorsement for the allocation of School Council approved literacy and technology funds. <i>Moved by Catherine Smith, Seconded by Anne Griffiths, that the Council endorse the allocation of the Literacy fund: \$4,917.00 and Technology fund: \$17,804.80. All in favour. Carried.</i></p> <p>Jo Furness advised that the P&C is supportive for Council to provide funds of \$1800.00 for posters in the Middle School that address Literacy. <i>Moved by Christine Richardson, Seconded by Jo Furness that the Council approves \$1800.00 for posters in the Middle School that address Literacy. Carried.</i></p> <p>Milton advised that \$1000.00 has been sought for Shaun Tan Picture Books, and he is working on ways to spend the grant by the end of the year. It is donation money so best not use it to employ people.</p> <p>Bev advised that there is a Literacy based computer program is available, based on the concept of Mathematics that may be a useful resource.</p>	<p>Provide ideas on how the Council grant can be spent</p>	<p>Christine Richardson Milton Butcher</p>
<p>10</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fees & Charges 2009 <p>Contributions and Charges for 2009 was circulated to Council. Milton advised that fuel prices have affected the cost of activities such as Outdoor Education because buses are required, and food prices have increased for Food Technology. <i>Moved by Christine Richardson, Seconded by Jo Furness that the Contributions and Charges for 2009 be endorsed by Council. Carried.</i></p>		<p>Christine Richardson Milton Butcher</p>
<p>11</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Dress Code 2009 <p>The Convenor of the School Uniform Working Party provided a report that was circulated to Council members. Jo Furness reported that several items of the uniform have been reviewed and we will not be reordering some items. An alternative jumper, tracksuit and band outfit are some of the items that are under review. Recommendations will be forwarded to Council in time for the September meeting. Jo Furness advised that future tour jackets won't be similar to the Leaver Jackets. Anne Griffiths said that the Economics teacher Sunila Singh is an enthusiastic and inspiring teacher whose students are well groomed. At the recent CCI Economics Competition (which Mount Lawley SHS won for the second year running) she was very proud of the dress and bearing of the students. They were very well presented.</p>	<p>School Uniform Working Party to provide recommendations to Council at a future meeting</p>	<p>Jo Furness</p>

12	<p>■ Budget Development 2009</p> <p>Christine raised the issue of preparing for the 2009 budget. The school needed to consider items that should be considered in the development of the budget. Budget headline items suggested by Council were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ICT Plan - what is the amount of money we need to fund each year. 2. Replacement schedule for a bus. 3. Air conditioning the school. 4. Languages centre - demountable. 5. Asian learning centre at the school. 6. D&T area improvements. 7. School priorities: D&T, Literacy. 		Christine Richardson Milton butcher
13	<p>■ School Planning 2009</p> <p>Milton circulated a Draft Whole School Priorities Plan 2008-2011 and advised that this provides an indication of where our staff should be heading. He asked members for feedback on suggested priorities.</p>	Provide comments to Milton. Keep Council informed.	Milton Butcher
Reports			
14	<p>Student Representatives</p> <p>Darcy surveyed 167 current Year 11 students about the 2009 Ball and presented his findings to Council. He will provide a detailed report at the next meeting. He said there will need to be a strategy for vetting and approving outside attendees to the Ball. Gemma had nothing to report at this time.</p>	Provide detailed Ball Report	Darcy Rowe Gemma Esvelt Chloe Neilsen
15	<p>P&C</p> <p>Jo reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A decision was made not to pursue the demonstration of Tutoring Australia in 2008, to be revisited in 2009. ➤ The Finance Committee would be responsible for deciding spending needs, ratified by P&C, (similar to School Council) ➤ Bricks have been completed, more may be added. ➤ E-learning Working Party - group formed to review video conferencing, staff interested, training is underway. ➤ Music Support Committee - looking at venues for upcoming concerts, deciding whether to purchase a stage piano, possibility of an overseas tour in 2010. ➤ Education evening on drugs planned. ➤ A question was raised to review student starting time but it was decided that this would not be referred to Council at this time. 		Jo Furness

16	<p>Principal Milton reported that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LOTE Review and Development: the parent support group will be rescoped again and will include a teacher representative. A discussion on PD will be held with Prof Alan Dench, UWA on the teaching of languages. • China Links: Met with Prof. George Stewart, UWA, he has some good links with China. Milton will discuss with Don Rowe some links on engaging with China. China delegation had a problem with visas and may be a few days late. • SVAPA Review: Review completed last week by the Department. Expect it to be re-endorsed. Looking to write it up for an Education Award as an innovative program. Looking at nominating a teacher of the year. • Academic Extension Program: A lot of time has been spent on how we can enhance it: would like to “brand” talented students, starting with students in Year 10 and would like to look at this in the Middle School. We need to ensure that this works and make it right in the first place. • Hooligans: we had 20-25 hooligans last Friday near the school grounds; it was unfortunate that it took two hours to get police assistance. A Year 11 student was being harassed and this is a major concern. • Staffing: All classes covered. 	Write to the local senior officer requesting quicker police response	Milton Butcher
17	Staff: Nil		
18	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ WA Education Awards <p>Christine Richardson asked for helpers to put together applications for the WA Education Awards, which are due on 22 August 2008.</p>	Provide assistance with applications for WA Education Awards	Christine Richardson
19	Meeting closed: 9:30pm		
20	Next Meeting: Monday, September 8 2008		