

Minutes from Mt Lawley Senior High School Council Meeting 07/05/2007

Present: Christine Richardson, Terry Boland, Jo Furness, Rob Walker, Alice Ding, Darcy Rowe, Bev Burnside. Dale Irving, Catherine Smith, Dalip Sondhi

Apologies: Lucy Dean, Liz Kernutt, Anne Griffiths

1. Minutes of last meeting. ACCEPTED

2. Matters Arising:

- Update on strategy of heavy school bags:
School to begin purchasing class texts for those subjects with heavy text books e.g. chemistry, political & legal studies, maths, geography, IT.
P&C would like the option of school bags to be ratified by School Council as part of the uniform. *Terry to investigate wheeled bags and orthopedic backpacks and report back to School Council.*
- Custodianship of ex-POW Memorial, discussions deferred; service at memorial to be held in June.
- National School Chaplaincy application lodged on time.
- Defensive of Aboriginal Culture- discussion currently deferred. Terry and Georgina to discuss at a later date.
- Teaching Australia Award of \$15,000 to MLSH- suggestions for using the award discussed later in the meeting.

3. **Student representatives' report** – thanks to Darcy Rowe and Alice Ding for preparation of report

- a. Students discussed the current “positives”
 - i. Jumpers—accepted by students and positive comments by wider community that the new jumpers and uniform have helped to continue the reputation that the School is building.
 - ii. D'café quality of food back to the original standard with an increase in the variety and amount of food offered and students who have to wait still have adequate selection available.
 - iii. TEE Support classes- enrichment and revision programme will assist Year 12 students who see that it will make a difference and maximize exam marks and grades. Terry advised that holiday classes may also be offered at the School as part of a program offered to students from Hedland Senior High School
- b. Current issues
 - i. Organisation of HPV vaccinations- a long wait was experienced by students having the injections. Short notice to parents to have forms returned on time. Terry to liaise with Community nurse about the time required for the next injection sessions.
 - ii. School Jumpers- delay in the provision of jumpers due to mix up in sizes by the manufacturer.

4. **Report from P&C** by Jo Furness. (see report) Jo highlighted the following:

- a. Members of Music, and Health committees endorsed at last P&C meeting.

- b. Uniforms sales are doing well; delays in jumpers due to incorrect supply of sizes by manufacturer. Still looking for a Book-keeper. It was agreed that this position would be funded by the P&C. *Uniform committee requires a Dress Advisory Panel- School council need to ratify- Christine and Terry to research policy and report to next meeting.*
- c. Brick fundraiser –bricks should be laid by term four.
- d. Suggestions for \$15,000 prize money suggested use to include building further partnerships.
- e. Drug education- information evening requested for parents-*Terry to liaise with Community nurse re dates available in Term 3.* Suggested that the Arts dept look at theatre presentation to present drug awareness to students.
- f. Seating outside library: some quotes received. Will be reviewed and discussed re best solution
- g. Treasurer's report: surplus funds in account will be held over to cover Uniform Shop; Teachers to provide a "wish list" for fund raising letter to be sent to all families. Strong support for monies held by Music and SVAPA to be used and not held for long periods. Possible for P&C to have these funds returned to General Account if unused within a reasonable time period.
- h. Communication problems: suggested that website used to be advertised more widely and hard copy notices located at strategic points around the school. All students should read daily notices.
- i. Heavy bag issue to be raised at next WACSSO State Council meeting. *Request by P&C for Council to review bag provision.* Uniform shop would not carry stock, but school bags could be added to uniform order at the end of the year.

5. **Principal's report** (see report).

- a. Future Planning for MLSHS- meeting held with Deputy Director, Keith Newton to discuss future planning with a focus on LOTE, SVAPA and links with ECU. Terry and Christine to have further meeting to seek expansion of pathways with ECU. Funds are limited and new Director General Position currently under review.
- b. Courses of Study Developments: currently being reviewed. Firm decisions still to be made. Terry will bring more information for further discussion at a later meeting.
- c. TISC Developments: currently reviewing University admission from 2010, further discussions required. Terry will bring more information to a later meeting.

6. **Annual report** tabled: Building Program now completed with Senior and Middle schools both fully functioning. All data provided is transparent and Terry recommended further discussion at a later meeting. Strategic Plan is on track to meet outcomes. Key outcomes for 2007 –refer to page 7- Annual Review process will be conducted on 05.06.07. Surveys currently being undertaken to gain more data.

7. School Budget:

Terry presented the Budget outcomes as at April 2007.

It was a cumbersome document and difficult to read. Rob Walker requested a more simplified model and volunteered to come and show the administrator how to prepare more user friendly documents.

Terry advised that more support was required as there was not a software package currently available to meet the Schools reporting requirements.

Currently School Council is unsure that the fees and charges are covering the costs of providing classes.

Letter to be sent to DET expressing the concerns of School Council not having the qualified staff and tools available to provide reports that look at the School's finances at an aggregated level.

Terry advised there had been a shortfall in funding from DET to cover the cost of utilities from 2004 onwards. *Terry and Christine to meet with DET and discuss shortfall in funding of utilities payments.*

8. Innovation Funds

Chaplaincy funds from parent fundraising to be sent to Youth Care who administer the Chaplaincy program.

Technology: Interactive whiteboards and data projectors have been purchased.

Literacy & Innovation funds have not yet been allocated.

Terry to call for expressions of interest from teachers for funding in these areas that link with the 2006-2008 Strategic Plan.

Partnership funds: *Terry to research funding for a professional to liaise with ECU for further partnerships with a view to using the \$15,000 Teaching Australia Award prize money.* MLSHS contribution and bargaining with the DET and ECU to also contribute to the cost of an FTE for this liaison role.

The link to include students in Years 11 & 12 courses and Student teachers.

9. Other Issues raised: Outdoor shade areas.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm. Next meeting will be on June 11 at 7.30pm.