

## Minutes for School Council Meeting – 17th of September 2007

---

### PRESENT AT MEETING:

---

- Christine Richardson
- Jo Furness
- Rob Walker
- Bev Burnside
- Elizabeth Kernutt
- Alice Ding
- Darcy Rowe
- Catherine Smith
- Dale Irving
- Lesley Riches
- Lucy Dean
- Anne Griffiths
- Terry Boland

1. Minutes from last meeting: accepted
2. Update of Action points:
  - i. School bags
  - ii. School Chaplaincy program
  - iii. Assessment of reporting/ letter to Minister McGowan
  - iv. The Healthy Active Australia Grant

### III: ASSESSMENT OF REPORTING / LETTER TO MINISTER MCGOWAN

---

Action taken: levels are not to be re-introduced into school reports.

\* Pending\* - we are currently waiting for parent opinion and possible complaints as prompt for further action.  
*Bev Burnside* has been asked to monitor feedback from parents and students in future.

The Council is concerned that a student unable to achieve outside their allocated continuum ( and because they cant receive a level) will have increasingly low motivation whilst students in a higher continuum will not have to work as hard to achieve higher levels. This would overall cause a low work ethic and damage to motivational skills.

### IV: THE ACTIVE AUSTRALIAN GRANT

---

At the current time there is no result on the Healthy Active Australia Grant.

---

*Further action points will be addressed either throughout the meeting or at another time.*

### 3. Budget:

#### BUDGET:

---

- There have been some recommendations from the finance committee 2008

#### CONTRIBUTION AND CHARGES:

---

- i. Point of discussion → \$50 music charge
- ii. Text book finance plan
  - i. - it is suggested that a charge is placed on students in the music program – the music support group cant cope at this point in time (financially), if a fee was to be placed on students it would be channeled back into the music support group (as suggested by the support committee)
  - if action is taken then the money could not be directed to the support group, it would need to be directed directly to the music department as it can't be (legally) given to a student support group
  - suggested that the support group would be consulted on budget
  - this would however mean that the group is interfering with the budget (which also cannot be done because of legal reasons)
  - it is therefore suggested that all work is displaced between all parties evenly
  - IF a charge could be applied to parents it would be less work for the music support group to raise money for the music program
  - The council asks as to whether the charge would apply to non-SVAPA students and instrumental students
  - Council believes that it would be more valuable/important to educate parents about contribution as to relieve stress from the music support committee
  - The majority of the council I believe the fund is justifiable
  - **It is proposed that on current information that a charge is placed on music students ( recommended at \$50) but needs MSC recommendation**
  - Records must first be checked
  - \* Proposed decision: request authority from chair to sort out the issue surrounding music
- ii. The finance committee had been asked if the textbook finance plan was an option → a number of learning areas are hesitant due to pending courses/course outlines whilst others (eg: Art) are showing a progressive if not definite interest.
  - Year 11 and 12 subject charges to Art – approval has been asked that \$10 is given per year course per child (\$5 per unit) for drama and visual arts ----- Dr Irving believes this will help deal with the levy bug issue
  - Council wishes to wait for finance council approval
  - A representative from the finance committee asks for more accurate numbers with the request for money
  - The council assumes that \$10 (per student) will be enough to fund a class set of books, this however is over a graduated period of time and would afford books immediately
  - Not enough time for correct preparation or proper assessment by the council or the financial committee, emails are suggested
  - The question is raised as to whether this will apply to all learning areas
  - No additional recommendations have been received – it is an action the school council intends to take but is unsure of how the finance committee or other learning areas will accept this at this point in time
  - Based on this information each learning area will have to deal with heavy bags

**\* No action taken – increase is believed to be too large – only if the action was immediate would further consideration be taken into account. (Parents)**

#### Recommendation by council

- An optional charge is put in place for the yearbook and library, remaining the same as last year

The fees statement to be in the following categories:

- compulsory charges
- optional requests
- voluntary charges (requests)

Online tutoring

- feedback has been mainly positive from the trials last year from both parents and students
- is being offered at \$60 per year if 250 students accept it (ie: enroll for the program)

**It was agreed to approve the following fees and charges for 2008**

- The Year Book be listed under the heading of optional charges
- The Library fund be listed under the heading of optional charges at \$25 per student
- On line tutoring be listed as an optional charge at \$60 per student per year
- The Chaplaincy voluntary request be \$25 per student
- A literacy / innovation fund voluntary request be \$40 per student
- A technology fund voluntary request be \$40 per student

#### FINANCIAL REPORT:

---

- The current revenue is slightly below budget
- Expenditure is at 30% in both learning areas and administration
- We currently have \$360,000 in reserves
- Discussion is held about the removal of acronyms from charts as well as adding different information
- Thanks is given to Rob Walker for assistance in the construction of the charts
- The budget chart indicates what it was estimated to be at, the school is on target
- Money was received from DET to assist with balance
- ECU is going to further contribute to expenses for the sports and fitness center
- The finance committee has approved the renovation of the admin office
- We are sitting well for next years budget
- Need for PD has not been as much of an issue this year

#### DRESS CODE:

---

- The Uniform Working party looked into a school hat and backpack
  - Both (if they are introduced) are to be non-compulsory and will be sold through the uniform shop, further education will take place on being "sun smart"
  - Parent information is to be made available
  - Both will be placed on the uniform order form
- \*Council agreed that School hat and backpack will not be compulsory, but will be strongly recommended and available for sale through the uniform shop**

#### STUDENT REPORT:

---

- School scarf – there has been positive feedback so far
- The prefect quiz night to raise money for the school of hidden talents also had a large amount of positive feedback
- the issue raised previously about food in the cafeteria has been dealt with
- Vegetarian food – there currently isn't enough vegetarian food in supply for all students -the chair suggests that the student council speaks with the canteen staff
- Plastic strips have been put on the canteen doors to deal with problems related to pigeons
- Further action has been considered with the council of the city of Stirling to deal with pigeons
- A thank you to Liz for being the Year 12 representative

## **The future planning discussion was postponed until a later date**

### STUDENT NUMBERS:

---

- A map with the school boundaries marked on it is distributed
- Figures for the total application of new students this year is distributed
- Next year we can only take 230 new students (although it is possible to take 256 we want to allow room for people moving into the area)
- It is possible next year we will have to turn away 73 potential students
- There is a large Year 11 and 12 cohort for next year
- There is currently a large number of out of bounds students applying
- The LOTE program is largely becoming an out of boundary program
- Place of residence not primary school determines whether you can attend Mount Lawley ( in contrary to popular belief)
- Council asks to what size we are heading with students
- Only over half the possible applicants from in boundary can be taken in future (possibly)
- Better management needs to be taken with in boundary students
- We currently have over thirteen hundred students
- A current issue is that we must take siblings before in boundary students
- A loss of students will result in a loss of staff, we must maintain the same number of staff with out too many additional students
- More enrollment planning is required
- A review of a census for future student numbers needs to take place
- The school has reached its maximum capacity
- There has been a loss of numbers at other schools due to Mount Lawleys "popularity" although we still lose a number of students to gifted and talented programs in other schools (eg: Perth Modern)

### THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S NEW POLICY:

---

- This will be reviewed at another time

### A REVIEW OF LOTE:

---

The school council agreed to only review the current LOTE program

- a further of identification of the strengths and weaknesses of the program will take place
- a possible scaling for LOTE could be implemented as an incentive
- an investigation on how LOTE programs in other parts of the country are run in order to improve ours

### STAFF REPORT:

---

- Both the arts program and the music concert had good results
- The exhibition increased student participation
- The Year 12 art showcase is this Wednesday
- Richard Meagher has been nominated for the premiers science award

### CLOSING:

---

Meeting closed at 9:44 pm

**The next meeting will take place on October 29<sup>th</sup>**