

Mount Lawley Senior High School (MLSHS)

School Council

MINUTES

Monday 8 December 2008

	ITEM	ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1	Meeting opened: 7:35pm		
2	Introduction and Welcome The Chair welcomed Council members, and in particular Yvonne Scott, thanking her for her efforts this year.		
3	Attendance Christine Richardson (Chair), Milton Butcher, Bev Burnside, Kevin Pilkington, Anne Griffiths, Don Rowe, Catherine Smith, Jo Furness, Gemma Esvelt, Vicki Nash (Minutes Secretary) and Yvonne Scott (Guest).		
4	Apologies Olivia Burmester, Chloe Neilsen, Neil Hudson, Darcy Rowe.		
5	Minutes of Previous Meeting The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 November 2008 were tabled. There were 2 amendments: Item 7 - Amend Catherine Richardson to Christine Richardson Item 10 - Amend Catherine to Christine. With these amendments, the Minutes were accepted as a true record. Moved by Jo Furness. Seconded by Catherine Smith.		
6	Update on Action Points from Previous Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health Active Australia Grant Christine reported that the steering committee meeting went well, with questions answered for funding agreement. Milton is creating an advertisement for a Project Manager. ▪ Meet Local MLA Milton advised that there is a meeting with Michael Sutherland, at lunchtime 9 December. ▪ Languages Program Milton has spoken to Year 10 students regarding the GATE program. Students do not want to be recognised with something public - they would prefer more lunches and get-togethers. There is a breakfast Monday 15 December with an award ceremony for GATE students. Every Year 10 GATE student is studying a language next year. Moved by Catherine Smith to recognise Anita Chong for her efforts and to thank her for the work she is doing with the GATE program in Chinese. Seconded by Don Rowe. Unanimously carried.	Letter to be sent to Anita Chong	Milton

Discussion Items

- **Fees & Charges 2009**

Milton advised members that when the Contributions and Charges were approved, several upper-school charges were not included. The P&C would also like to include the family contribution in 'voluntary approved requests'.

RECOMMENDED to approve \$5 for Advocacy and \$5 for Upper School Sport. Moved by Christine Richardson. **Seconded** by Jo Furness. **Carried**

RECOMMENDED to include \$25 per family for a P&C contribution in the Voluntary Approved Requests. Moved by Milton Butcher. **Seconded** by Jo Furness. **Carried**.

Yvonne tabled and distributed the relevant documents and first gave a verbal overview of the pink document *2009 Additional Charges* for Year 8 to Year 12. Yvonne advised that there is a page for each school year, and the relevant page will be sent separately to parents shortly. She explained that the costs do not apply to all students, eg SVAPA camp. The Department requires that these proposed charges are provided to parents before the start of the year.

The blue document *Charges and Voluntary Contributions 2009* was then explained and discussed. Christine thanked Yvonne for her useful information and comprehensive report.

- **School Council approved Funds**

Milton asked for Council's support for \$5,000 from the Literacy/Innovations Fund (for the 2009 School Production). He added that the IT funding has been spent. Milton explained that as the School Production is Contemporary Theatre, it meets the criteria of "innovative". Middle School staff are exploring additional literacy tools and may seek literacy funds early next year. Approximately \$10,000 remains unspent this year. Further discussion ensued and Don suggested the term "funding as available". Catherine believes parents should be aware that it is a literacy/innovation fund.

RECOMMENDED that the available funds in the literacy / innovations funds (from \$5,000 and up to \$10,000) be allocated to the 2008 School Production. Moved by Don Rowe **Seconded** by Anne Griffiths. **Carried**.

Change
literacy/innovation
to literacy and
innovation

Yvonne Scott

- **Financial Management**

Milton advised that the Finance Improvement Plan is yet to be developed by relevant DET officers. Agenda item to be carried over.

- **Hiring of School Facilities**

Yvonne tabled a document *Proposal Community Use of Facilities 2009* and gave a verbal overview of its contents. There was a discussion on the rates to be charges.

RECOMMENDED to endorse the policy so Yvonne can liaise with organisations in accordance with Council's motion. Christine suggested that, Council accept the rates for 2009 and that the Business Manager bring them back for review in 12 months time.

Moved by Christine Richardson to recommend adopting the policy as presented. **Seconded** by Bev Burnside. **Carried**.

9

Principal's Report

Milton tabled and circulated a letter regarding the Asian Studies Centre from the Deputy Director General. The intent was for a Centre where students could visit and undertake excursions for a rich learning experience. There was a general discussion.

There is an assembly on 15 December this year for a whole range of student achievements. Catherine remarked that the newsletter was so uplifting with all the awards mentioned, as well as Languages. Milton replied that a new Languages teacher will be liaising with GATE students and families to lift the profile.

Milton tabled a copy of the new yearbook, and the MLSHS CD which will be available tomorrow at lunch. He added that the School is looking healthy in terms of numbers for next year. The VET officer may be appointed to a Level 3 at another school. Otherwise, MLSHS is fully staffed for 2009.

Regarding links with UWA, Milton reported that he met with the Dean of Natural Sciences and there is a good prospect of students to work with Shenton College and UWA. Also looking to enhance links with the Languages Department at UWA.

Milton is not sure about the progress of the ECU MoU through DET.

The School is looking at a program to use pre-service teachers for tours, yard duty, etc., and they would have classes for a longer period of time to appreciate better what it is to be a teacher. The student will be in school for 30 weeks of the year rather than 6-8 weeks. He suggested Council look at this partnership grant.

RECOMMENDED that Council endorse expending the partnership prize grant in a collaborative project with ECU by helping to employ a co-ordinator with a potential cost of \$10,000 to \$12,000. Moved by Milton Butcher. Seconded by Anne Griffiths. Carried.

Bush rangers likely to work to assist the restoration of the Inglewood Triangle.

Milton met with reps from Equilibria, a USA consulting firm, which works with students and staff in understanding personality types, ie try to get teachers and students with different personalities to work to reduce conflict and improve communication. Equilibria is offering MLSHS its services for free through Chevron.

Milton recorded, on behalf of the School community, the appreciation to Council members for the time they give to supporting the school and wished them a happy Christmas and New Year.

10

P&C Report

Joe provided a written report. (attached to the Minutes)

11

Staff Report

There was no report from Bev.

12	<p>Any Other Business Anne asked about the overseas student numbers for next year and Milton replied that there are about 30. Anne mentioned the Federal enquiry into children who work part-time and whether there should be greater accreditation. She wonders if this could be an endorsed program and, if so, what extra cost this would be for employers, as this makes students quite employable. This could be explored in 2009.</p>		
13	<p>Feedback on the Meeting/Future Items Christine thanked Council members for attending and all the hard work they have put into the School Council this year. She thanked Milton for his openness in bringing issues to Council. She looks forward to a successful year next year, and wished everyone a merry Christmas.</p>		
14	<p>Next Meeting Monday 9 or Monday 16 February 2009</p>		
15	<p>Meeting Closed 9:25pm</p>		