

MOUNT LAWLEY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

Music Support Group

Date: 5:30pm, Thursday, 15 May 2025

Venue: Music Room 3, MLSHS

Attendees: Dijon Summers* (Teacher Representative), Michelle de Rozario* (Performing Arts Program Coordinator), Nami Cheng (Music Teacher), Shahna Gallagher (Music Teacher and SVAPA Coordinator), Mirian Moretti* (Chair), Bek Ledingham* (Treasurer), Helen Pelusey* (Secretary), Kieran Looby*, Rowena Smith*, Gee Yap*, Julie Eglin*, Preety Ramdoyal*, Jennifer Persaud*, Heath Hastings-Fernance*, Shannon Edwick, Grant Ferstat, Andrew Lippiatt, Michelle Lehmann, Samantha Carr, Versa Patel, Mal Cook, Monique Herbst (LAA) and Louise Aston (LAA).

Apologies: Ben Harvey, Kevin Keary, Amanda Humphreys, Melinda Boss, Jacintha Bell, Genevieve Wilkins

1. Welcome and Apologies

Mirian Moretti opened the meeting at 5:30pm, noted the apologies and welcomed everyone. A quorum was met.

2. Previous Minutes

Accept the Minutes of the 20 March 2025 meeting as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Kieran Looby Seconded: Julie Eglin Resolution: Passed

3. Actions arising from previous minutes

Action	Status
Update on purchase of black and white photo canvases. (Dijon)	In progress. The photos have been selected and one of the MLSHS finance staff has an Officeworks account so can get a discount. Helen will remind Amanda to pass on the USB of photos to Dijon/ MLSHS Admin.
Investigate better interest-bearing accounts for MSC funds.	<p>In progress. The P&C looked into this last year but the bank was not helpful in providing another option. Ana Santos (P&C) can provide the background. Parents at previous meetings provided feedback that their primary school P&Cs successfully changed banks to get a better account. It was noted many transaction accounts are not interest bearing so a linked savings account is needed. Managing multiple accounts can be more complex to track, audit and report on.</p> <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Bek Ledingham will try the bank again and noted new main P&C financial processes may change things so it may be a case of waiting.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A back up option could be putting the funds in the SVAPA account which earns more interest, but this may be messy for tracking and may have to run it past the P&C.
Adjust the Music and SVAPA Sub-Committee meeting dates to align with the P&C meeting dates for efficient passing of motions	<p>Completed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the current schedule of meetings (See attachment 1) allows 7/8 days after our meeting to prepare for the P&C meeting, which is enough. The only potential issue is after our November meeting as the next main P&C meeting is the following February, so there is a delay on any motions raised then. Best solution is to ensure any motions required for early 2026 are passed at our August or October meeting. Also ensure motions raised for the December Sundowner are sufficient to cover the reimbursements to parents. It was noted if there is anything that urgently needed to be passed before February an Executive meeting of the P&C could be requested.
Review list of open motions with Dijon to check which can be closed out and funds released. (Kieran)	<p>All invoices from the following motions have been paid so they can be closed and the remaining funds released:</p> <p>#308 Sheet Music 2024 #319 ATAR student accompaniment Yr11 and Yr12 #325 ATAR accompaniment at end 2024 M2024.10.23.01 Drum heads M2024.10.23.02 Crash Cymbal M2025.03.20.01 Additional funding for ATAR music accompaniment 2024.</p>
Recirculate the business case for the Grand Piano purchase to all members so that new members can familiarise themselves. (Helen)	<p>Completed. Business case recirculated to committee members/ attendees. Update on motion M2024.10.23.7 to allocate 50% of current and future uncommitted funds ie those in excess of Annual Upkeep Costs (Operational Costs), to a fund for the purchase of a grand piano:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This Committee passed the motion at the 23 October 2024 meeting. It was considered by the main P&C at their 17 February 2025 meeting. 8 Members voted in favour and the motion was carried with 2/3 majority vote. However, some objections were raised at the meeting including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sufficient funds won't be raised to make the purchase. Based on the business case presented this committee felt they would. A number of parents objected to spending that much money on a single cohort. This Committee notes the funds were raised through the fundraising efforts of the Music and SVAPA parents.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The concerns were referred to the School Board. No formal response from the Board or P&C has been received to date. • A baby grand piano has since been donated to the school, but it was noted this piano, while welcomed, is not of the quality or size that the Department proposed to buy. • It was noted that all members of the MSC are also voting members of the main P&C meetings and welcome to attend. • Members queried the role of the sub-committee, if motions it has passed in line with its ToR can be vetoed by the P&C or School Board. Some clarification would be appreciated if the motion is unsuccessful. <p>Next steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirian to follow up with the P&C Executive / School Board for a formal response on the motion. • It was suggested another vote of the MSC could be taken now we have new members to check that the current Committee is still supportive and reinforce our support to the School and P&C. • The Committee could look at other avenues to obtain the grand piano such as donations or sponsorship.
Review the funding proposals for instruments purchases ready for further discussion and a decision at the May meeting. (All)	Completed see item 6 Funding Requests.
Develop an inventory of current instruments including a forecast of instrument requirements in the foreseeable future (Music Dept)	In progress
MSC to provide LAA Committee with information / photos /etc that describe what LAA funds have contributed to buying.	Kieran provided a list of purchases made. Helen will follow up again to see if any further information / photos needed.
4. Music Department Report	
<p>Update on activities and upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several performances already this term: the choir performed at the State Funeral Service for Mr Arthur Leggett OAM. The event was second to none and the MLSHS kids that attended did a great job. A big thanks to parents who got their kids along to attend. There were also performances at the Ex-POW and the Indigenous Veterans Services at Kings Park. • Upcoming performances include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the first big concert of the year on Monday 19th May with Concert Bands 1-4 and Big Bands 1 & 2. - The WA Government Schools Make Music concert in June. The latter features the two string orchestras combined plus 4 percussionists and a pianist. This will be the largest ever MLSHS ensemble on stage in one go - 80 kids. 	

- MLSHS has also been invited to the annual IMSS Opus Concert in Week 10. Unfortunately, the Concert Hall being refurbished so they will be performing at Perth Modern. The Feeder Primary School Band and the Classical Guitars will be performing. The Classical Guitar ensemble will also perform for the VIP function at intermission.
- Jade Martin is taking some Senior Strings students on a Primary School tour to further build connections as we've done in previous years with the big brass and concert bands
- Unfortunately, the Alumni Concert planned for 12 May was postponed last minute and will be rescheduled in November.
- The Lawley Art Auction is coming up on 21 June.
- Ashley Smith (WASO player) is giving a masterclass for clarinet players.
- Exams start tomorrow, which Shahna is looking after. There will be external adjudicators from St Stephen's. Year 11 Exams start in Monday of Week 7.
- It was noted that Monday's concert is huge. Ticket sales had to be closed as the auditorium is already overfull. 273 tickets sold. The capacity was supposed to be 340 and chairs could be hired to extend further but as an extension to the stage is required to accommodate the bigger bands, this has reduced capacity. Some parents have missed out on tickets, so this will need to be reviewed for future concerts. Lee Stanley was keen to have all the bands together and for kids to have the opportunity to watch the other bands, but they will now have to wait in the Green Room when not performing. Ticket sales raised \$4543. After the costs of venue hire, moving equipment and set up this leaves a profit of \$1300. Helen has sent out a call for volunteers to help with ticket checking, set up and pack up and almost all slots are full. Shahna also has 6 Certificate students available to help on the night.

5. Fundraising Events and Activities

Louise Aston and Monique Herbst gave a presentation on the Lawley Art Auction. Key points were:

- This is the major fundraiser for the Music and SVAPA programs.
- The move to ECU will be costly and not fully funded by the Department of Education so the LAA Committee and Music / SVAPA parents will need to look at more fundraising activities.
- The biggest issue with the LAA is low attendance and engagement. Approx 200 people attend on the night. Quite a few of these are the artists and sponsors. Very few parents from the school are attending, accounting for only around 5% of the audience. There are 2000 students at the school and 400 Music students including SVAPA, There are not many attendees from the wider community and not many bidders. Last year there were 115 bidders and 30 artists.
- Reasons for lack of engagement: not accessible, not perceived as fun and interesting.
- Another issue is sponsor expectations. Thanks to Julie Eglin, the Committee have done an amazing job with sponsorship. This year there is already \$18K in cash sponsorships. Luckily sponsors are motivated to donate as they love the school and it's not necessarily even about the Art Auction. We've also had \$10,000 donated in goods and services and put \$8,500 of this into the raffle. Last year they did something similar and made \$11,000 from the raffle. So purely from sponsorship they are raising \$28,000 - \$30,000 outside of the Art Auction component.
- Why are the LAA Committee concerned? Lots of the regular bidders are elderly so will eventually stop coming. That pool of bidders needs to be replaced. It is not just the art sales but also drinks and raffle ticket purchases. Without the LAA, the Music and SVAPA departments will lose their main source of funding.

- There is a committed Committee and they don't want it to fall flat. It is a fantastic night and lots of fun and also showcases student music talent.
- This is a shared responsibility – so brainstorm for ideas and get involved. Some things we can all do:
 - Share the flyers – some will be placed on the seats at Monday's music concert.
 - Like and share posts on social media
 - Engage our networks.
 - Come on auction night and bring people - there should be close to 400 parents just from the Music and SVAPA cohort.

6. Funding requests

The committee voted on the following motions:

Deferred from last meeting to give members a chance to consider:

- Motion 2025.05.15.01 Allocate up to \$10,000 for 1 x Yamaha YHR 871D French Horn\
- Motion 2025.05.15.02 Allocate up to \$100 for 1 x Drum Stool
- Motion 2025.05.15.03 Allocate up to \$1,000 for 3 x Drum Crash Cymbals
- Motion 2025.05.15.04 Allocate up to \$300 1 x K&M Tuba Stand
- Motion 2025.05.15.05 Allocate up to \$5,000 for 1 x Kowarth Oboe
- Motion 2025.05.15.06 Allocate up to \$5,500 for 1 x Yamaha Baritone Saxophone
- Motion 2025.05.15.07 Allocate up to \$5,500 for 1 x Besson Euphonium
- Motion 2025.05.15.08 Allocate up to \$5,000 for set up of new instruments]

Moved: Julie Eglin Seconded: Gee Yap Resolution: Passed

- Motion 2025.05.15.09 to increase motion 2024.08.28.20 from \$2000 to \$2544 to cover 2025 quote for photography services.

Moved: Bek Ledingham Seconded: Rowena Smith Resolution: Passed

7. Treasurer's Report

No treasurer's report was tabled as Bek does not have access to all systems yet.

Due to time constraints of the meeting, there was no discussion of this item at the meeting. A Treasurer's report will be prepared for the next main P&C meeting.

8. SUMMARY OF NEW ACTIONS ARISING:

- Helen to follow up with Amanda for the USB of photos.

- Bek to further look into switching to a higher interest rate on the MSC bank account.
- Mirian to follow up with the main P&C for an outcome on the Grand Piano motion.

Meeting closed: 6:35pm

NEXT MEETING

Date: Thursday 5 June 2025 Week 6 Term 2	Time: 5:30pm	Venue: Music Room 3	Please enter school through rear gate off Learoyd St (accessed via Stancliffe St)
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2025 MSC and P&C Meeting dates

MSC meeting date	Papers due to P&C	P&C Meeting
	Sun 9 February (T1 Wk1)	Mon 17 Feb (T1 Wk 3)
Thurs 20 Feb (T1 Wk3)	Sat 1 March (T1 Wk4)	Mon 10 Mar (T1 Wk6) (AGM)
Thurs 20 March (T1 Wk7) (AGM)	Fri 28 March (T1 Wk8)	Mon 7 Apr (T1 Wk10)
Thurs 15 May (T2 Wk3)	Fri 30 May (T2 Wk5)	Mon 9 Jun (T2 Wk7)
Thurs 12 Jun 5 Jun (T2 Wk76)	Fri 20 June (T2 Wk8)	Mon 30 Jun (T2 Wk10)
Thurs 7 Aug (T3 Wk3)	Fri 15 August (T3 Wk4)	Mon 25 Aug (T3 Wk6)
Thurs 4 Sep (T3 Wk7)	Fri 12 Sept (T3 Wk8)	Mon 22 Sep (T3 Wk10)
Thurs 30 Oct (T4 WK3)	Fri 7 November (T3 Wk4)	Mon 17 Nov (T4 Wk6)
Thurs 27 Nov (T4 WK7)		No second meeting of the P&C this term. Motions from the meeting won't be reviewed until Feb 2026

Usually about 1 week between our meeting and the papers being due to the P&C except for May meeting – 2weeks.