

Mount Lawley Senior High School (MLSHS)

School Council

MINUTES

Monday 8 September 2008

	ITEM	ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1	<b>Meeting opened: 7:35pm</b>		
2	<b>Introduction and Welcome</b> The Chair welcomed Council members to the meeting.		
3	<b>Attendance</b> Christine Richardson (Chair), Milton Butcher, Neil Hudson, Anne Griffiths, Kevin Pilkington, Don Rowe, Gemma Esvelt, Olivia Burmester and Vicki Nash (Minutes Secretary)		
4	<b>Apologies</b> Catherine Smith, Jo Furness, Bev Burnside, Darcy Rowe, Chloe Neilsen		
5	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 August 2008 were tabled. Anne Griffiths requested a minor amendment regarding "winning" the Economics competition. The competition did not have winners per se'. With this amendment, the Minutes were accepted as a true record. <b>Moved by Christine Richardson. Seconded by Anne Griffiths.</b>		
6	<b>Update on Action Points from Previous Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Changes to Support Provided by Social Worker</b></li> </ul> Neil advised that he is identifying the extent of the impact of the changes and will report further..	Neil Hudson	Report at a future meeting
7	<b>Literacy &amp; Innovation / Technology Funds</b> There was a request for Council to consider \$1000.40 for expenditure on Melvyn Tan's books for reluctant readers. This has been passed by the Finance Committee subject to Council's approval. That was approved. There was a discussion on literacy and standards Milton mentioned that an amount of \$20,014.65 has been collected from parents for ICT. All has been expended on whiteboard suites An amount of \$18,040.80 was contributed from parents for literacy. \$7,717.40 has been spent. <b>RECOMMENDED</b> that MLSHS use some of the above mentioned literacy funds for at-home tutoring for struggling students, particularly in the Middle School. <b>Moved by Christine Richardson that Council supports this recommendation. Seconded by Anne Griffiths. Carried.</b>	Implement literacy support	Milton Butcher

8	<p><b>Financial Reporting</b>  The financial documents were tabled. Christine said it is getting to the stage where a set of spreadsheets and charts will provide good information. She then gave a verbal explanation of each document, which included:  Total Funds Summary.  Total Funds Budget.  Total Funds Analysis.  Funds Available by Budget Code.  Expenditure by Budget Code.  Reserves Budget Code Chart.</p> <p>The financial report can be used by the Committee to manage school Finances. Milton commented that Christine has done a tremendous job in tracking all the information and getting it to where it is with minimal assistance from the Department.</p>	Send Milton the spreadsheet to forward to the Finance Committee	Christine Richardson
9	<p><b>Contributions &amp; Charges 2009</b>  A document outlining recommended Contributions and Charges Sheet for 2009 was tabled.</p> <p>Milton gave a detailed explanation of the 8-page document. For GATE students learning a second language the charge will focus on extension work and not the current workbook. For 2009 it is possible to complete a program in all learning areas for \$235.00 - the contribution. Parents may choose high cost options and pay charges, which are compulsory.</p> <p>Anne asked why SVAPA did not go into Year 10 and Milton replied that it is because Year 10 students have a choice whereas Years 8 and 9 is a fixed program. The proposal is that for Years 8 and 9, the SVAPA charges will apply, as per the document.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION</b> that parents again be requested to pay the contribution of \$235.  <b>Moved</b> by Don Rowe that Council accept the recommendation. <b>Seconded</b> by Anne Griffiths. <b>Carried.</b></p> <p>Milton reported that some of Year 10 course charges have been reduced, such as Outdoor Education A, whereas Outdoor Education B has increased (this is because students go outside of MLSHS and there is bus transport, venue hire etc). Home Economics is the biggest increase. The documentation included a note from Dinah Zaicos as to why the charges have increased (there was no increase last year and the cost of food is constantly increasing).</p> <p>Milton apologised for the late receipt of the documentation due to email problems. The Finance Committee is considering this documentation tomorrow. The two committee meetings are not synchronised, however, Milton will rectify this for next year. It was recommended that these charges be considered at the next meeting. This was accepted.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED</b> by the Music Support Parent Group that \$25 per family be included in the voluntary approved request for music.</p>		

	<p>Moved by Christine Richardson. Seconded by Anne Griffiths. Carried.</p> <p>RECOMMENDED that, with the addition of numeracy in the literacy/innovations fund and for ICT, the voluntary approved requests for 2009 be endorsed.</p> <p>Moved by Christine Richardson. Seconded by Anne Griffiths. Carried.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION to retain the current order on the list of voluntary approved requests.</p> <p>Moved by Anne Griffiths. Seconded by Milton Butcher. Carried.</p>		
10	<p><b>Budget Development 2009</b></p> <p>This item was deferred as it is currently in progress.</p>		Christine Richardson
11	<p><b>Healthy Active Australia Grant</b></p> <p>Christine reported that before the Federal election, MLSHS applied for a grant of \$195,000 for 18 months from the beginning of next year. The full amount has been granted for a substantial project providing PE equipment for MLSHS, as well as staff funding to allow delivery of the program which will work strongly with ECU and Health &amp; Fitness Centre and nutrition. Milton has spoken to those involved and all are happy to continue with this program.</p> <p>Moved by Christine Richardson that MLSHS accept the project funding. Seconded by Don Rowe. Carried.</p>	Seek ECU support Staff	Milton Butcher
12	<p><b>Proposal - Centre for Asian Studies</b></p> <p>Don tabled a 4-page document featuring articles from Beyond the School Gate seeking Council support for a move to become a Centre for Asian Studies. Don feels that Asian languages should be a priority for MLSHS, as he believes that the first to make a move will get government funding. Don asked for comment, and further discussion ensued. Milton said that Korean would be a problem with regard to securing a Korean teacher, but that Japanese looks promising as a language to be taught. He added that current languages will continue, providing the students want to keep studying them. Kevin agrees that you can mount a strong case for it, as it is a good marketing tool, but getting the good teachers could be a problem. Christine noted that all Council members agreed that Asian languages are the way of the future, assuming teachers are available.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATION endorsed that the Mount Lawley Senior High School Council seeks the support of the Staff, the Administration, the Department and the State Government in a move to become a Centre for Asian Studies.</p> <p>Moved by Don Rowe. Seconded by Anne Griffiths. Carried.</p>		
	<b>Reports</b>		
13	<p><b>Student Representatives</b></p> <p>Gemma reported that students agree that a combined Year 11 &amp; 12 Ball is a good idea (separate Balls are "lousy", say their siblings!).</p> <p>Olivia would like all the school clocks to reflect the correct time, and/or a bell to ring at noon, as the different times throughout the school causes confusion.</p>	Referred by Christine to Milton and Neil Have all the clocks reflect the correct time	Milton Butcher

## 14 Principal's Report

**Languages Review & Development:** Milton reported that there was a meeting with Professor Alan Dench from UWA, and a proposal has been put by his staff about how MLSHS can work with UWA with respect to language programs. The end of this term was proposed, and it was also proposed to speak with Rossmoyne staff to see how the program is working with one language only. MLSHS is also considering giving students a choice of languages for the GATE program.

**MoU/Mentoring:** Kevin reported that some of the executives of School Education at ECU met with the MLSHS team regarding the MoU for the next five years. One of the activities proposed for next year is a mentoring role by pre-service teachers from the Department of Education of some students on this campus on a regular basis to fulfil some of their course requirements. Their practicums will also be over a longer period of time than block practices.

**Funding Research into Improving Literacy Levels:** Milton reported that Kevin has identified some resources for a research project into literacy. Kevin commented that the Fogarty Institute for Teaching & Learning has available \$30,000 for a small research program. Kevin advised that he and Deslea met with Milton and other staff at MLSHS in an initial planning meeting. This has now gone back to MLSHS to refine the research topic. The next meeting is on 25 September 2008.

Christine asked if the partnership funds could be directed into this and Milton replied that the funds may not be needed for this specific project. Further discussion ensued and Milton commented that \$30,000 should do a reasonable job of looking at how students can improve their writing. Kevin added that there is the possibility of more funding.

**China Links:** Milton advised that this remains a slow work in progress. Anqing's visit was very good. The children loved their week here. The Principal has written to MLSHS saying he was grateful for the opportunity and that it was a fabulous exchange.

Milton further reported that:

- ✓ An Anqing graduate (Anhui Education Office) is now working one day a week as a school-funded native speaker;
- ✓ the Chen brothers played the national anthem of China on the violin after learning it within a couple of days;
- ✓ the school review is not yet available;
- ✓ school planning is making slow progress;
- ✓ there are 3 education awards, including Steve Raphael for Teacher of the Year, WA Science School of the Year and the SVAPA program in the Innovation component of the award.
- ✓ the Premier visited MLSHS during the election campaign two weeks ago and the Head Boy and Head Girl did a great job in hosting him around the school (it was not a formal visit).
- ✓ he has had some very positive feedback from students on tutoring during the school holidays supported by BHP Billiton (two groups have been hosted by BHP Billiton to

	<p>visit the north-west and MLSHS is hopeful of another mining scholarship);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Peter Sparbier's maths scholarship is now being advertised for all Year 10 students, and there are also other scholarships by local councils for students;</li> <li>✓ he is investigating whether MLSHS should look at increasing its scholarships with a link to SVAPA and possibly Languages (Council members agreed that this is a good idea);</li> <li>✓ a student in Year 12 (Emma) won Head of the River single sculls and he is very happy with the number of students who have won awards (the newsletter will be full of good news and students' successes).</li> <li>✓ the Police rated the recent incident at MLSHS as a category 8, which is not a high priority, and he was advised to stress the urgency and possible threat of violence and/or assault should another incident occur (although he would call the local police station - Bayswater - rather than the call centre next time).</li> </ul>	Check that all Council members are on the newsletter mailing list (and email list)	Milton Butcher
15	<b>P&amp;C</b> No report.		
16	<b>Staff</b> Neil reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Year 11s are voting for prefects and this should be completed by Wednesday;</li> <li>○ Student Services has submitted an application with Ballajura in the September round for funding up to \$40,000 for a mentoring program to tap into next year's Year 9s and Year 10s.</li> </ul>		
17	<b>Any Other Business</b> There was no other business.		
18	<b>Feedback on the Meeting/Future Items</b> There was no feedback on the meeting. Christine advised that there may need to be another meeting relating to the financial information next year.	Discuss the possibility of another meeting	Christine/ Milton
19	<b>Next Meeting</b> 3 November 2008		
20	<b>Meeting Closed</b> 9:20pm		