

Mount Lawley Senior High School (MLSHS)

School Council

MINUTES

Monday 16 February 2009

	ITEM	ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1	<b>Meeting opened: 7:30pm</b>		
2	<b>Introduction and Welcome</b> The Chair welcomed Council members, and in particular Yvonne Scott and Michael Camilleri.		
3	<b>Attendance</b> Christine Richardson (Chair), Milton Butcher, Neil Hudson, Bev Burnside, Kevin Pilkington, Anne Griffiths, Don Rowe, Catherine Smith, Jo Furness, Olivia Burmester, Darcy Rowe, Chloe Neilsen, Gemma Esvelt and Vicki Nash (Minutes Secretary) Yvonne Scott , Michael Camilleri (in attendance)		
4	<b>Apologies</b> There were no apologies.		
5	<b>Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 December 2008 were accepted as a true record. <b>Moved by Jo Furness. Seconded by Catherine Smith.</b>		
6	<b>Update on Action Points from Previous Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Healthy Active Australia Grant</b></li> </ul> Milton reported that there were five applicants for the position of Project Manager, two of whom were interviewed. Applicants have been notified of the outcome. Milton thanked Catherine for her great effort on the selection panel. Milton indicated that the contract had an expected start of 1 March 2009. This is yet to be confirmed.		
7	<b>General Business</b> <b>Financial Report for 2008</b> The report was presented as a PowerPoint presentation. Christine apologised for not getting the report out sooner, and advised that she had to do some manual adjustments with the data. She gave a summary of the situation. Milton advised Council that Yvonne has done great work improving budgeting. <b>RECOMMENDATION:</b> Write to the Department of Education and Training requesting further work on its system to improve the reporting quality. Unanimously agreed.  <b>MLSHS School Council Draft Report 2008</b> The report was included in the Agenda documents and Christine asked for comments  <b>Student Performance 2008</b> Milton gave a PowerPoint presentation on student achievement for 2008. Improving academic results remains a focus. Milton stressed the importance of teachers to have high expectations and demand much of students Milton commented on the importance of writing and he explained the Fogarty Institute's involvement, in conjunction with ECU, with a school writing research program. He acknowledged Kevin's contribution in establishing this partnership. Milton advised that in NAPLAN Year 9 students	Write to the Department of Education and Training to do further work on its system so that MLSHS can report in this format.  Consider report.	M Butcher and C Richardson.  Council Members.



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<p>Milton advised that he will not be present at the next meeting. That meeting is effectively the School Council's 2009 AGM and new members start their term. However, those who have finished their term are welcome to attend. Milton would like to acknowledge his thanks to Christine for her involvement with School Council, and stated that the school needed to identify a forum as an appropriate way to say thanks for her many years of service. Christine said she will be in contact with MLSHS through her involvement with the Healthy Active program. Anne said the Council has been reliable and she has felt comfortable with Christine as Chair. Christine expressed her thanks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>School Plan 2009</b>  Milton tabled and distributed the MLSHS <i>School Improvement Plan</i> for members to consider over the next couple of weeks. He advised that recommendations from the School Review have been factored in. Members were asked to provide comments for improvements, especially to the strategic intent page. The intent is for Council to agree with this and sign off on the statement. He would appreciate Council's feedback on values. The plan can be approved at the March meeting.  Christine asked Council members to peruse the document in terms of School values, and also the strategies to make sure that, in Council members' own eyes, they lead to things that teachers and the School will be doing to deliver sound education for the benefit of children. Milton added that the strategies will be backed up with the allocation of funds. </li> <li> <b>Centre for Asian Languages</b>  A document entitled listing possibilities for MLSHS arising from the Commonwealth Government's Stimulus Package, and other matters, was tabled and distributed. Christine advised that she is still finishing the Council's briefing document.  Don believes there is a two-pronged approach. The current Federal budget includes \$2.5 million funding for schools like MLSHS. Don believes that there are a couple of options, and he explained them to Council members. He feels that there is the financial capacity to do something now more than ever before. Christine agreed and said MLSHS needed to take advantage of this package. </li> </ul>	<p>Peruse School Plan 2009 and provide comments to M Butcher before the next meeting.</p>	<p>All Council members</p>
<p>9 <b>Student Report</b>  Chloe commented that Year 11 students have noticed a bigger workload than Year 10. She also reported that students have complained that there was no reason given for the withdrawal of the volleyball program. A document entitled <i>Issues Perceived by Withdrawal of VB Programme</i> was tabled. Milton provided general information and indicated that MLSHS is trying to find someone to keep the program operational - Jo mentioned a possible contact. It was also noted that the HAA grant could provide support for activities such as this. Gemma reported that students would prefer group class photographs rather than individual photographs. Milton replied that it is hard to organise time off school for this. Catherine suggested that students themselves could organise individual photographs of classmates.</p>	<p>With Principal</p>	

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8	<b>P&amp;C Report</b> Jo had nothing to report to Council.		
9	<b>Staff Report</b> Neil reported that on Thursday, 26 February there will be a day of giving for the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. This initiative was discussed by Student Services and approved by the management team. Bev added that this year's Year 8 students seem to be a particularly good group.	Send a letter to parents this week advising of the Victorian Bushfire Appeal drive on 26 February 2009	M Butcher
10	<b>Principal's Report</b> Milton reported that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ MLSHS is still to appoint a VET/Careers Officer. Options are being considered.</li> <li>➤ The Trade Training Centre is going ahead - it is happening very quickly and links with particular companies should be discussed. He appreciated the opportunity to explore options with Anne.</li> <li>➤ The School uniform compliance is excellent.</li> </ul> Milton distributed bookmarks which he advised are going out to students and some primary schools to promote reading and MLSHS.		
	Meeting Closed at 9:40pm		
	Next Meeting Monday, 16 March 2009 at 7:30pm		