P&C MINUTES
Pymble Public School Parents & Citizens Association Meeting
Wednesday 13th May 2015

ATTENDEES
Bruno Diodati, Alex Merton-McCann, Ruth White, Maddie Thomson, Marc Skjellerup, Fiona Murphy, Linda Henderson, Evan Watson, Matt Partridge, Emma Cabuil, Moy Ferguson, Sally Seymour, Denise Kelly, Syssy Huber-Liu, Louise Cunningham, Dainn Lee, Sue Klammer, Zannie Abbott, Shelly Acland-Goben

APOLOGIES
Kate Walker, Kissane Gray, Jasmin Buchanan, Amanda Jubb, Roz Howe

WELCOME
Alex Merton-McCann opened and chaired the meeting. Declared open at 7:38pm

MINUTES OF 11TH MARCH 2015 MEETING
Alex Merton-McCann asked that the previous meeting minutes be accepted as a true & fair record. Moy Ferguson verified they were and Marc Skjellerup seconded this.

 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES
It was agreed that lack of adequate storage space is an ongoing issue for the school. Louise Cunningham has agreed to investigate pod/storage options with costings and report back to the P&C.
A ‘wish list’ for P&C fundraising was discussed within the Principal’s report.
It was agreed that the P&C would provide afternoon tea for the Working Bee, Sunday 17th May. Thanks to Alex for organising this.
Alex Merton-McCann has spoken with Sue Lowe from the Department of Education regarding the appointment of a new Principal for Pymble Public School. We are currently waiting on the Department of Education to advise on this process.
In the March P&C meeting, Marc Skjellerup proposed we discuss the budget for the year and then decide whether the P&C looks to contribute financially to Teacher Professional Development. Matter to be carried forward to the next P&C meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE IN/OUT
None

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
The Band Camp was exceptional again this year and I would like to commend Sally Seymour and her team for an outstanding job.

The Canteen is tracking nicely and Linda will report more on this.

The Working Bee is set for this Sunday 17th May and I look forward to seeing lots of Pymble parents there.

Finally a huge thank you to Bruno & Ruth for what has already been a very busy term.

TREASURER’S REPORT
Clare Thomson is currently in India and she will make a full report at the next P&C Meeting.
Heart Week was an amazing event and PPS was honoured to be asked to launch it. Mrs Kelly is to be thanked for her commitment to this event. PPS has a long standing association with the organisation and our children are to be congratulated on their behaviour on the day.

2014 Annual School Report has now been published and is on the school website. The Parent Handbook is now also complete and will be sent out to all families this week as well as being available on the website.


June 19th is Staff Development Day offsite. Alex Merton-McCann, along with some interested parents are planning to attend the conference for part of the day.

School Fees - some from Terms 1&2 are still outstanding.

Working Bee - thanks to Shelly for organising.

Band Camp - the level of performance was incredible. Thanks once again to Sally and her team of helpers.

P&C Wish List.
Number 1 has to be the Infants Playground Shade Sail and softfall area. Estimated at approx $100,000
Also to be considered;
Internal phone system to link all classrooms within the school. Bruno to obtain quote.
Storage for band & uniform shop.
New sound system for the Hall to support cordless radio microphones.
Air conditioning for the Hall. Approx $30,000 but could be as much as $60,000.

We need to decide what to spend P&C money on for 2015. Either put 2015 fundraising money together with existing P&C funds to pay for the Infants Covered Area, or pay for smaller items such as internal phone system etc.

A long-term (5-10 year) Capital Works nomination has also been launched to provide a flexible learning space. It is proposed to get rid of some old demountables and replace them with a purpose built, double storey flexible learning building with fully integrated technology for our students.

Band Camp 2015
I hope that everyone has recovered. It took me a little while. I would like to thank Mr Diodati for his lovely summary of our Band Concert at the end of camp last Sunday. All four of our bands and our new string ensemble sounded amazing and sometimes it is hard to believe that they are only in Primary school.

I am sure that our new venue will prove to be a great change especially next year when the sun is shining. The children worked really hard in their tutorials and rehearsals and that was evident to all who heard them perform on the Sunday.
We would like to acknowledge our conductors - Beck, Tom and Askar along with our wonderful tutors who come to camp. It is interesting to hear their comments as a majority of them only see the children once a year at camp.

Our band camp is a big undertaking and it all comes together with the help of many wonderful parents - I can't thank them all enough for their time, energy and support. There are many to thank especially Akiko Davies, Kei on the camera, Kristi Muffet (my right hand), Toni Christensen, Jo Hill, Caitlin Sharpin, our amazing roadies - Mark Haynes and Neil Caganoff, Shona Curtis, Shelly Goben, Mrs Herbert, the four Band Managers (Sandy, Jen, Margo and Robyn), all the parents who volunteered over the weekend at camp in the horrid wet conditions in particular those on duty Saturday night and overnight. It is a big team effort!!

Thank you to Elanora Uniting Venues who looked after us beautifully and our office ladies for all their help prior to camp.

RYDE EAST BAND FESTIVAL - Sunday 24th May
Our first competition for the year. Three bands performing. Only one adjudicator is the same as last year so hoping for a more objective appraisal this year.

Arrival times are as follows:
JUNIOR BAND
Arrive 8.20am outside Warm up room 9.
Perform at 9.00am

CONCERT BAND
Arrive 10.20am outside Warm up room 4.
Perform at 11.00am

PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE
Arrive 1.20pm outside Warm up room 7.
Perform at 2.05pm

Other Dates for your Diaries:
Sydney Band Est. on June 1 Monday - During school at The Concourse with Performance Ensemble
NSW Band Festival at UNSW (All four bands) Sunday 16th August Times are yet to be notified
Hornsby North Band Festival (Only 3 bands) Sunday 25th October Times are yet to be notified

STRINGS:
We are delighted that the String Ensemble has taken off. They have twelve musicians and in a term they have gone from strength to strength. We are not interested in any competitions however we will look at organising some performances such as a night at The Landings - Dining room etc.

Vanessa Proctor helps out each Monday morning in a musical capacity and was also at camp so I would like to formally acknowledge her contribution and how much we appreciate her support and the support that she gives Askar.

ADDITIONAL PURCHASES:
We are looking at a new Bari Clarinet - could spend up to $3000. Caitlin is in the process of getting quotes.
We are also looking at another French Horn. Otherwise we are in a good position as far as instruments are concerned. Caitlin took the opportunity at camp to do an audit of the schools instruments - and updated our register. She is going to continue handing over to Shona Curtis the role of Instrument Manager.

SUCCESSION PLANNING
We really need to start planning for new parents to come on board as we will need a few new key people.
Positions that will need filling are Convenor and Camp Coordinator along with filling the Band Manager roles and not sure about Treasurer and Secretary.

Thank you
Sally

The P&C also discussed the possibility of paid assistance to help run the administration, camp etc. This would help take the pressure off the Band Convenor as the range of responsibilities is too large at present for a voluntary role. Matter to be carried forward to the next P&C Meeting.

CANCEN
Canteen Report – May 2015
We are already into week 3 of Term 2 and I believe we have the canteen running smoothly.

We are currently testing our written procedures to ensure we have not missed anything and will then formally put them in place. A thank you to Ali Rolleston for writing all of these from scratch.

Fresh Fridays are proving very successful and this will be a permanent fixture on the PPS Canteen week.

We are currently exploring what we can do for our Special Order Day for Term 2 – any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

As you are aware we have had to raise the prices of our Sushi this term. Prior to our knowledge these prices had been raised by the supplier but had not been reflected in the Canteen prices. It was only when we introduced Fresh Fridays that this came to our attention. We then made a conscious decision not to raise the Monday/Thursday prices until Term 2 as the level of change for all in the canteen had been excessive. This is now operational and to date I have not received any negative feedback.

The new laptop and dongle are operational, so we expect smooth sailing going forward.

Linda Henderson
Canteen Convenor.

Linda Henderson, along with Alex Merton-McCann are also organising the School Disco on June 12th. The P&C discussed taking the profit made from the disco and putting it towards an external, charitable cause. It was decided that we would aim to partner with a
rural NSW school and raise money for the ‘Buy a Bale’ campaign to help with drought relief. Linda to organise this.

LIAISON

Liaison Report for meeting 13th May 2015

Easter Bunny

The “Easter Bunny” came and visited the children of PPS at the end of Term 1. Paw prints, big and small, were left all over the school.

I would like to thank Rachel Flick, Deb Phipson, Tiffany Leone and Kate Walther for assisting me in delivering the eggs to K–2.

Mothers’ Day Stall

The Mothers’ Day stall was held today, Wednesday 6th May. All of the children were so excited to be able to shop for Mum.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the wonderful ladies who assisted me before, during and after the stall. Those ladies are:

• Sharon Nethersole
• Sue Klammer
• Belinda Bird
• Moy Ferguson
• Jodie Hamblin
• Deb Phipson
• Alex Boble
• Linda Henderson
• Kate Halpin
• Tisa van den Heuvel
• Natalie Fourie

Without their assistance, I would not have been able to purchase and wrap all the gifts and ensure the stall operated as smoothly as it did.
SOCIAL

P&C Social and Fundraising May Report

Term 1 Fundraising
Thanks very much to Shelly Goben staged a successful cake stall raising approx $1500
Thanks very much to Emma Cabuil did an excellent job with a broken foot raising $800
Thanks very much to Alex Walker did a great job brightening up some gardens raising $800 through a Spring Flower sale
Total fundraised approx. $3100

Term 2
Linda Henderson and Alex MM organising the school disco on 12 June

Term 3
Looking to stage a parent's social night fundraiser on a weekend in August – date and theme tbc.
Father's Day breakfast – proposed date Friday September 4 (Father's Day September 6)
Book Week – 22–28 August, is the school interested in running a read–a–thon?
National H&PE Day - September 9, is the school interested in running a walk–a–thon?

Term 4
Possible Christmas Fair – date tbc
Discuss wine sale – proposed by Tom’s Wine Cellar in South Turramurra and West Pymble – will donate $25 to the school for every case sold. Communication via email to parents, wine delivered to parents at home by wine shop.

POLICY

On Thursday 12th March a series of focus groups was held in the school hall. This was a follow up to the initial student well–being survey sent out in December 2014. Questions were asked around the themes of (1) extra–curricula activities and their access/selection; (2) communication; (3) student engagement and motivation; and (4) bullying. In total 33 parents attended. A lot of good discussions were had and the facilitators received positive feedback that these focus groups were being held at all and that the school was committed to continuous improvement. The notes were summarised and handed over to Mr. Diodati and Mrs White for further action/follow up. Thanks to Alex Merton–McCann, Mr. Diodati and Mrs. White for their assistance on the day.

Motion passed by Alex Merton-McCann to continue the meeting at 9:38pm. Marc Skjellerup seconded.

GROUNDS/FACILITIES
Shelly agreed a wet weather notification would be put online by 9am for the Working Bee, should the need arise.
PROMOTIONS
Nothing to report

SPORT

P & C REPORT MAY

ATHLETICS

• Triskills have completed their lessons

• Field events next Tuesday run by Triskills & teachers

• Other children will be involved in games and return to school at recess time

CROSS COUNTRY CARNIVAL

• Was successful and zone is on 28th May

• Notes were distributed today

HEART FOUNDATION

• A very successful day last Friday

• Children were exceptional & Heart Foundation were amazed at your children

• Photos

Link To access video footage and HD photos, please click on: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ehd274v5tueomene/AADFjxghnUPXmwyjA4vTXlnFa?dl=0

• Also, some media coverage of the event you might be interested in, can be seen here http://www.getsydney.com.au/education/item/5454-pymble-public-school-students-pull-off-the-spectacular-in-sydney

• One child off to state for Sydney North hockey

• One child off to state carnival in girls football

Denise Kelly also asked that as of 2016 SPORT be taken off the P&C Sub-Committee List. P&C agreed.

UNIFORM SHOP
P & C Meeting 13th May 2015
Uniform Report – Roz Howe

Mr Diodati and I had a meeting with Kim from Alinta 30th April. Melanie Taylor, the Alinta representative has left us and we now have 2 new ladies from Alinta: Rojani Dhakal and Diane Craig. We still have 2 school mothers working in the shop as well.
Kim mentioned that PPS parents have really embraced on-line shopping for their uniforms, which alleviates queuing time at the shop and increases efficiency.

Storage issues were discussed once again. We currently have no solution to this problem.

There is also a problem with disposing of empty boxes during increased stock times such as Oct-Jan. Mel informed Kim that the blue recycling bins outside the hall were full and overflowing during this period last year.

Alinta requested that any changes at the school that may require a need to increase stock levels be communicated to them, such as compulsory chair bags, which was added this year for some classes. I am happy to relay this to Alinta if perhaps this could be mentioned at the next staff meeting to contact me if and when any changes occur.

2ND HAND UNIFORM
Nothing to report

CHESS
Kate Watson is running the Friday Competition in Terms 2&3. Thank you, Kate.

POOSH
Nothing to report

GENERAL
Lighting at night outside POOSH is very dark for parents and children. Ruth will investigate the need to replace bulbs/lights.

Meeting closed at 9:52pm