

ST JOHN FISHER CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Parents & Friends Association

Meeting minutes

Date: Tuesday, 6th March 2018

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: LARC

Present: Charmaine Andrews, Alicia Carter, Bec Hamill, Bec Binns, Brooke Stone, Rhonda Clifford, Kellie Bond, Sarah Wright, Sarah Anderson, Leanne Hanly, Isabelle Desquesres, Natalie Jones, Nick Murace, Trish Clay, Kate Hooke, Karen Hardie, Angela Powell, Louise Miller, Honor McGill, Scott Fraser, Chris Burns, Natalie Jones and Colleen Templeton

Apologies: Lyndall McDonald & Sandra Mahoney & Jenna Collie

Meeting opened: Opening prayer lead by Natalie Jones

Previous minutes following AGM 2017:

Minutes adopted by Kate Hooke

Minutes seconded by Rhonda Clifford

Correspondence In & Out:

Nothing to report

Treasurer's Report:

Funds available as at 28th February 2018	P&F Cheque Acc	P&F Cash Mgmt Acc	Total
	\$11735.41	\$2,406.57	\$14141.99
Social Events	Funds Raised	Less Expenses	Net Profit
Big Arvo	0.00	463.16	-463.16
Tears n Tissues	0.00	98.05	-98.05
Newsletter Advertising	Funds Raised	Less Expenses	Net Profit
	\$2,640	\$1,936	\$704
Expenses paid out to date for other events	No expenses to be paid at this time.		

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL REPORT

- There were a lot of new representatives and reps from schools with no formal P&F, so there was discussion of how to best represent those schools and an overview of what the CSP is how it fits into the Catholic education system.
- It was discussed how information from the CSP meetings can be conveyed to schools, not only through P&F meetings, but through the facebook page and the Broken Bay Parent Council website.
- We discussed how best to use the CSP funding to reach as many parents in as many schools with the most relevant activities and/or speakers as possible. Previous seminars and workshops were given as examples.
- ▶ This will also be a topic for the Leadership meeting that will be at St Cecelia's on 19th March, and a few parent reps are more than welcome to attend to discuss what they believe would work for their school community.
- The limitations of reaching working parents and making those parents feel included in their school communities was a big issue that a lot of schools brought up in relation to organising speakers and workshops, and these discussions will continue as the CSP plan things through the year.

Parents were also reminded that Broken Bay Parent Council have a Facebook page, and this is worth following. Parents are encouraged to follow the link on our school website to find out further information.

Social Committee Report:

- **Tears & Tissues** – another wonderful afternoon for 2018 Kindergarten children, families and Year 6 buddies. Congratulations to those parents who assisted with making this event another success and it was great that Year 6 students were there to finish off the food.
- **Big Arvo** - Wow! Everyone present this evening commented that we felt this year's Big Arvo was the best so far. It was wonderful to see so many new families welcomed into the SJF school community, as well as many other families catching up enjoying a beautiful afternoon / evening.

Upcoming Events:

Term 1	Tears and Tissues - Completed Big Arvo - Completed Sport-a-thon/Cross Country – 13 th March – any social activity required?
Term 2	Mother's Day Stall – Tuesday 8 th May Mother's Day Breakfast – Friday 11 th May Disco – Date required – tbc Athletics Carnival – 22 nd June SOCIAL BBQ?
Term 3	Grandparents' Day – Date Required Father's Day Stall – Tuesday 28 th August Father's Day Breakfast – Friday 31 st August
Term 4	Disco – Date Required – tbc Teacher's lunch – Date Required Gingerbread night – Friday 30 th November?? (Charmaine to confirm)

There was a lot of discussion tonight about the value of having upcoming events on the school calendar for families, so that they can organise / plan days off in advance. Honor is going to liaise with Rane, in the office, to add the dates to SJF Calendar App. However, it is important to recognise that P&F planned events differ to school scheduled events.

Principal's Report:

School Improvement Plan

- Engaging the children with God
- Improve student outcomes in Reading and Maths
- Scot Fraser to attend 6 days of training on EMU – Maths specific training – this professional development will also be shared with fellow teachers
- Pastoral Care policy
- SJF will seek a parent to be on the Pastoral Care Advisory Group
- Yard upgrades and enhancements – quiet reflection area & prayer area with sandstone
- Bag hooks added outside many classrooms
- Front garden & pavers have arrived

- Commissioned new carpet for Kinder & Year 1 classrooms
- Gate for the playground area near carpark to be installed
- School banner – Mr Pobjie has ordered a new one
- Toilet stuff – new hand towel dispensers, soap dispensers, toilet roll holders

P&F have now lost the role of Maintenance and Fundraising. Schools have been informed that they need to form a Parent Advisory Group. Our P&F is already an advisory group, as we are often consulted on parent feedback during our P&F meetings. It is Chris, Barry and Scot's intention that we continue to operate in a very similar manner and at each P&F Meeting, during the Principal's report time, we will have a time designated to seeking parent advice in relation to a specific topic of discussion.

All parents present this evening agreed that we approve that the P&F will act as the Parent Advisory Group.

Chris has asked about parent's views about children who are constantly being disciplined at school, then being given the opportunity to represent their school in outer school events, such as representative sports, debating or similar. These situations are rare and relate to children who are already on Behaviour Plans, parents are actively consulted and involved in this process. However, Chris was keen to gauge parent's perspectives on how parents felt these situations should be handled.

Parents raised a variety of views. Sometimes these sporting achievements are the few positive opportunities that some children experience through their school experience and this is a very valid point. Parents also recognise that a child's behaviour is often requiring support and understanding, however Chris did clarify that SJF is already supporting of these children. Parents also expressed views that those children who are constantly being disciplined, disrupting other children's class time, should experience consequences of their behaviour and attending such representative sports or associated events could be rewards / goals to work towards. Ultimately, these decisions must be made by the teachers and principals of our school and parents must respect the decisions made.

General Business:

Gate quotation has been obtained for playground near carpark. Chris will proceed with this quotation as for this nominal amount, once he has obtained a quote and believes it is reasonable he can proceed without further consultation or approval.

A parent has complimented the school's decision to keep Jo-Jo bows for the weekend or Melbourne Cup.

ANZAC Day – Rhonda Clifford is prepared to organise a school wreath and co-ordinate a group to meet at The Entrance to attend the dawn service and 11am march. Rhonda will contact Diggers to organise a space for our school community to be involved.

School Banner – this has been ordered – Can swimming caps be purchased for those representative swimming events. A parent has sourced a quote of \$3.50 each but we must order a minimum of 50. Chris indicated that this could be something the school could organise.

Maintenance Issue – Leanne Healy mentioned that her husband identified a lot of maintenance issues around the school. Leanne’s husband is keen and willing to offer his assistance on a regular basis, e.g. Every Friday afternoon. Chris mentioned that due to WHS constraints this can be challenging. However, he welcomes the offer and he will investigate what types of projects he could become involved in.

Can the school do an Easter Hat parade was raised by a few parents – Chris will consider this.

Meeting closed at 9:15pm.