

Bellingen High School P & C Association

Minutes

Monday 1 May 2023 6pm
Bellingen High School Staff common room
Gumbaynggirr Country

Attendees – Rachael Case (chair), Graziella Reeson, Elisa Hall, Tim Laverty (relieving Principal), Caroline Thomas, Raeleen Carey, Vicki Greer, Melanie Tyas, Kathleen Hannah, Beth Edwards, Alycia Scanlon, Kim Childs

1. Welcome, Acknowledgment of Country (6.02 pm)

- 1.1 Welcome and Acknowledgment of Country (Chair) – Rachael Case.
- 1.2 Apologies (Chair) – Katharine Sutherland, Milo Bowd

We welcome new voting Members for 2023 P&C & acknowledge receipt of payment:

- Beth Edwards
- Alycia Scanlon
- Kim Childs

2. Previous minutes

- 2.1 Approval of Minutes – Move Graz 2nd Mel
- 2.2 Business Arising from Previous Minutes (Chair)
 - **Square reader setup** - Need to add Certificate of Incorporation before we can complete. **Mel Tyas to update.**
 - Request from Kendl Cramer: BHS Café use P&C bank account for POS (square reader)
 - **Principal position recruitment update** – no one interviewed as panel felt the calibre of applications were not strong enough. Role will be readvertised hopefully by the end of the term. Tim will re-apply.
 - NAPLAN messaging to students – Message should be to “get in & have a go” which teachers are onboard with.
 - Mobile Phone Policy – Plans by the school to administer were paused as the Government announced that they would release instructions. School will continue with the current plan & adapt to include the Government initiatives. School will need to assess how that affects seniors. Will also need to finalise what that looks like in the playground when teachers may not know students. More information to follow as plan progresses.

3. REPORTS

3.1 Principal's Report

#Berry Street Program for Teachers - Trauma informed practice started the second module today looking at relationships.

School Musical – Performances will be on 22 & 23 June. Request for the P&C to support by running the canteen during intermissions. In the past this has been quite simple with beverages & biscuits.

Agreed that P&C will run the canteen for intermissions with perhaps support from Kendl & students who could assist with coffee & baking?

#Staffing – Some changes recently. Loss of relieving Head Teacher in Science Angelle Huges has taken a position in Hervey Bay. Mr Bardea & Mr Atkins are taking a break from teaching. Mr Core left from HSIE & is moving to Tasmania. Mr Dal Pozzo started in Maths & Peter Fox is moving back to Science to be the Head Teacher. Ms Filewood has started in HSIE.

We welcome new relieving Deputy Principal Samantha Gaye from Orara.

#School Spectacular – We had two students invited for the individual auditions who went to Sydney on the weekend. Congratulations to Ruby Jarman & Sam Borget.

3.2 Financial Reports (Treasurer) – BCU setup is still not complete so Mel Tyas could not view bank details to obtain balances. No spending has happened in between meetings.

All paperwork for change of signatories will be completed this week.

3.3 Correspondence (Secretary) – The P&C still need to identify where our pigeonhole is? Tim to confirm.

4. PRIORITY BUSINESS

4.1 Advisory/ Information

- P & C Office Bearers met on Friday 21st April to discuss their roles & planning for 2023; primary outcome was a Survey to elicit feedback from parents about direction of P & C (see questions attached)
- First 10 responses from survey highlights lack of connection to school, although it is not clear in what way they could feel more connected to the school. Survey is still yet to go out to the entire school community, so by next meeting we will have a greater understanding of the results.
- P&C asked if Tim could revisit teacher engagement at P&C meetings as when this was asked last time, there was no interest.
- Consensus from the group was that the informal meet & great evenings were well attended by parents & provides a nice, relaxed forum for chatting with teachers.
- The school is looking at reformatting the more formal Parent/Teacher interview. More information on this to come.

- Youth Forum was held for Bellingin Youth & included students from Bellingin & Dorrigo High Schools, & Chrysalis. Mel & Rachael attended as table hosts & have a new appreciation for teachers!
For the students who elected to attend their participation was enthusiastic, however the students who were forced to attend we less reluctant to engage.
Some of the highlighted outcomes were around young people needing to have more respect for themselves & how they are struggling with how to address teen issues.
Organisers are keen to make this an annual event.
There is a Camp coming up on 20-21 May to continue to build on these themes.
Two key points highlighted were need for Arts space & Gym.
- Interview Panel Training – is open for anyone to represent the P&C for future panels. Please register your interest & complete easy induction video.

4.2 Events / Relationship Building

- Breakfast club volunteers always appreciated: Wed, Thurs, Fri, 8 – 9am, Contact Magda @ school.
This is a great way to engage with the school & students. Breakfast club is well attended by students & any assistance is appreciated.

4.3 Fundraising

- Grants subcommittee (Graziella, Mel) - help welcomed
- 2023 Fundraising subcommittee (Milo) - help needed

Planning for:

- BHS musical - catering fundraiser – 22-24 June.
More information to follow. Need volunteers to attend the canteen during intermission at all performances.
Could speak with Kendl to get students to cater?
- Trivia night - Consider September if there is an available date at Showground. Graz will advise.
- colour run - date TBC
- Bellingin community markets – has been locked in for 18 Nov 2023.

5. OTHER BUSINESS (Chair)

- Camps – Year 7 will be in week 2 next term, Year 8 undecided, Year 9 undecided, Year 10 is at Lake Keepit in September, Year 11 some issues need to be addressed first. There is not enough interest at this point.
Some parents feel that senior year camps need to be prioritised to help with wellbeing & connectedness as a cohort.

- NAPLAN around school messaging. Was highlighted that this is the only tool for the duration of a student's school life to see trajectory of skills & where they might need assistance/extra support.
Audience & purpose looks at the whole purpose of engaging with NAPLAN.
Question was asked if students get an opportunity to practise the online process for those students who struggle with computers? Tim was unsure. Suggested that the school could do better with education on how to use the online tools for questions.
Chat GPT/AI – discussions have started around how they can be used positively. It has huge potential as a learning tool.

6. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING 6.59pm

Next meeting Monday 5 June.