

Bellingen High School P & C Association

Minutes

Monday 12th August 2024 6pm

Bellingen High School Staff common room

Gumbaynggirr Country

All agenda items are to be notified to the Secretary or President in the week prior to the meeting and, if required, accompanied by a written report.

Our Parents and Citizens Association aims to improve the academic, social and emotional outcomes of students regardless of a student's ability, race, gender, religion or socio-economic status.

Attendees: Rachael Case (Vice Pres), Milo Bowd (Vice Pres), Kathleen Hannah (Treasurer), Lisa Welsh (Deputy Principal), Michelle Elliott (Principal), Kristy Holding*, Caroline Thomas, Jaimie Garson*

**paid \$1 for 2024 BHS P & C voting membership*

Apologies: Kathryn Sutherland, Graziella Reeson and Mel Tyas

1. Acknowledgement of Country

Rachael Case

2. Previous Minutes

Approval of Minutes

Adopted by Milo Bowd seconded by Kathleen Hannah

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

- We have 10 Voting P & C Members (as of May 2024). Parent recently requested to be removed. Encourage other parents to nominate as voting member
- Still after nominations for President and Secretary - eligible candidates are paid up 2024 members of the BHS P & C
- Write to Minister for Education to advocate for better funding to public schools in response to significant education budget cuts – need volunteer *still to be actioned

3. REPORTS

3.1 Principal's Report

- Funding- recently been using left over community funds to help with school budget.
- Congratulations to the following staff

Pru Borgert was selected to be a presenter at an education seminar in Finland, Mind the Gap. Memorable and sustainable and relevant P/L for Music Teachers. She is currently completing her PhD

Frieda Gorman Careers Advisor is the recipient of a scholarship to travel to the UK for 5 weeks to learn different styles of school and community relationships and engagement.

- Public Education Week involved a few initiatives- parent teacher interviews, CAPA showcase evening, debating success
- Nanga Mai Awards
Two students were nominated for these awards
 1. Della Byrne for her participation in the Gumbaynggirr Ranger school based training program
 2. Imogen Laverty for her outstanding achievements in academics, sport and music
- New Staff-
Maths - Sam Cornale
AEO- Nicola Neve replacing Jenny Farrands
- Celebration of NAIDOC week has been delayed until Term 4
- New timetable will be introduced next year, line for Year 11 secured.
More information will be supplied to parents closer to release
- Received approval and funding for another MC Classes. This is great for our students and will allow for another head teacher
- Currently in the process of writing a simplified version of the phone policy for parents. This will clearly state the steps involved when children don't comply with policy
- Dress Code continues to be an issue. School looking at creative ways to get children engaged with uniform. Important kids are in uniform when representing school.
- Currently planning Transition Day events for incoming Year 7's. Currently looking like approx. 100 students to commence at Bellingen for Year 7 2025
- Annie Phelan off to Opera House with students Tuesday

3.2 Financial Reports (Treasurer)

- P&C Insurance \$583 pd
- Received subsidy from BHS \$309, \$2 new members
- Balance \$6567.78

3.3 Correspondence (Secretary)

- P & C Federation emails & newsletters
- Andrews Insurance P & C Insurance renewal
- ACNC Newsletters
- Bellingen Council Grants / Funding opportunities

4. PRIORITY BUSINESS

4.1 Requests - Panel / Funds / Support

- Milo Bowd to be P & C Rep for SLSO Interview Panel (Lisa Welch). Encourage other parents to do training and participate on the panels. Great way to understand processes and have greater relationships with school and teachers.
- Wear it Purple Day Event (colour run) & re-launch of LGBTQ+ student group
Magda requested funding from P&C to assist with this fantastic event.
P&C agreed to donate \$500 as Magda also sourcing money from other outlets. If shortfall of funds P&C happy to make up the difference
- Lisa Welsh requested P&C to fund 3 x Reading Boxes for Learning Support Team. These are for small group withdrawal lessons, Stage 1 lacking resources.
\$500 x 3 = \$1500 P&C approved same.
- Breakfast club volunteers always appreciated: Wed, Thurs, Fri, 8 – 9am to assist with setup and preparation
- Canteen volunteers still required as Vicki canteen manager away until week 6
- Any assistance would be greatly appreciated. Need WWC
Times 10:00-11:30 and 12:00-2:00
(Contact Jade, BHS Admin)

4.2 Fundraising

- Bellingham Markets Fundraising help needed - Saturday 21st Sep
Michelle to action the recruitment of students to assist on the day.
To start with Year 11 students looking at running for student leader.
Will require 2 students per gate with adult to supervise.
Kristy Holding volunteered to organise a stall selling work created by Students.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

- Jaimie Garson and Caroline Thomas asking if it is possible to get some updated Representative Sports Uniforms and team waterbottles. Kids often representing school in borrowed jerseys or old, oversized shirts.
Michelle to action with John Winfer
- PE teachers also to be reminded and encouraged to take P&C shelters to sporting events to provide shelter from the weather for participants
- Bellingham High recently established their **Summary of Values** as selected by the teachers. Michelle requesting P&C to read over and provide feedback by next meeting. These values will then assist with the school plan and expectations

6. CLOSE AND NEXT MEETING

Monday 9th September 6pm, Bellingham High Staffroom

