

# Lane Cove Public School P&C General Meeting

## Meeting Minutes

### 19/03/2019 - Term 1, Meeting 2

#### *a. Present:*

James Morley (Treasurer)  
Darshini Heaney (Secretary)  
Prue Carroll (VP Community Partners)  
Clare Gaunt (Communications)  
Elaine Bean (Strategy)  
Emily Patterson (General Member, Gala Night)  
Tony Nolan (General Member)  
Vanessa Mundell (Fun Run 2019)  
Michelle Tabrett (Fun Run 2019)  
Victoria Davidson (Canteen Convenor)  
Brendan Hood  
David Roberts  
Lisa Ballistreri  
Alice Groocoe  
Anne Cunningham (P&C Finance Administrator)  
Tarren Smith (Uniform Shop Manager)  
Terry McKinnon (Principal)

#### *b. Apologies:*

Myles Davis (President)  
Simone Bordin (VP School Community)

## 2. Minutes from Previous Meeting

Accepted without amendments.

## 3. Principal's Report (Terry M)

#### *a. General Comments*

Acknowledgement and thanks to the P&C, and in particular Simone Bordin, for organising the Welcome BBQ. There was a very good crowd given the weather.

The Swimming Carnival was held at the public pool at Milson Point on Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019. The new venue was appreciated by all who attended.

The Zone Swimming Carnival has just been held, and Lane Cove Public School won – three Lane Cove students were Zone Champions.

The Year 6 students have returned from the Great Aussie Bush Camp, and this was a great success. The children conducted themselves well.

Parent Teacher interviews are planned for Week 10 and 11 – the online booking system is open now.

The new PA system is now working very well, and allows the playing of music. The upgrade was necessary as the old system was constantly breaking down.

The School Bytes system is now up and running. This has simplified the payment process, reflected by high numbers of parents already paying their voluntary fees.

### ***b. Upcoming Events***

Harmony Day will be held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> March. Children have the option of wearing traditional cultural dress or a piece of orange clothing. The principal and staff are very proud that the school has children from fifty two different language backgrounds.

The Easter Hat Parade will occur on Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April – the parade through the plaza is a longstanding tradition in the school.

The school will hold an Anzac Day Service on Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup> April, as Anzac Day is in the holidays.

Student leaders from the school will represent the school at the formal Lane Cove Plaza Service on Anzac Day.

### ***c. Staffing***

A Selection Panel was convened to fill the role of a combined Sport and Technology Teacher, who will provide RFF (Relief from Face to Face). The parent rep was Tony Nolan. Ms Katherine Brown is now in the role.

A Selection Panel is meeting to fill the Assistant Principal position – Danielle Avery is the parent rep on this. The successful candidate will be announced in two weeks.

The EALD teacher role will be advertised tomorrow and Luke Andrews will be the parent rep for this panel.

### ***d. Crossing Guard***

The RMS has interviewed two applicants for the crossing guard position – standard checks are being undertaken now. They should start soon.

### ***e. Repairs to the Longueville Rd Retaining Wall***

Approval has been given to rectify the wall. Root barriers will be installed, and better footings provided.

There is about six weeks worth of work, so it cannot be completed within holidays. Access will be available to the Longueville main gate from 8:30am to 9 am and from 3pm to 3:15pm. The bus stop will remain accessible at all times.

The Melaleuca and two gum trees will have to be removed, but the school will retain the woodchip for use on school grounds. The large Moreton Bay Fig will remain. Small bushes will be planted next to the new wall, but larger trees will be planted within the school to replace the trees lost.

#### ***f. Energy Audit***

A data analyst will come to the school on Thursday to install a cable to get more information about energy usage and the solar panel performance.

The school may be selected for a pilot program for a new type of solar technology. There may be more funding available for solar panels after the election.

### **4. Sub Committee Reports**

#### ***a. Music***

No one from the music committee is present today – no new permanent co convenor has been found as yet. Succession planning is proving difficult. The Music Treasurer, Sam Sammour, will also leave at the end of this year.

A tutor has very recently requested that he be paid superannuation. This had never been brought up by any music program contractors before, but the legislation states that persons paid more than \$450 per month are entitled to superannuation. We may need to backpay up to six years in the past.

Anne Cunningham will request that the Music Committee get all tutors and conductors to provide their superannuation details, so that this can be sorted out as soon as possible.

#### ***b. Canteen***

Wage costs have increased and sushi prices have gone up. In general, however, sales are covering costs without an increase in prices.

Flexible working arrangements are still being promoted to the paid staff in a bid to maximize efficiency.

A new computer has been provided to Karen to allow her to see the online roster and to order supplies online.

Limeleaf is still selling produce to us and delivering to us, but as they have closed to the public, this arrangement is unlikely to continue indefinitely.

The Canteen will sell orange Jelly Cups on Harmony Day. Chicken Fried Rice was a popular one off menu item recently so may become a weekly special.

It continues to be a challenge to find new volunteers. Maybe an edited version of the Canteen Volunteer Video, making it shorter and including other ways of volunteering, could be used on social media. Mr McKinnon was happy for this to be used if the appropriate permission had been sought from parents of children on the video. Another idea was putting up a laminated sign, stating “help needed tomorrow” as required.

Succession planning is being undertaken, as five committee members will leave by next year – their children are leaving the school.

### ***c. Uniform Shop***

Year 6 sweatshirts will be available in Term 2

\$1900 was taken on the first day of the second hand sale.

The Uniform shop will need to review all prices in April, as the main supplier, Spartan, is increasing their wholesale price by 2.5%. All price increases will need the approval of the P&C.

### ***d. Fun Run***

Currently planning is ahead of schedule. Meetings have been held with Council and systems set up.

The Gold sponsor, all three Silver sponsors and two of a total of ten bronze sponsors have been signed.

Marketing and Community Liason roles are yet to be filled.

The Grandstand at the Kingsford Smith Oval may be under construction at the time of the Fun Run, with no access for bag storage or toilets. However, at this stage the council have stated they would provide extra toilets if needed.

## **5. General Business**

### ***a. Amendments to the P&C Calendar.***

The P&C Executive Meetings are to be brought forward to a 6:30pm start time, but the P&C General Meetings will start at 7pm as usual.

The Term 4 Executive Meeting will now be held on 29<sup>th</sup> October.

The Gala may have to be held on 15<sup>th</sup> June instead of 22<sup>nd</sup> June, depending on the availability of venues.

### ***b. Finances***

The sales from the Uniform Shop are down by \$10,000 compared with this time last year, but last year was a bumper year. Sales have also been affected by the fact that we are down 30 students compared with 2018.

Canteen sales are tracking as expected, although wages costs have increased.

Fun run sponsors have started to pay their contributions.

### ***c. Bull Ring***

This is sloped and the surface cracking.

Grading it and resurfacing with an all weather surface would allow netball, tennis and other sports to be better accommodated. The lights need replacing as well.

We could use Fun Run money for this, as it would be appropriate use of the funds.

Concern for security was raised as an issue – the basketball hoops have had to be replaced due to vandalism. Options include CCTV or a security fence for the school.

Myles Davis, Brendan Hood and Ross Mildwater (via text message) all volunteer to form a subcommittee to investigate this.

***d. Need for Green space***

Provision for more green space at the school was brought up as an issue.

There are plans to provide a chicken coop near the cricket nets, and Simone Bordin is talking to Council about a Native Garden above the vegetable garden. However, natural grass is problematic in a school this size – synthetic grass is much more hard wearing.

***e. Uniform Change Discussion***

The Dept of Education suggests that schools provide a unisex uniform option to all students. This is a three year process, which needs to be completed by July 2021. Ordering new uniforms from suppliers would require a 12 month lead time.

One option would be the provision of shorts and long pants that both boys and girls could wear.

The difficulty of keeping white polo tops clean is something that is often brought up by parents. Tarren suggested cleaning with dishwashing liquid, Lisa suggested Sard Wondersoap.

The option of another colour was discussed. The problems associated with changing to a non standard colour include increased cost, and a twenty week turnaround time for new polo shirts if they run out of a size.

Another issue is whether to offer an option of a head covering for girls.

Mr McKinnon's priority is classroom learning, not uniforms, but he will accept the recommendation of the P&C. Input from students, parents and the community needs to be sought. The SRC needs to be involved in the process.

The first step is the formation of a Uniform Change Subcommittee. Caryn Gottcent (Uniform Shop Subcommittee Secretary) is happy to lead this, and Lisa Ballistreri, Emily Patterson and Tony Nolan from the P&C volunteer to be on the committee. Anyone else who is passionate about this issue is urged to join as well.

A survey will need to be undertaken to ascertain the feelings of the school community about the options. A vote on any changes would be held at the AGM.

***f. Skoolbag App for translation***

Claire informed the P&C that there is a Skoolbag App feature that can translate the Loop into other languages – Mr McKinnon is happy for this to be explored.