# LCPS P&C - General Meeting – 20 July 2021 (7.00 – 9.15 pm) Minutes of Meeting

# Attendees (Via Zoom)

- 1. Darshini Heaney LCPS P&C President
- 2. David Roberts LCPS P&C Treasurer
- 3. Em Patterson LCPS P&C School Community
- 4. Renae Buckley LCPS Community Partners
- 5. Victoria La Fontaine LCPS P&C Secretary
- Ursula Phillips LCPS Strategy & Management

- 8. Rebecca Myors, LCPS
- 9. Brendan Hood
- 10. Tony Nolan
- 11. Kate Blue
- 12. Michelle Tabrett
- 13. Michelle Torenbeek
- 14. Kailee McDonald
- 15. Prue Carroll

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7. Talia Morgan, LCPS  No. Agenda			ion and Novt Stone	
NO.	Agenda	Discussion and Next Steps		
	Item/Topic			
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	ment of			
	Country/Welc			
	ome			
2	2 Adoption of No objections.			
	previous			
	minutes			
3	- 1	<u>Talia Morgan</u>		
	Report	Covid overview: Thank you to the P&C Exec, particularly Darshini		
		Heaney for assisting with Covid related issues and communication.		
		TM getting many updates a day from the Department, things are		
		changing quickly. TM trying to keep communication going, but a		
		difficult time.		
		<u>Canteen and Hall works:</u> Construction works stopped in line with NSW		
		Govt orders. Up until halted construction, completion date for		
		canteen was mid-August. Unfortunately there was minimal work at		
		the construction site in school holidays, with increasing Covid		
		numbers. Also, rain during holidays impacted progress of the		
		construction works. A summary of the status of the works is:		
		landscaping done, brickwork around perimeter done, exterior of		
		canteen done, grease traps and utilities completed. Next part is the		
		concrete pours on the ground ready for the astro turf. It is anticipated		
		that once works can resume under Govt regulation, it may bay be		
		another month until construction is completed. We are hoping that		
		works can commence on 1 August, but will be up to NSW Govt to		
		determine the commencement date. During School holidays TM		
		asked for permission from School Infrastructure to publish hall		
		designs. What has been published in the newsletter is the most up to		
		date information in relation to the hall design.		
		Staff Changes: Gail Falkingham (KGF) has moved up central coast,		
		Jacqui Serra (returning from leave) has taken on her class. Luke		
		Watson was employed on a visa, and could not be sponsored by the		
		Education Department, and he moved to another role as an early		
		childhood educator on the northern beaches. Janine Allen		
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(counsellor) has moved to Chatswood High and Xiao Guan will take her position as a new counsellor, two days per week. LCPS is lucky to have school counsellors four days per week (including remote working). Christine Pendleton is now on leave for Term 3, and Mr Smith from North Ryde Public will taking over her role, and 1CP to support online learning, along with Sally Robertson. School events: Because the Department doesn't know how long Covid impacts will continue for, it has postponed OC testing. Education Week has also been moved to virtual event, however LCPS has moved this to week 8, when might be able to do more activities. In addition, the Year 6 play has been cancelled and the year 6 fete postponed to next term. The Art show might be done in a different way, virtually. Currently considering logistics. Victoria La Fontaine: guery whether the RFF and PDHPE teacher changes discussed in the Loop, would continue next year or are they temporary changes? TM: This will be the circumstances for this year, and LCPS will continue to use teachers as appropriately as possible, and the PDHPE syllabus will still be taught. RFF is looked at every year based on skill sets and other issues around resources. Tony Nolan: Can student teachers assist? TM: Student teachers require supervision, and so will not be used for PDHPE. Treasurer's **David Roberts** Report Not a lot to report from our meeting last term. P&C tracking OK from profitability perspective. Due to Covid, canteen and uniform shop have been closed. Music program is the only P&C run program still operating. Other staff have been stood down, and have been given assistance with applying for support directly from the Govt. No change as to profitability. No other impact on costs (eg no rent, food order expenses). The Uniform shop will continue to receive clothes orders, but these are not perishable items, and will mean not needing to make further orders next year. Santhi left two months ago in the finance role. Replacement – Alison Macey. She is currently getting up to speed in her role. (a) Music 5 Subcommittee Reports Music camp cancelled. Music program online. (b) Canteen Kailee McDonald: No update, looking forward to returning to the new canteen. (c) Uniform N/A Tony Nolan: Is uniform changing and will this be a problem with additional stock by reason of Covid? • Darshini Heaney: No expectation that uniform will be changing.

# 6 General Business

#### (a) Covid Impacts

#### Talia Morgan

- TM hearing the comments from parents. We need to cater for students, but also need to work with strict requirements from Department. The current situation is different to last year's Covid home learning. TM receiving updates constantly, meeting with senior Department Execs, parents and LCPS Exec each morning, to ensure that the communication continues to flow. We are doing best we can, and can't wait to get back to face to face teaching. Parents and everyone involved is doing a phenomenal job. TM's points to make:
  - Wellbeing comes first, with learning second. The message is do what you can when it comes to home learning, noting family and work pressures. There are parents saying their children have too much work, and others saying their children have too little work. We are trying to find an even balance. Parents will be able to provide feedback re the first two weeks of home learning via a survey we will issue in coming days, for us to consider early next week. We hopefully will then also have some further information regarding duration of the school closure. The focus of survey will be the amount of work, student engagement, platform, amount of time spent on screen, access to extra work, general feedback.
  - Communications: We found out about the school closures at the same time the public and community did (Wednesday on the last week of school holidays). The Department then had a cyber-attack, which meant there was not much time to prepare for online learning. The Staff development day after holidays was cancelled so that staff could get online learning up and running. First email TM sent out based on what we knew was not an easy process. From there we have made best efforts to communicate with the community - organised daily emails, Zoom meetings, newsletter, and the posting information on P&C Facebook page. We are aware of the importance of keeping people up to date, but not causing angst. Sometimes the information received from the Department is in blunt terms, and this information is being sent as a quotation so that the community knows that this is the information from the Department, and to ensure that the messaging is consistent. TM meets with principals in the area tomorrow, to ensure consistency re approach to home learning between schools in the area.
  - Live learning: Out of 25 local schools, only six were doing "live" sessions, and five of these were check in sessions, rather than learning sessions. This is the most contentious issue within the community. Whatever we are allowed to do, we are doing. The Department's "Guidelines to Support schools using live video with students" sets out the restrictions and requirements for live learning, and this covers the main points as to why face

- to face online meetings have not been arranged as part of online learning. Zoom is only approved platform for K-12. MS Teams is approved for years 5-12. Video conferencing is approved only for years 7-12. The other recommendation is that other contact is via phone calls. The general rule is that teachers should not conduct one to one sessions with students, and if you need to, ensure there is another teacher (not available). Sessions (incl pre-recorded) should be no more than 20mins each for K-6.
- Data: We can assess data which measures student engagement and usage of online lessons, but would like to get the other side of the story via the parent's experience, via the parent survey. Current data shows that 88.5% of students at or above department requirements for online learning, with 76% above expectations. There is no expectation that students they will be doing the same hours as they would be at school. However, aware of issue with too much screen time, so need to look at this further. We are also looking at consistencies/concerns across different classrooms and grades.
- Work: One Unit of work is the approved approach by the Department. This is set as an average – some children may complete in a quick time, or a long time depending on quality and capabilities.
- Engagement: Looking at engagement of students worst example is 26 students not engaged on one day. Requested if this occurs the teachers get in contact with the students to check wellbeing.
- <u>Feedback:</u> The feedback is that many students are finishing work quickly, which suggests an uplift in expectation for maths and literacy going forward. This does not mean teachers will mark all work immediately. However, if students are finding work too much, these are extra requirements.
- Mathletics and Reading Eggs: referred to, but looking to set work on these platforms. Not necessarily compulsory, but will be specific lessons and links.
- Learning support and EALD (English as a second language)
   team: Aware that this is replacing work of the classroom
   teaching. Need to ensure clear procedures, and not wishing to
   overwhelm students.
- <u>Department Guidelines</u>: One Unit approach, equity and Discrimination Act and impact on students already in crisis, or having issues at home. Pre-recorded lessons might be suitable, but cannot make teachers do pre-recordings.
- <u>Learning Packs</u>: Strict stay at home orders mean that the school can't release learning packs and have families at premises. Will discuss further loopholes re distributing packs. Will try my best.
- Consistency: We have worked really hard to ensure consistent across grades so don't have teachers feeling targeted. There will always be comparisons, but trying to decrease this.

 Parent feedback: If parents aren't happy with what is happening during this time, we are still following the same chain of communication, we want to know. Contact teacher first, and then email Assistant Principal, Deputy Principal and the Principal.

#### Rebecca Myors

- Student wellbeing first, second staff wellbeing and family wellbeing third. This is a challenging time, and we are aware that families are stressed and in distress. We have systems in place so we can support families and students, as we want to support best we can. Teachers now making weekly phonecalls, however maybe more depending on needs and circumstances.
- Teaching Staff: Teachers aren't in Covid bubble they are working at home with similar challenges. Every day the Department Counselling phone numbers are provided to teachers. We have been working towards getting staff to point where they are at capacity. Most teachers are working long hours, which is stressful etc. We want to make sure they have a bit left so that they can listen and assist if need to eg, distressed families.
- Admin staff: A challenging time for staff. A small minority of parents being aggressive to staff.
- Message everyone is struggling, everyone is tired. The best parent community can do is thank the students.

#### Learning packs

- David Roberts: Can P&C fund courier packs to families in need?
- Talia Morgan: Problem is having minimal staff at site to get the info together to distribute is an issue. Can put option out to post material.
- Renae Buckley: Let us know if the school needs assistance with packing or assisting with resources etc.
- Ursula Phillips: P&C can also investigate direct print to and from Officeworks.
- Darshini Heaney: P&C agrees to put funds aside if LCPS want to send learning packages out to families.

# Feedback from online learning

- Renae Buckley: Not sure why there isn't daily Zoom check in session like other schools? Phone calls have not been useful for my family. Could be valuable from a wellbeing perspective. I am going to other schools to look for other things for daughter to do that is not on a computer. Hearing that there are other classes that have Zoom classes, some LCPS classes have connection to a zoo. There is inconsistency, and I am trying to keep daughter engaged.
- Talia Morgan: Year 4 was going to the zoo, and the zoo offered on Zoom as we lost the deposit. I am getting the team to look at additional resources to assist parents in online learning.
- Michelle Torenbeek: I sent Darshini an email yesterday to offer suggestions for online learning. I have lots of friends in different public schools in same year, and have been surprised and frustrated in differences in experience. I try to come up with

- routine, but suggestions of what to do would be useful. I don't want my child to slip. Some of the things I have heard morning check ins, Zoom reading groups. Understand it is a tough time, and appreciate the technical aspect. Just to have connection, a couple of days per week doesn't have to be all online things. Other schools I have spoken to have a timetable they can follow, as guidance for the day.
- Talia Morgan: I didn't share email with the staff but went through the points in Michelle's email with the LCPS Exec. A lot of new instructions moving forward have been further to discussion following points raised in your email. The Reading Hubs/breakout rooms have been shut down by the Department, it shouldn't be still going.
- Renae Buckley: Would like a bit more guidance from the school, including a possible check ins.
- Talia Morgan: I love the idea of the live check ins, but what is coming out of the mouth of parents, is that this is a great idea for the children that can do so. The flip side is that if there is a child that misses out, the wellbeing of this child is impacted.
- Darshini Heaney: Possibility of check ins at different times of day. Other idea was pre-recorded video of teachers to send to students.
- Talia Morgan: This is something we have started looking at. Sharing of contact details
- Tony Nolan: Question at the Principal's meeting re letting class members communicate with eachother during home schooling and

   where was the school handbook? P&C cannot release information due to privacy issues. Not sure if we have resources to have opt in phone book or similar. Would like to send flowers to admin staff.
- Beck Myors: virtual flowers are best at the moment, with real flowers down the track.
- Ursula Phillips: When the P&C collected contact data at the
  beginning of the year, this is not shared. We can't segment out
  those people who do not want to be contacted, and those who do.
  There was a comment on the bottom of the list, if a phone no was
  provided, this was to be an "opt in" for social reasons. Otherwise it
  was just email addresses. I can run the class list against if there are
  people missing out and would now like to opt in, can do so.
- Talia Morgan: A new layer to this is the question of storage of that information also, noting recent cyber-attack.
- Ursula Phillips: I have access to that list, this was prepared via the P&C. P&C's oblig for privacy is "best efforts", as a volunteer capacity. Department's obligations are much higher.
- Tony Nolan: There were people at the meeting that wanted a whole of school list. Question re capacity to do this, but also sharing and storage issues.
- Darshini Heaney: I think P&C should not do anything further regarding distributing personal information.

#### **Devices**

- Renae Buckely: Do we need to give out more devices for home learning laptops and tablets.
- Talia Morgan: We have given out 67 devices associated with this Covid outbreak. We have been unsuccessful in getting more devices. Every single child who has contacted the school and asked for a device has got one. Not aware that there is a waiting list. Also, some parents don't agree with devices. Department is all about equity. This is why we are meeting with other schools to obtain consistency, and approach re Department's guidelines. I will take back to Exec and staff and Principal's meeting to discuss possibility for check ins.

#### Community impacts

- Brendan Hood: Congratulate teachers what they are trying to do.
   This shutdown is worse than last time, in terms of financial impacts. Teachers need to understand the impacts on parents and families too.
- Rebecca Myors: Large number of Lane Cove families are in crisis, have no income coming in, substance abuse, domestic violence etc. Understand what you are saying about wellbeing. Re live checkins

   have to also consider that some families would be devastated by showing their family circumstances. Videos might be better.

#### P&C IT support and resource info

- Ursula Phillips: Is there as opportunity for the P&C to assist teachers and coordinators to assist with IT skills, and support Google Classrooms.
- Talia Morgan: Great gesture, I can put out to staff, but aware that some staff may not want to ask for help. All teachers trying to upskill, sharing resources and supporting eachother.
- Ursula Phillips: Can also assist with the additional resources etc. There are skills in school community to assist.
- Talia Morgan: Can create a spreadsheet send links to provide to teachers and community.
- Rebecca Myors: Has been a lag with the Department getting its online learning resources up and running. We can start uploading now, and updating resources..
- Darshini Heaney: We can share resources on P&C Facebook page.
- Talia Morgan: I can also add resources at the end of TM email each day.
- Michelle Tabrett: See Saw platform used at another school.
   Teachers seeing their work.
- Talia Morgan: I like See Saw, but not a Department approved platform and is not secure. Equity issue. Also, school policy – if not a Department platform, we won't use it until Department says it is safe and secure. Google Classrooms endorsed from K-6.
- Darshini Heaney: Agreed that TM will go back with P&C offers re IT, book packs and consensus is we would love more recorded lessons etc.

# b) Update on Kindy playground Talia Morgan Design for the Kindy playground has not been submitted to Department yet, will be shared with Kindy teachers tomorrow. The design will then be submitted to the Department to determine if it is suitable and cost effective. LCPS needed three quotes, but it ended up having four quotes. Budget is \$60K (max P&C funds), some project came in at \$90-95K. Booster pump as part of Hall upgrade works will mean that softfall/kindy playground would have been ripped up anyway, as part of these works. Plan was that the booster pump would be done in next school holidays (2 week project). May now be delayed – was anticipated to be done in September holidays. Victoria La Fontaine: If there is an interface between the playground and insurance works and ground being ripped up anyway, will P&C get a deduction for ground resurfacing if this is being done as part of insurance (Booster replacement) works? Talia Morgan: Unlikely, but might push things along. c) Update on Hall/Canteen Covered above d) Planning for events and fundraising in the current environment N/A e) LCPS Resource changes Covered above – Principal's update **Any Other** N/A **Business**