LCPSP&C TERM 2 GM 2025
Minutes of Meeting

Date: Tuesday 27.5.25
Time: 8:00am School Library
P&C Meeting Notes

Attendees	
1. Terry McKinnon, Principal 2. Sarah O'Donnell, VP Fundraising 3. Chloe Blanch 4. Letitia Baker 5. Hajar Torkaman, Treasurer 6. Liz Smeulders (Bennett), VP Community 7. Fiona Aldridge (Uniform Liaison) 8. Tamsin McGarry (Music Liaison) 9. Kaire Muulman-Koval 10. Louanne Jablonski 11. Tim Stephen	12. Emma Sorenson 13. Liz McPherson 14. Audrea Pi 15. Ian Watson 16. Jen Russell **Apologies** 1. Caleb Taylor, President 2. Ben Bradley, Secretary

No.	Agenda Item/Topic	Discussion and Next Steps
1.	**Acknowledgement of Country / Welcome**	Sarah • Acknowledgement of Country. • Welcome.
2.	**Adoption of previous minutes**	GM 29.10.24 • Acceptance of minutes of previous General Meeting. • Minutes accepted without amendment. • Question about whether the minutes were circulated from last meeting. Confirmed they were and attendees will receive the next minutes.
3.	**President's Report**	Sarah on behalf of Caleb • President's Report circulated. Sarah spoke on behalf of Caleb about success of recent events. • Introduced the P&C Executive, Fiona Aldridge (uniform liaison), Tamsin McGarry (music liaison).
4.	**Principals' Report**	Terry McKinnon • Terry welcomed all and noted it was good to see new faces. • **Principals report was circulated:** Rather than going into detail Terry mentioned highlights. These included: o **Hall opening** - Great to see so many people including past and present members of the school community.

		○ **Need to keep numbers coming into the public system –** 20,000+ less coming into the public system. ○ **Peer support** – this is a new wellbeing initiative conducted by the students that we have started this term. The kids are enjoying it, especially the younger ones but the bigger kids finding it challenging to learn leadership skills. ○ **Repeated Caleb's thanks to the P&C Executive for all they have done –** the Mother's Day stall, the trivia night were all a success. Reinforced thanks for everyone's effort – volunteers and P&C for making these a success. ○ **Working bee –** will be held this Sunday 1 June from 8.30am-11.30am. Terry will send communication out this week about what we need; ask people to bring whipper snippers; need help with paving work; hopefully can clean up the area down by the hall so the environment club can do some work down there; plant around it, put chicken coop there, frog pond etc. ○ **Parent contributions –** difficult area to navigate, as we are a public school where education is free. At a school like Lane Cove, we have been lucky to have parents in a position to pay (around 90% have paid contributions in the past) so we can offer extra things at the school (learning support etc). Terry spoke to recent press and directives from the Department to not put pressure on parents to make them feel like they must contribute. As such, we have adapted our language around communications to emphasise it's voluntary contribution. Lane Cove community is comparatively advantaged to other schools across the state, but it is not immune to cost of living pressures. What Terry has noticed is that contributions are significantly down from where they were last year. ○ **Excursions**: Payment for excursions has dropped off as well. We will look at tightening that up and ask parents to opt in – if they want their child to go on an excursion then they must pay. Will need to be very careful about how this is worded. It is challenging when we know people can pay, but they don't. ○ **Chloe** suggested sending out a survey to ask why people are choosing not to pay. Terry agrees it would be useful for feedback from parents on this issue. Some parents wonder what we do with the money. Terry said that

		have to be careful that we don't seem like we are hassling parents to pay. o Terry is considering at the beginning of each term sending around a note with what will be asking for, with a reminder to follow in week 5 or 6. o Comment from **Liz Smeulders**: people don't understand the funding models. E.g. Lane Cove get less as we are considered a high socioeconomic area and people don't understand. o Terry would like to let parents know that we run a lean bucket here – any money we get from the government we spend. We will send reminders. o **Emma** – commented as parents we rely on reminders and agreed carefully worded reminders would be helpful. Is there a way to send more reminders which include the payment details/link directly to school bytes? Emma also commented that her son's school does a good job of sending note out about excursions – if you don't pay you can't go. o **Liz McPherson** – agreed reminders should include more details such as link to the school bytes. o **Chloe** – asked whether the kids could fundraise for money to go to events/excursions. o **Fiona** – agreed would make it easier if included the link to pay in the email reminders. o **Audrey** – commented people might not pay because they aren't participating in the service/what is on offer. Good to find out the underlying reasons when sending out request to pay – please pay or please reply with feedback on why you would not like to pay (e.g. Are you getting value, find out the reasons why they don't want to pay). o **Liz Smeulders** – agreed that this would be proactive and helpful. o Terry said it is consistent across all the programs offered and it does not appear parents are picking and choosing. He asked whether it is something parents think should be publicly funded? o **Letitia** – new to school. If she didn't attend P&C meetings she wouldn't know what was going on. Helpful to include financial updates in the loop.

		○ It was proposed the P&C assist the school and developed a communication strategy or survey on financial matters. Liz and Sarah will look at this. • **Motion for teacher funding support**: **MOTION:** Due to a reduction in staffing allocation from the Department of Education because of the reduction in student enrolments for 2025, the school is facing a reduction in the Learning Support teaching allocation to 1.1FTE. This is to ensure that classes are not over capacity across the school. The P&C agrees to provide the school with funding of $125,763 to employ an additional fulltime teacher to assist with learning support. This will ensure that Learning Support is able to remain staffed at 2.1FTE to meet the growing needs of our students. • Terry spoke to motion. Explained that because we had less students, our funding for staffing was down. This left the school in the position of having to ask do we keep level of learning support, or do we form an extra class to reduce class sizes, which would sacrifice learning support. The P&C to support learning support by funding a fulltime teacher at a cost of $125, 763. Terry offered to take any questions. • **Liz Smeulders** – commented that it would have an impact across the school if we didn't do this. She emphasised the difference the fundraising we do has and that it makes an impact. • **MOTION carried unanimously**.
6.	**Treasurers' Report /Cultural liaison update**	**Treasurers' Report/cultural liaison update - Hajar** • Hajar provided her financial report. Spoke to the Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statements-attached. • Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission – Hajar spoke to need to submit report to keep charity status and the difficulty in getting someone to do the report. Alison is kindly doing it now. • Hajar thanked everyone for all their help with world food fair. Shade cloth was wonderful to have given the heat and helped people stay around. Lots of food and amazing weather, raised money and paid for things as well. Hajar noted people were so generous and lots didn't ask for the extra financial help.
7.	**P&C Reports** **VP School Community**	<u>Liz Bennett</u> **LIZ – VP school community** • **Election:** We raised $4,400 profit – holding BBQ and bake sale was a good idea and created a buzz. She noted expectations were high with people comparing what different schools were doing on social media prior to event.

		• **Trivia Night:** We made about $14,000 from trivia night which is up there with what Hunters Hill raised for their trivia night (her other child goes there). Was a great night. • **Vivid cruise**: noted this is coming up. • More fundraising to come – movie nights and other things coming up. • Thanked **Louanne** – Mother's Day stall – commented that kids were buying a lot per person at the stall; last classes in the day didn't have a lot to choose from to buy, so Louanne went to these classes the next day and offered more as they looked sad. Good to have stall and then a day between the Mother's Day breakfast. • **Mother's Day breakfast** – volunteer numbers down which was a bit disappointing. Raised need to address how to get the message out there that we need volunteer support for this event? Not sure how to get the traction. Liz raised concern that maybe people think if they volunteer for something then they fear they are going to get caught up in the P&C etc. • **Louanne –** her feedback was that some people didn't know about volunteering. • **Liz** – commented helpful to talk about volunteering when there is a captive audience – could get P&C people to speak about volunteering during events. • **Chloe** – commented that a few years ago, volunteering was framed as very social activity; aimed at the youngest children's parents as a way to come and meet people and make new friends. • **Sarah** – commented that the P&C are going to do a volunteer video, ask people to be on camera to say how they help out (as little ways and big ways). • **Sarah** commented that the Trivia night had a full house, was competitive and a great success. Great raffle and auction - though **Louanne** said raffle ticket sales had not been great, even though prizes were great. The raffle closes this Friday night. • **Chloe** commented on low raffle sales. Could be that it was not drawn on the night? • **Letitia** commented that the link to the raffle tickets was not clear, and took her to the event information. Clarified with her that you can still buy tickets. • **Karen** is back in the canteen. It was noted that it would be great if anyone can help out, even just to pick up the sushi. Had to close for recess and lunch service so they can focus on getting orders out.

		• **Vivid cruise** - limited seats left! • **Gala** – it was noted that this was coming up later in year as well as other events such as disco, movie night, Father's Day, Fun Run coming up (big communication push coming up).
8.	**Uniform Shop**	<u>Fiona Aldridge</u> • No further updates on uniform shop
9.	**Music**	<u>Tamsin</u> • Request help with social media tiles to recruit instrument officers. Sarah said to please send information to her and she can help.
10.	**Grounds**	• Working Bee this weekend. • **Liz** confirmed that kids can go to working bee. • Good idea to bring own shovel • **Chloe** asked would it be helpful to contact Sydney Library of Things for equipment for the working bee? • Terry said most of the work required will be by hand. Shovel and hedge cloppers will be helpful. Tamsin can offer a wiper snipper if someone can pick it up
	Any other business	• **Kaire** had a question about canteen – asked if any news on what will happen in the canteen so we don't have to close down. Sarah said we will hire casual staff to support. We do have a wonderful person from Pinnacle this week. Negotiating to work out this out further. Year 6 have been helping too. • Trivia – kindy won – so many kindy parents came and supported it was fantastic.
	Closed	Closed: 9.15am.