

Ellison Public School P&C Association

Minutes of the General Meeting – 15th March 2017

Ellison Public School Staffroom

Meeting opened: 7:29pm

Meeting chaired by: Brendan Cusack

Attendance: Tenille Weir, Brendan Cusack, Rob Francis, Michelle Engelhard, Sam Clarke, Alan Magner, Rebekah Kaminski, Allison Todd, Danielle Sciberras, Sarah Higginbotham, Julie Lawson, Anita K

Apologies: Chris Lewczak

Business arising from previous minutes:

Brendan Cusack purchased a fire resistant box \$119 from Bunnings. To be kept on his premises to ensure P&C are secured.

BBQ – To be held on the same day as Easter Hat Parade, instead of Cross Country. Further discussion on getting volunteers to help with same.

Acceptance of previous minutes: Motion to accept February's minutes (with agreed changes) proposed by Michelle Engelhard. Seconded by Alan Magner.

Correspondence: Submission of application to ACNC. Fundraising catalogues.

Treasurer's Report:

General Account: \$17,906

Uniform Shop Account: \$1,130.54

Canteen Profit: \$521.45

Motion to accept Treasurer's Report proposed by Allison Todd. Seconded by Sam Clarke.

Sub-Committee Reports:

Mother's Day Stall

- Lots of items purchased. Tenille to do final count before the end of term. Rebekah to ring Oasis to see if we can purchase flowering plants/herbs/veggies to include in our stall. Motion to approve additional funding of up to \$200 to purchase plant/herbs/veggies proposed by Tenille Weir. Seconded by Sam Clarke.

Easter Hat Parade Raffle

- Discussion on coordinating money/ticket collection, counting money coming in. Sarah, Michelle and Sam to share this role.

Cross Country

- We have a volunteer to help Sarah with selling drinks on the day. Tenille to order supplies 1 week out from carnival.

Principal's Report

General

- Kindergarten has settled in well and have been separated into classes. Storytime program organised by Mrs Tailford has commenced and already we are seeing increased numbers of parent and grandparents bringing young children to participate in this fantastic program.

Swimming Carnival

- Ms Jackson organised an outstanding carnival in 40+ degree heat. The student's behaviour was outstanding and the level of support from staff and parent helpers was highly valued and contributed to a great day.

Sport

- AFL and Trampolining programs are all going well except for the fact that rain has cancelled two of the AFL sessions.

Music

- Programs such as African Drumming, Violin and Band have commenced. Dance groups and Choir have also started.

Parent Information Night and Interviews

- Successful parent information nights and interviews held for all stages.

Scripture and Ethics Classes

- These classes have commenced successfully. Please note that the Ethics class is a trial of Stage 1 students.

Brewongle Camp

- Year 5 Brewongle Camp was a great success. Behaviour of students was outstanding and the support of parent helpers was very much appreciated. Thanks to the teachers who gave up their time to leave their families and attend camp.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

- Letters have been sent out to parents. The main purpose of the meeting is to share information. The teacher may wish to share observations on the children or seek further information about the child. The parent may seek information about general behaviour so

far but will not receive comprehensive information about their child as yet. The parent may also share information about their child's interests, health and medical conditions etc.

West Sydney Wanderers Cup

- Gala Day for Year 4 and 5 on Thursday 6th April at Jamison Park.

Storytime

- This program has commenced and is becoming more popular by the week.

School Plan

- We are completing the final revisions of the school plan. The importance of the plan is to increase student outcomes. Our plan includes:

The phasing in of morning routines across the school. Morning routines involve:

1. Lesson – Teacher takes what is in her head and puts it in the head of children.
2. Routines – are taught the same way everyday
 - Provide regular practice
 - Teach small concepts at a time
 - Are safe and build confidence
 - Build general knowledge in preparation for High School

Morning Routine

- Teaches difficult concepts over long periods of time
- All students success at their level
- High expectations
- Fast paced

It works because it encourages:

- Children to do small amounts often
- Whole school commitment
- Learning *automaticity*
- MASTERY

Automaticity is the ability to do things ***without having to think*** about them at a conscious level. When we do something automatically, the mind isn't occupied with the small details of the task.

In achieving automaticity, we free our brains – our working memories – from the details of the task, allowing us to use that brain power to do more, building on those set of automatic skills.

MASTERY involves:

Speed

- Work with a sense of urgency
- Teach at a fast pace
- The 3 second clean!

Accuracy

- insist on correctness
- insist on the things that should be automatic

Volume

- Students MUST try to complete as much as possible and increase daily
- Expectations are high

Disco Dates

Thursday 15th June

Thursday 7th September

\$300 per disco for DJ

Cake stall and sausage sizzle for Easter Hat Parade has been approved by staff.

Walk-a-thon

Already one being organised by the Technology committee to purchase further Ipad's.
Another a-thon?

Playground Equipment

Definitely no flying fox due to WHS issues and the requirement of further supervision.
Spider- concerns in terms of height particularly as we have some active younger students who like to climb but may have difficulty getting down. Staff prefer lower equipment that encourages balance e.g., stepping stones.

Buddy Bench

No action has occurred with this as yet.

Rob Francis

New business arising

Uniforms: Children wearing hoodies that are not part of Ellison uniform. Also found to be wearing hood up in class. Rob Francis to address this issue, including a notice in the newsletter.

Playground: Concerns of children not being able to utilise playground equipment after school. Those concerned feels it lowers our community spirit and children's opportunities to be active and socialise. Potential WHS issue, Rob Francis to clarify.

Flowers: Tracey Auton's son passed away and the P&C would like to make a donation to the charity of his family's choice as Tracey was very involved in the P&C. The donation is to be made to the Children's Starlight Foundation. Rebekah Kaminski proposed a motion to donate \$50.00 to CSF. Seconded by Sarah Higginbotham.

Rebekah proposed a motion to purchase flower for staff member Susan Smith on behalf of the P&C due death in the family. Seconded by Alan Magner.

Suncorp Community Funding: Michelle Engelhard to make an application on behalf of the P&C.

Meeting closed: 8:58pm