

Waverley College Parent Association Meeting

Term 4: Wednesday 1 November 2023

Minutes

Meeting commenced: 5.30pm

1. President: Louise Lakomy

- a) A new Awards Committee has been established.
- b) Following events coming up next year:
 - 17 Feb: Welcome Cocktail
 - May: Mother and Son Lunch
 - September: Dad and Son lunch.
- c) Teachers “Thank You” campaign up and running. Please send a “Thank You” to a teacher.
- d) Thank you to Daniella Strbac and Lamya Sadi for their dedication as Vice Presidents, now stepping down.

2. Director of Junior School: Gabrielle Bransby

- a) Gabrielle discussed transition to Senior School:
 - Timetable the same as senior school.
 - Diary use is important to help with organisation
 - Many touch points with Senior School throughout the year to prepare Year 6 for the transition eg with Houses
 - Laptop program helps equip boys for the transition
 - Senior School Prefects visit Junior School and answer questions
 - Canvas used in Junior School
 - Big Brother/Little Brother program. Yr 5 matched with a Year 10 student. Meet twice a term. Interact during Year 6. Big Brother as a touchpoint in yr 7
 - PAT testing over year 5 and year 6 looks at growth of boys and is passed onto Senior School to help with streaming and general knowledge
 - Extra support given to those boys that need it.

Q&A

Question: How does the School help boys that have not attended the Junior School?

Answer: It is simply not possible to provide the same experience as a boy coming from Junior School. The School provides as many touch points as possible. Orientation days help. And Big Brother program.

3. Acting Deputy Principal Teaching & Learning: Ms Lynsey Porter

- a) Lynsey discussed NAPLAN and other data:

- NAPLAN data has changed. The data is not as good as it was - moved from 10 bands to 4 bands. But still of use. NAPLAN data being used to assess what methods are working and helps the School to focus improvements
 - Writing has improved - writers toolbox has been a very useful tool
 - 2022 reading for year 7 was 37.5% above state average, this year 81.88% above the state average
 - Numeracy is strong but there has been a drop in literacy-based math question performance – this is being addressed by School.
- b) 25 teachers are doing HSC marking. This is very positive for the School.
- c) Lynsey discussed Ability Groupings:
- School wants to meet the requirement of each learner
 - The model supports the lower, middle and upper ability levels
 - School has 9 base classes and has 2 enrichment schemes
 - Annual testing is conducted
 - School aims to have each student in the best class for them
 - Places re-viewed every semester and boys moved as required.
- d) In 2024 School is looking into an accelerated math program which would comprise a compressed program.

Q&A

Question: What is the School's approach to AI?

Answer: School wants to get on front foot. School does not want to take a "head in sand" attitude. Work in progress. Working group has been formed.

Question: If a boy moves up an ability level, how does school know all learning is captured?

Answer: It is the same assessment and program for each stream. Just a deeper learning experience, so no learning or assessments are missed.

4. Other Business:

- a) Louise announced the inaugural Parent Impact Award - awarded to Jade Stapleton. Congratulations Jade.

Q&A

Question: Can there be more interaction with local girls schools?

Answer (Graham): School is looking for as much interaction as possible. Difficult with such a large number of boys. Lots of interaction occurs with girls schools but with small cohort of boys eg debating. A sport and BBQ day was suggested by a parent. The School supports more interaction and will be looking into further options.

Meeting closed: 7.09pm

Next meeting: Tuesday 13 February 2024, 7:30AM