

Waverley College Parent Association Meeting

Term 1: Tuesday 15 February 2022

Minutes

Meeting commenced: 6.00pm

1. Acting President: Jade Stapleton

- a) Welcome and thanks.
- b) Acknowledgement of Country.
- c) Minutes of previous meeting on **Tuesday 8 November 2022** accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.
- d) Hello to new Committee Members Peter (Treasurer) and Carl (Secretary).
- e) Meetings via Zoom to continue.

2. Business Arising from the previous meeting.

- a) 100-year anniversary was a success with approx. 1000 people attending.
- b) Encourage all parents to get involved with canteen and with sporting teams. Please look up contact online or contact the School.
- c) Watch out for various social media platforms for update on School activities.
- d) Secondhand uniform is back. Note there is \$30 buy back.

3. Deputy Principal (Students): Gabrielle Smith

- a) For 2023, “consistency” will be the School’s main theme.
- b) School is noticing phones creeping back into the classroom. Policy is that phones are to stay in lockers. Teachers to log in students found with phones.
- c) Teachers finding that facetime and messenger are distracting boys in class. These platforms to be rolled back on laptops.
- d) No photos permitted on School grounds.
- e) School has formed panels this year to ensure there is a consistent practice and message regarding hairstyles.
- f) Vape detectors installed in toilets and this has proven to be a deterrent.

- g) There has been a mixed reaction to the 30/30 recess/lunch times. Has been adopted by other schools and is proving popular. It is a trial and will be evaluated in 3 months. **Question:** Why were senior boys discouraged from preparing a petition seeking for the 30/30 to be abolished. **Answer:** preference that the boys are encouraged to first raise and discuss their concerns e.g. through SRC rather than resorting to a petition in the first instance. No issue a petition per se but it should not come before the boys have attempted a respectful discussion with School leadership.
- h) A School Support Dog on board and is a welcome addition to the School.

4. Deputy Principal (Teaching and Learning): Elizabeth Watson

- a) Presentation given of recent results and statistics – **please refer to presentation.**
- b) The aim of the School is to have the boys achieve higher HSC bands.
- c) 2022 was a successful year for all students – 96% acceptance for university places.
- d) Want to work together with parent to support boys to achieve academically.
- e) **Question:** Is there a plan to increase to increase learning support at the Senior School particularly for boys coming from Junior School. **Answer:** Senior School has adequate learning support. It is often an issue of “adjustment” from Junior to Senior. Please contact School if your son needs any support.

5. Director Junior School: Gabrielle Bransby

- a) Always a hectic start to the year for the new year 5 boys. New routines etc. But things are settling in well.
- b) Science Lab due to open Monday Week 5. Exciting addition to the School grounds. Should address gap between Stage 3 and Stage 4. Will provide students skills they need for Stage 4. New science teacher engaged.
- c) Science Club update. Expression interest issued. Two sessions Mon afternoon 27 Feb 2:4PM to 3:30PM and 3:30PM to 4:45PM. If need another session it will be scheduled.
- d) An organisation “Elephant Ed” has been engaged to assist with sex education. Parent Webinar next week to support parents.
- e) Psychologist space has been expanded. There has been a great demand for service so there has been an increase in availability and targeted support.
- f) Technology has been an ongoing issue. Issues with cyber bullying and stranger danger. Health Program being rewritten focusing on these areas. Parents should monitor their son’s use and stay connected with the School.
- g) Extracurricular starting next week (Week 4).

6. Principal's Report: Graham Leddie

- a) Focus areas for the year are:
 - i) **Consistency**
 - ii) School improvement and developing academic culture
 - iii) Learning and student outcomes
- b) NAPLAN moved to Term 1 so coming up soon. Video to be released to explain the program and School's response.
- c) Academic culture and the improvement of academics is the main focus this year. The School wants to: i) improve learning; ii) improving teaching; and iii) improve academics. The adjustment to the approach have been based on **John Hattie** research. Literacy and numeracy after school lessons are encouraged, they are free to students. Parents encouraged to improve habits at home eg encourage reading. Head of literacy and reading engaged. Head of enrichment also engaged. HSC tutorials increased and encouraged. Academic achievement is being celebrated in the School.
- d) Improvement of facilities. The School is 120 years old and a little tired in parts. The School wants to have modern learning spaces wherever practically and financially possible. The School is close to signing off on design of Science Centre. Approx \$36M build – more funding will be required. The build will take 2.5-3.5 years. Met with Cranbrook to develop money raising strategies.
- e) Looking into also increase the General Learning Areas (GLA). Science Centre will help with this.
- f) School has had a very good start to the year.
- g) **Question:** Any plans to update the toilet facilities. **Answer:** Current toilet facilities are looking in good shape. Plans to expand toilet facilities. Open up performing arts toilets to a couple of year levels. Other toilets in Centenary refurbished.

7. Other Business:

- a) **3 March:** Swimming carnival. Parent welcome to attend.
- b) **18 March** is a sport free weekend. **20 March:** Winter sport starts.
- c) **16 March** CAS swimming. Compulsory Year 8 and Year 11. Bus provided picks up 3 and drops off at 9.
- d) **March 17/18** Summer sport presentations. Please attend and enjoy.

- e) Bus issues remain an issue for some. Jade has spoken to Transdev (operator of the buses). Transdev has investigated. But has said because not enough tap on and top off data, Transdev cannot make any meaningful changes. A lot of energy has been put into the issue but no solutions as yet. Best to contact TfNSW, government, Local Member etc.
- f) Keep eyes open for cocurricular Supporters Groups. Please keep an eye out on social media calling for participation.
- g) Looking into State election BBQ as a fund raiser.

Meeting closed: 7.45pm

Next meeting 9 May 2023