

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 2015

TURRAMURRA NORTH PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION

Meeting held at 237 Bobbin Head Road,
North Turramurra 2074

In S3 Hub, 7.30pm on Wednesday 18 February 2015

1. Welcome & Apologies

Apologies – Andrew Brightmore, Max Schreiber, Alison Underwood

Attendees – Alex Berthold, Bree Alami, Cheryl Nolan, David Louie, Fiona Dennis, Gordon Iles, Jacqueline Hart, Jen Collins, Jo Iles, Joseph Audet, Karin van Heerwaarden, Kathryn Carey, Kris Grant, Laxmi Thakur, Luke Woodhouse, Margie Armstrong, Melissa Nikkhah, Philippa Gordon, Quyen Woodrow, Rachel Wald, Ralph Hale, Sandra Calder, Suzanne Murphy, Wad McKasah, Wendy McKasah.

Meeting chaired by Wendy McKasah & Philippa Gordon.

2. Minutes from previous meeting – Accepted.

3. Matters arising from previous meeting – None.

4. Correspondence

- Lots of fundraising material
- Insurance policy
- OOSH Agreement
- Information about parenting seminar
- Letter from MP

5. Principal's report

- From last time:
 - Staffing
 - 307 students = 11.75 classes. This means we have 12 classes.
 - We are still 0.25 of a class off the 13th class. This equates to 5-7 students.

- Writing to parents at the end of 2014 regarding class placement appears to have assisted a smooth start to the year.
 - NTOOSHC
 - Ongoing concerns over capacity has led to me to make the decision to offer additional school space to NTOOSHC. I suggest that we arrange a meeting in the coming weeks to discuss actual arrangements, however, I would suggest that we may be able to sort this out over the next 4 weeks.
 - YCDI Parents
 - YCDI Parents – information will be released on this by Miss Nolan in the next week or two. TNPS has acquired access for parents who can choose to use the service at their own leisure.
 - Parents can elect to do a survey and then through feedback identify which aspects of parenting they would like to focus on.
 - Tree Maintenance
 - Several trees removed and dead-wooding completed in holidays.
 - It is now up to the school to maintain trees with annual program. There are two trees that the school will look to remove in the coming months; one at the front of the school in front of the Kinder rooms and one to the far north of the top quad. Maybe this tree's stump can be turned into a chair.
 - Updated weekly calendar on website under newsletters and notes. This needs to be moved to the front page. Watch this space.
- **Matters Arising:**
 - Annual School Report 2014 – now available for viewing on TNPS website under our school / all about us / school plans. Points of interest:
 - TNPS has halted 3 year in a row slide of attendance (P3) – bouncing to 96.9% in 2014. In 2013 Pymble PS attendance was 96.3% and Wahroonga PS was 96.1%.
 - TNPS financial position (P5) \$10,000 up on Dec 1 2014 as compared to Dec 1 2013 with a healthy balance of \$343, 413. In 2013 PPS published a rollover balance of \$152,159 and WPS posted a balance at the end of 2013 of \$229,031.
 - NAPLAN (P9)
 - Y3 Reading - 80.8% in top 2 bands when state was 46.1% , Y5 Reading 65.7% in top 2 bands when state was 32.1%. In 2013 'two thirds of Y3 students at WPS were in top 2 bands' and at PPS 68.5% of Y3 students were in top 2 bands in 2013.

- Writing – Y3 75.6% top 2 bands when state was 43.4%, Y5 31.4% top 2 bands when state was 16.2%. In 2013 72% of Y3 WPS students were in top 2 bands for writing. At PPS in 2013 93.1% students were in top two bands in Y3.
 - Numeracy – Y3 80.4% in top 2 bands when state was 39.4%, Y5 54.3% in top 2 bands when state was 26.5%. In 2013 ‘two thirds of WPS students’ were in top two bands for Numeracy in Y3. In 2013 71.6% of Y3 PPS were in top two bands in Numeracy.
*It should be noted that PPS and WPS data sourced from ASRs published for 2013 and while no direct comparisons can be drawn, it does give us a feeling of how TNPS is travelling.
- TNPS Professional Learning focus T1
 - writing
 - Internal and external data both suggest only half as many students reach the top to (proficiency) bands in writing as in all other areas – reading, P&G, spelling and numeracy. We also know that this trend has been worsening over 11, 12, 13. In 14 Y3 bounced with improvement, however, Y5 writing results did not.
 - Writing consultant – work on effective feedback, student self-assessment and effective strategies to develop student writing with Mrs Dianne Mitchell – former DEC English Consultant. Fresh ideas and targeting, explicit teaching.
 - 21 c learning
 - All S1 staff will engage with Dr Kristy Goodwin in Semester One in action learning.
 - S2 staff will engage in action learning led by Mrs Turner.
 - S3 staff will engage with Dr Kristy Goodwin and Emma Marshall in tandem to ensure we realise the best learning outcomes available.
 - ‘i on the future’ learning conference for public school teachers.
 - To be staged in June. TNPS and Pymble PS to jointly host. 2 X mini half day conferences. 4 keynote speakers and workshops. Lunch at ‘half time’ in the TNPS top quad with corporate sponsors. Day theme - Inspiring teachers to inspire learners for the 2020 classroom.

- Presently the only other available options are \$1500 pp events such as ‘Future Skills Expo’. Public schools also need these opportunities to learn and progress.
- Attendees will be charged \$220 pp ex GST and will have the opportunity to listen live in person to Kevin Honeycutt (USA), Carl Jarvis (UK), Dr Kristy Goodwin and Stephen Harris (NBCS). Target of 300 participants.
- In order to do this I will write to the TNPS school community and seek their support in bringing forward one of the two SDDs at the end of T4 to enable the school to stage the event. Pymble PS will do the same. Kevin Honeycutt will work with students 3-6 the day prior in leading a rich learning task.
- Beatification of the face of the school –
 - \$10,000 left by Mr Halverson. The school will contribute \$15,000 to refurbish the fencing, gardens, shelter and paths.
 - While appearance is never as important as substance and content, it can be a detractor. With things now looking a little shabby, we need to work towards making sure that the street image of our school reflects our work. If this boosts enrolments by 5 kinders for 2016, that will see us grow an additional staff member – a resource of \$100000 plus.
 - Having our children and parents feeling proud of our school from the road is no bad thing either.
- Eco – Vege Garden

The school has plans to build an eco-vegetable garden during 2015. Miss Thogerson has eagerly offered to lead this initiative and has submitted a proposal for my consideration. I will share with staff and then ask Elise to share with P&C Grounds Committee. I hope to have something underway for T2

- 5P Planning – purpose, people, practice, process, product

- Parent Info Evening – very positive feedback from parents on the night and afterwards – written thanks from a number of families.
- Swimming Carnival – very successful day. Special thanks to all of our parent helpers and also Miss Nolan who made the day the success it was. High participation and terrific sportsmanship. Well done TNPS.
- **Forthcoming events**
 - Wednesday Feb 25th – TNPS Leaders’ Induction Assembly – TNPS Hall 2.25pm
 - Friday Feb 27th - TNPS ‘Clean Up Day’
 - Week 6 - March 2nd – 6th – Parent / Teacher Goal Setting Interviews.
 - Wednesday March 4th – Stage One excursion to Bobbin Head – 9.30 – 1.00pm
 - Tuesday March 10 – Stewart House bags collected
 - Tuesday March 10th – Zone Swimming Carnival
 - Thursday March 12th – Selective HS Test date
 - Saturday March 14th – TNPS P&C Trivia Night 7.30pm – TNPS Hall
 - Wednesday 1st April – Easter Scripture Service am
 - Wednesday 1st April – Blue Ribbon Party – 2pm Top Quad
 - Thursday April 2nd – TNPS Principal’s Assembly

P. Taylor,
Principal
18.02.15

6. Treasurer’s report

The financial statements for the Main P&C account are available upon request

7. NTOOSH

Convenor’s Report

- Thanks to Mr Taylor for his ongoing support of Ntooshc and for the offer of an extension of space for our use.
- Thanks to Jacqueline Hart for all her incredible hard work on the committee for the last 2 years, as she is stepping down from her position.
- Thanks to Caroline English and her Stage 1 Kindy teachers for the very smooth transition for Kindy orientation these last 2 weeks.

- Thanks to the 8 new committee members who have volunteered to join the committee.
- Reported that NTOOSHC had made a modest \$12,800 profit for years end 2014.
- Full financial reports for term 3 and 4 submitted along with copies of last Bas statement
- Read out points from Co-ordinators report on attendance, programming etc.

Co-ordinator's Report

Enrolments/Attendance

Numbers are very high and very few spaces are available .From the roll beginning 9Feb, we have:

BSC M30, T42,W37,Th42,F22

ASCM44, T50,W45,Th45,F42

The waitlist is upgraded each day, as there is constant changes. We have offered 13 new places, 9 have accepted.(Indicating how well parents have adjusted to no places being available.)

Staffing

Due to the rising numbers of children, we have had to increase the number of shifts per staff, especially for BSC. We now have 3 BSC staff each day, except Fri; when we only have 22 children.

Lachie has been absent since early Dec, he begins again this week. Yan has left to make submissions for her own ASC! She loves it so much!

We are ok now re staff, but may be juggling once Uni begins.

National Quality Standards (NQS)

I worked on evaluations during the summer holidays and speed read the RIZ(regulation Impact Statement for proposed options for changes to the NQF).

Correspondence

Copious emails regarding demands for places and some changing work days. Quite a few parents completely forgetting what days they requested, and had confirmed, to the point that they sent their children on the wrong days!

Program

The topic we are covering first, is "Getting to know you". We have been drawing ourselves on stars and on our new profile cover books. Inside the profile books we have some little questions from ASC. "About Me", what is your favourite activity/food/craft etc. The children absolutely love their books and take great pride in them. We decorated boomerangs and Anzac biscuits for Australia Day. We talked about our national colours and what Australia Day means to each of us.

We are introducing all the kindies to our ASC family and just so we remember them, we are painting life size portraits to decorate our bag room with! This week we have made Valentine Rocky Road chocs for our family, we made beautiful boxes to put them in and

decorated cards as well. Next week we will celebrate Chinese New Year (We tasted Logans and Lychees today in celebration, as CNY begins today). We will also begin to create our wonderful donated (By Fiona) worm farm and hopefully use the by-products to fertilize our eventual garden! This venture will tick many boxes for our sustainable portion of My Time Our Place. I have also planned for NTOOSHC to donate a Wolemi Pine to the school as a gift, for the centenary. In keeping with this theme, we will do a whole project around Australian Dinosaurs and ancient plants. Next Week is the beginning of Lent, so it is Pancake Shrove Tuesday! Most, ASC kid's, favourite day of the year! I will make a lot of French crepes, served with chocolate or honey & Lemon.

This month is also 50 year anniversary of the Freedom Bus. We will be talking about this and painting a giant bus mural. A busy first term all up!

Incidents/Accidents

All good, the usual scraped knees and elbows.

Equipment/Maintenance

A big Thank you to Wendy McKasah and Mr Ian Milton, for helping us with the furniture. Our centre looks so much better and brighter now, and is much safer with nice rounded corners and smooth surfaces on all the desks! We are so grateful for this unexpected gift. Thanks again.

Administration

We continue a work in progress with Becklyn, some systems are difficult but will become easier as we fathom their little quirks and eccentricities. We are still sorting days, as parents add or subtract sessions.

Miscellaneous

The Kindies have settled in well, there are lots of siblings; so they are so used to coming to NTOOSHC and taking home bits of craft, drawings and tasting the food on hand, when they accompany parents to collect siblings. We already know them quite well.

The whole process of collection has gone remarkably well, and we are appreciative of Ms Thorgenson and Ms Clifford for their organisation. We send the weekly rolls on Monday and have the kindys listed daily on the board at the entrance.

8. Fundraising

Report

Upcoming events:

- Trivia night - 14 March
- Election day - Cake stall and BBQ
- Art Show - Friday 11 Sep
- Entertainment books - April

- Walkathon - Term 2

9. Canteen

Report

2015 – Starting off the year with + balance. Financials for year end 2014 was a lot less than 2013 so need to work on specials and also Bunnings BBQ.

New Menu released with Sushi now a normal Wednesday addition. This is still a hit with 60 + orders per week.

Orders can be handed in on the day however they all have to be in the canteen by 9:15am to ensure we can get the orders filled and delivered.

You can order on a normal Brown bag however if you can please put “SUSHI” somewhere on the top of the bag so that canteen helpers can identify easily. This would be most helpful to speed up the ordering process.

*Specials this term – Morning tea 04 March 2015 – lamingtons + milk/ juice
Morning tea 01 April 2015 – hot cross bun special.*

Roster Assistant:

We require the skills of a parent who might be happy to assist Rachael in the maintenance of the volunteer roster. So if you may have toddlers at home and therefore cannot physically volunteer however would be able to spare a couple hours per week to just ensure that S.O.S requests are managed quickly. This would be a great way to get to know parents so if you are wanting to get involved please let me know on krisandcody@gmail.com

Fridges – we still have 2 fridges FREE to good homes. Contact Kris Grant on krisandcody@gmail.com for details or if you are interested.

Bunnings BBQ – Saturday 27 June 2015 has been confirmed. Each year group will get a one hour time slot to provide 4 volunteers. This has always been our major fundraiser for the year so we will be calling on the support of the whole school community to make this a success.

10. Band

No new update provided

11. School Uniform Shop

Financials available

No new update provided

12. Grounds

Report

The program of works presented by the GC last year is in the final stages of completion, with the murals on the tarmac currently being repainted / refreshed. The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Julie Rodgers of Turramurra North Real Estate for her very kind donation of \$400, going towards paint and brushes. The difference is phenomenal! The P&C will need to fund the balance (\$200-\$300) for paint to complete the tasks. We are considering adding a couple more, with designs suggested by Monique Wells.

The YCDI poles have been repainted in colours that tone with the nearby tables, using a gloss paint that should withstand the many hands and feet that like to play and climb on them.

There needs to be at least one general working bee each term, to deal with 'maintenance' tasks such as weeding. We have tentatively selected Sunday March 15, 8am-12pm for a working bee to tackle general tidying, weeding and other preparatory works that may be identified in coming weeks.

The Committee met at the end of last year to come up with several ideas for 2015, including the widening of the entrance path by NTOOSH, and the overall refurbishment of this space. The 2015 Grounds Committee will prepare a program of other potential projects, following the direction of Mr Taylor's priorities in developing outdoor learning spaces.

At Mr Taylors request, the GC has just started working with Mrs Rogers and Mrs Stobo on plans for the front fence line, main entrance and repainting sections of the buildings (kindy block, NTOOSH and Office). The budget is \$25,000: \$10,000 of which was donated by Mr Halvorsen and TNPS to put in the remaining \$15,000 (not the P&C). PT would like to have the work completed by Easter. This will likely need to be a phased project, with tasks prioritised by TNPS (ie new fence, wider entry path, gate and shelter, plantings, repainting) and targeted by community working bees and contractors as appropriate.

13. Other Business

[*Margaret Armstrong*] - Learning support - is there a need to fund more?

Paul - It would be great to be able to increase the learning and support programme however it's not doable with the current funds available. \$40-50k a year to increase the learning and support program.

Cheryl - Significant funds would be required for the P&C to fund additional days for the learning/support teacher. Not in a position to do that now.

Melissa - with classes now bigger than they have been in the last couple of years - is it an option to increase the parent involvement to assist supporting class teachers in the classroom?

Paul - it would need to be managed carefully to keep the teaching in line with the individual needs of the students. Additional parent support is always good.

[*Margaret Armstrong*] - OOSH - communication for those who have not gained a place. Margie's experience has been that it's difficult to get information about the status of an application – eg no information about not receiving a place.

Paul - with a larger committee this year there should be more capacity to improve the communication.

Alex to discuss further with Margie offline.

[*Andrew Brightmore*] Would like to discuss a P&C Open Night for our parents (current and new) to come and meet our teams with potentially a table / workstation per group to talk about what we do and to gain new members. I think we need to do something different this year if we are to get the level of positive volunteers we have enjoyed over past years.

Cheryl - Proposed that recruiting be revisited at the end of the year in time for the next year.

A special thank you to Felicity Gardner, Ally Weiss and Wendy McKasah for cleaning out the shipping container.

*** End of meeting 9:05pm ***

14. **Next Meeting** – Wednesday 18 March 2015

Meeting dates for 2015

Term 1: 18 February; 18 March

Term 2: 20 May; 17 June

Term 3: 15 July; 19 August; 16 September

Term 4: 21 October; 18 November

Meetings are held @ 7:30pm in the S3 Hub.