MINUTES

MEETING DATE: Monday 9 December 2013

TIME: 7pm


1. Apologies: Holly Hart

2. Acknowledgement of Country

3. Approval of minutes – Cathy moved that the minutes of the last meeting be accepted, Leanne seconded

4. Executive Reports

Principal’s Report

Last week we celebrated our fourth Festival of Ability. It was fantastic! On Monday we had a visit from Jo Weir and her guide dog, Wiley. Jo spoke with groups of students about being blind. On Tuesday 3 December, we acknowledged The International Day of People with a Disability (in its 21st year) at the staff meeting. Staff listened to stories shared by parents on the choices they have made and the hopes and dreams they hold for their children who live with a disability. The concert on Friday was the icing on the cake! What a celebration for the whole school to be involved in. This very memorable event, started with Jobhi’s lovely Welcome to Country and concluded with everyone singing Let’s Get Ridiculous!

The official opening of the Children’s Garden ‘Murra Gadi’ (Pathways to Searching) was included in the festival week. It will become playground 6 in 2014. Adrian Brown, a Ngunnawal elder, conducted a traditional smoking ceremony, Yr6 boys played their didgeridoos and there was a dance performance by Aboriginal students. Carolyn Watt extended words of thanks to the many
people who contributed to the realisation of this learning space, in particular parents Annette Davis and Robert Hitchcock.

A successful Christmas gathering for Aboriginal students and their families was held after school last Thursday. Members of the AEG worked together to host an important occasion in the life of the school. It was very well attended and well received by extended family groups.

Remembrance Day was commemorated on 11 November. Close to the 11th hour the whole school stopped for one minutes silence followed by a reading of The Ode to the Fallen by SRC representative Luke Hush delivered over the school phone system. Mrs Dolan and the school captains and prefects represented the school at the Queanbeyan City service.

In Recycling Week students in 4R conducted Waste Free Wednesday to promote the message:

Let’s work together, parents and teachers, to help students to develop as global citizens with a greater awareness of our shared problem of managing waste. Students in 4R encouraged each class to set a benchmark ready for an improvement the following week. Instructions on Splash Friendly eating (lunches and morning tea) were communicated in ISA news.

A Year 2 concert was held earlier in the term, a culmination of their study of Celebrations across the World. The students entertained parents and family members by visiting different cultures through dance, song and stories. It was lots of fun and coincided with Thanksgiving or giving thanks for all the people in the school community who help students with their learning. (It takes a village to raise a child.)

House Colours Day was held during November to raise awareness and raise funds to support Juvenile Diabetes Research. There are three students in our school who live with Type1 Diabetes. The eight House Captains led the way in organising the day and presenting Jump Rope activities and Fast Feet routines. Staff presented Bluearth activities giving a tabloid format to the day. Each part of the school was active for 1 hour. Many classes included a 500m Walk To Cure Diabetes. So it was a busy, colourful and very positive day.

I recently attended the Illawarra and South East Aboriginal Awards ceremony held in Bateman’s Bay. Year 6 student Olivia Clark was successful in gaining an award for her leadership across the school. Olivia has been a school prefect and was selected in the regional girls’ basketball team.

A Volunteers’ morning tea was held in the hall recently. Many parents, community members and retired QPS teachers attended. The Junior choir, conducted by Mrs Saywer and accompanied by Mrs Hamnet, performed two songs at the gathering. Mrs Dolan thanked the many people present for volunteering their time to the students. I would like to add my thanks to the P&C who also give of their time to help the school plan for the future.
Treasurer’s Report

Summary of Financial Reports

Bank Balances
We had $44,681.97 as of 30/11/13 in the Queanbeyan Public School’s Parents & Citizens Association’s bank accounts.

Which means year to date for 2013 the P&C is running at a profit of over $10,000.

Event Profits

Athletics Carnival
We received the last two payments from schools, which means we have made $300 profit (year to date) on this event.

Baby Kids Expo
We have made $600 (year to date) from this event, having sold the remaining biscuits and jams for $60 in the staff room.

Disco
We made over $1,000 for the two discos this year.

Investment Back Into the School
We have invested $6,000 back into the school (this month) to pay for an electronic smart board and it’s computer. We also paid for two terms of supplies of Ecomist spray of $700 to try and keep the toilets hygienic and mosquito free. I attended the opening of the sensory garden at the school this week as the P&C had a small role financially with this project being the care takers of the grant money for a short period of time. It is amazing place and the people and groups involved should be very proud of what has been achieved.

Budget until end of year
So a budget for 2013 means we will come in just over $39,000 at the end of year.

2014 Budget
Based on estimate of $10,000 coming in from the Fete and spending $20,000 on the playground update it is proposed that the P&C would end 2014 with just under $29,000.

Isabel Thornton
5. Fundraising

School Fete 29 March 2014

- stalls: Anthony to investigate ‘barter a bike’; Annabel to check poultry stall options

6. Follow-ups

- signage: Sydney firm wasn’t very helpful, Kym Hawes to explore local options
- lockable signs: one sign to be ordered, to be positioned at the side gate (price range $350 – $400), maroon colour
- tree root issue back gate – tree surgeon to be consulted
- toilet roll holders: we agree that we are happy for the school to purchase new toilet roll holders to replace the ones P&C bought previously

7. Other business

- solar panels: P&C open to funding solar panels, prices and output to be investigated to ensure the investment is at least cost neutral
- egg-timer speaking: assign a certain amount of time to each agenda item for P&C meetings in order to finish up earlier, also start the meeting at 6.30 in 2014
- end of year school costs: concern that costs for end of year school activities are too high – can teachers think of low cost alternatives? Movie is not considered a good option
- School needs new BBQ – for P&C to replace
- First disco 14 March 2014 – Kim booked DJ Mel
- AGM 2014 to take place on 3 March 2014

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.

NEXT MEETING: 3 FEBRUARY 2014