



**KENSINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNCIL
MINUTES**

Wednesday 19 June 2013, Meeting 04/13

1. Welcome: 5:06pm

2. Apologies: Sandra Cook, Martha Walters, Andrew Steers

3. Attendance: Raema Stanford, Cara Finch, Marie Short, Bruce McCauley, Geoff Smith, Lisa Williamson, Kevin Trent, Michael Rosich, Lesley Harris, Tanya Elson, Stephen Davis, Belinda Moharich

4. Correspondence

In: Andrew Steers sent an email on Tuesday advising that he was resigning from the School Council due to other commitments, effective immediately. Geoff has acknowledged this via return email.

Out:

Action: Bruce to write to Andrew acknowledging his contribution to Council.

5. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

The Council considered the minutes of the meeting of 22 May 2013.

Moved: Marie Short

Seconded: Kevin Trent

6. Business Arising from Meeting held Wednesday 22 May 2013

6.1 Communication – development of school PR document

Belinda

Draft document has been completed.

Action: Belinda to distribute.

6.2 School website

Geoff

Geoff's wife Tracy is working on a new, modern website with drop down menus, straight-forward links and easy maintenance. The dragon design has not been used. It will be a simple platform with opportunities for the children to be involved and sections for individual class information.

Cara and Lisa raised concerns regarding public access to information such as meeting minutes and noted that some school websites required passwords to access such information. Belinda also suggested that all documents should be converted to .pdf before publishing online.

Action: Bruce to seek advice from the Department regarding any privacy issues of information to be placed on the website.

6.2 Council Responsibilities

Geoff

Action: Geoff to forward profile template to Council members and organise updates for the newsletter on discussion points from Council meetings that would be of interest to school families.

Action: All Council members to provide a short individual profile to Geoff, based on his example, for publication in the school newsletter and around the school to increase the visibility of the Council and encourage feedback from the school community.

Action: Geoff to arrange group photo session to accompany individual profiles and School Council objectives.

6.3 Parking Around School

Geoff

No parents came forward as a result of Bruce's request for assistance from someone with a traffic engineering background

Geoff advised that he is meeting with Main Roads WA on 26th June at a time to be advised (likely to be around school drop off or pick up). Please contact Geoff for further information if you would like to attend.

Michael had previously suggested that the Squash Centre could be an option for overflow parking. Michael spoke to the Manager, Keith Farrell who advised that Council signage is in place restricting parking to patrons of the Centre only – therefore this is not an option.

Action: Geoff to meet with Main Roads WA

Action: Martha to keep this item on the agenda

6.4 P&C Initiatives

Tanya

- Students and teachers have now completed their tiles for the mural with great parental assistance. The tiles are currently being fired and the school is now seeking the services of a professional tiler to complete the project.

Action: Bruce to write a thank you letter to Mel from the School Council and consider media/promotional opportunities with the P&C, such as Department magazines and local newspaper. Marie suggested that a special opening ceremony could also be held.

- Weather-proofing around PP2 and PP3 will be completed before the end of winter, at a cost of \$4,000.
- WACSSO is currently exploring whether P&C groups can obtain charity status and guidelines will be released soon to provide clarity.
- There is currently a group of parents exploring the feasibility of a canteen. Initial research shows that there would be significant costs involved in setting this up (\$120,000 for a demountable canteen and much more for a permanent structure) and that space could be an issue with a growing school population and pressure on existing infrastructure. The P&C would be seeking opinions from the broader school community. Lesley advised that a similar exercise was completed 8-10 years ago and it did not gain support from the community.
- The Banksia Café is for sale and there is no guarantee it will remain a café. Belinda suggested that Hoopla Café could be approached to see if they could provide lunch orders should this be the case.
- A survey has been drafted and distributed to the school community, seeking input into P&C priorities and use of funds raised.
- The Walking Bus Survey returned only five responses (1.7% of parents). No further action will be taken.
- YTD fundraising efforts total \$20,500. The kindy movie night raised approx. \$1,800.

- Consideration is being given to funding iPads or Android tablets in consultation with Bruce. These could be used by teachers and as a reward for students. The Department is supportive and is currently running trials in other schools. Wireless connectivity is an issue at the school and would cost around \$10,000 to resolve.

6.5 Year 7 ending 2014 how will this affect 6/7 graduation

Bruce sent a survey to all Year 4, 5 and 6 parents to assist with planning for 2014 and reported a good response (over 80% to date). The responses indicate the following student numbers for 2014:

- 19 Year 7 students (11 leaving, and 2 undecided)
- 24 Year 6 students (none leaving, and 3 undecided)
- 33 Year 5 students (10 leaving, and 4 undecided)

Bruce advised that Departmental policy on class numbers was:

- K – 20
- PP – 24 or 27 in a purpose-built area
- Year 1 to Year 3 – 24
- Year 4 onwards – 32
- Split classes should have one less student

To maximize class numbers, Bruce advised that there was a possibility of having to allocate some split classes at Kensington in 2014.

Action: Sandra to conduct a survey of students regarding Year 6/7 graduation

Action: Bruce to seek information from Nedlands Primary School P&C regarding ongoing funding provided to the school for an extra teacher.

6.6 High Visibility Vests

Michael

Michael's workplace has sought quotes for high visibility vest kits that would contain 2 adult vests and 32 mixed-size children's vests with a view to sponsoring this project in more than one school. The vests will have the KPS logo or name (no phone number) and a clear pocket to put information or name tags in if required, as well as sponsorship details.

Action: Bruce and Michael to also explore possibility of all teachers and EAs having their own vests for use on school grounds.

7. New Business

7.1 School Report 2012

Bruce tabled the draft School Report for 2012, which would be posted on the Department of Education's website. Bruce advised that he would also look to do another school survey in Term 3 to collect information for next year's report.

7.2 Safety House

Kevin Trent advised that KPS had previously participated in the Safety House program, which required significant volunteer assistance and support. Discussion was held at P&C regarding the need of the program in our school community and concerns about obtaining volunteers who could commit to being at home during the required hours.

Action: Cara to clarify information about the program to table at the next meeting and provide to Tanya for P&C reference.

Action: Cara to liaise with Bruce regarding removal of Safety House signage at KPS and possible erection of School Watch signage detailing Police and Education Security contact information.

**8. School Council Watching Brief
Curtin Education Community**
Ongoing

Independent Public Schools 2013 Update

Planning to become an Independent School will commence in 2014 with focus on applying in 2015 when government invites applications again.

9. General Business

9.1 Amalgamation of Kent Street SHS and Como SHS: Tanya advised that Ben Wyatt and John McGrath had discussed the development of a super high school to improve outcomes in parliament and were preparing a report to be distributed to schools. Feedback suggests that parents are happy with the quality of local primary schools but are concerned about high school zones.

Action: Bruce is meeting with Ben Wyatt on Friday and will report back to Council.

9.2 Vaccination: In light of recent media that Australian vaccination rates had decreased significantly (and that WA rates are the lowest in Australia), Cara queried the Department's policy in this area. Bruce advised that students who were not vaccinated were not excluded unless there was an outbreak (ie. Measles).

9.3 Athletics Carnival: Raema advised that due to the large intake of PP-Year 2 students, the athletics carnival would be split into separate junior and senior carnivals.

Action: Further discussion with P&C regarding sausage sizzle fundraiser and whether this should be held on both days.

10. Meeting Closed: 6:49pm

11. Next general meeting:

Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4
Week 3	22 May	7 August	30 October Election of Office Bearers
Week 7 – 20 March	19 June	4 September	27 November