

# **Kogarah Public School P&C Association General Meeting**

## **Thursday 26 August 2021 – Minutes**

**Present:** Nitsa C, Peter L, Liz V, Phillipp T, Nasrin D, Manvik B, Riansi V, Neha, Amit S, Anna H, Jude M, Shivani V, Habiba K, Mariam K, Mamta T, Velidi S, Sweta R, Vishal S, Lakshmipathy, Vanisha

### **1. Welcome**

Welcomed all attendees. Meeting opened at 7.02pm.

### **2. Acknowledgment of Country**

Acknowledged the Kameygal and Bidjigal Clans of the Eora Nation as the traditional custodians of the land and pay respect to Elders past, present and future.

### **3. Apologies**

None.

### **4. Minutes**

Minutes had been emailed and were taken as read. No issues with the minutes were raised.

Motion to accept the minutes as an accurate record of the previous meeting - moved by Habiba and seconded by Shivani.

### **5. Correspondence**

Nil.

### **6. Reports**

#### **6.1. Principal's Report**

Mrs Comminos provided the Principal's Report which is attached to the minutes.

There was discussion about upcoming recruitment and the process for becoming a parent representative on a selection panel. There is a reasonable time commitment – the panel member will need to do a short online course and then, as a member of the panel, would meet to finalise the position to be advertised, read the applications and grade them and then be part of the panel.

Phillipp and Sweta expressed interest. Further information will be sent for people to consider. Discussion about the canteen. The canteen business lease is due for renewal. It is a three year package. P&C agreed that the P&C does not have the capacity to run the canteen but it would be good to see what is available through the tender and to get feedback from parents and students about what they think could be included.

There was a motion put forward that the P&C agree the school should go to tender for a new canteen operator for three years from 2022. Moved by Shivani, seconded by Mamta.

## Questions

Question about the length of time for team meetings - can they be longer? Mrs Comminos explained that the Department has recommended 20 minutes maximum for meetings. Total amount of time should be 2.5 hours at the computer for the whole day.

Can teams be used for the children to meet socially? For teams at least one teacher has to be present – at Kogarah there is a policy that two teachers have to attend a Teams meeting. This means it's not possible to use teams for small groups.

Discussed that the children are really missing their friends and the parents might not be connected. Agreed to send a more explicit class dojo message that the P&C wants to use the Facebook page to connect parents.

Discussed vaccination for staff. Most staff have had at least one shot. We will know more about the plan for return to school after the Government makes its announcement tomorrow. The school will pass on information as soon as they are aware of it.

Discussed kindergarten orientation. It is scheduled for November. They have plans if we are not able to do it face to face. Parents of incoming kindergarten children will be getting notice about this soon.

### **6.2. Treasurer's Report**

Iwona not available. Membership fees have been paid by cheque. Nothing else to report.

### **6.3. Events Sub-committee Report**

- Agreed that we will try and do something virtual for Father's Day. Jude, Shivani to do try to organise something virtual for father's day.

### **6.4. Development and population pressure sub-committee report**

- Nothing to report.

## **7. Expressions of Interest for parent representatives on panel for new teaching positions**

Discussed in Principal's report, above.

## **8. Approval from P&C to call for tenders to licence the canteen operation as the current agreement will expire on 22/1/2022**

Discussed in Principal's report, above.

## **9. General Business**

None.

## **10. Next Meeting**

Next meeting will be at **14 October at 9am**

## **11. Close**

Meeting closed at 8pm.

**Principal's Report**

**Parent Workshop:**

*Practical Parenting in a Pandemic* webinar with Maggie Dent has been purchased for the school. The webinar will run from 4.00-5.15pm on the 1<sup>st</sup> September.

The webinar includes free resources available after the event. A recording of the webinar will be available for a month after the event. Links for these will be distributed to your school after the webinar.

<https://nsweducation.zoom.us/j/68784865493?pwd=MDR4dTdqR1Vpekx4K3hvcWNaWXgyQT09>

**Parent Representative- Merit Selection Panel**

A selection panel will need to be formed as part of the selection process for new permanent classroom teacher positions for 2022.

A selection panel for classroom teacher positions consist of:

- Principal or nominee, higher than a classroom teacher (convener)
- Teacher representative elected by and from the teaching staff
- The parent or community representative is nominated by the P&C

Federation of Parents and Citizens – Member Guidance

<https://www.pandc.org.au/forms/guidance/Merit%20Selection%20-%20Guidance%20Statement.pdf>

Panel members will need to complete a short online training course before the selection process commences. Details will be provided to the selected panel member.

**Canteen Lease:**

In consultation and with the support of the school community, a decision needs to be made to call for tenders. The current licence by Made Fresh is due to expire at the end of 2021.

Evidence of community support for a licenced canteen, such as a letter or meeting minutes from the Parents and Citizens (P&C) Committee is required to proceed with the advertisement.

**Attendance Expectation during Learning from Home:**

A letter was sent home outlining the expectations for marking students in attendance during learning from home.

We understand that all families have different circumstance, however, there must be evidence of students being engaged in their learning.

The expectation is that as a minimum, the highlighted tasks must be completed every week.

Most importantly, parents must maintain contact with the class teacher/ school to discuss their child's progress.

**Mrs Nitsa Comminos**

**Principal**