

Kogarah Public School P&C Association General Meeting

Thursday 24 June 2021 – Minutes

Present: Jude M, Lyn S, Nitsa C, Shivani V, Habiba K, Papiya, Cathy, Liana R, Anna H, Iwona U, Michelle Rosicky (Teachers Federation)

1. Welcome

Welcomed all attendees. Meeting opened at 9.04am.

2. Apologies

None

New item – it was asked whether we should include an acknowledgement of country. The Chair noted this for discussion later in the meeting and Habiba did an acknowledgement of country for this meeting.

3. 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 Anna seconded by Shivani.

4. Correspondence

Nil.

5. NSW Teachers' Federation Visit

Michelle Rosicky from the NSW Teachers' Federation attended to give an overview of the Federation's current campaign and the recommendations of the Gallop inquiry the Federation commissioned into Valuing the Teaching Profession.

The Teachers Federation commissioned the Gallop Inquiry as an independent inquiry into the work of teachers and principals and how this has changed since 2004, in place of the 'work value cases' that used to be conducted by the Industrial Relations Commission.

Michelle gave an overview of what the inquiry found:

- Intensification of work by teachers and principals.
- Department has been led by generalist managers not educator background.
- Expansion of technology.
- Growing complexity of need amongst students.
- Salary growth is disproportionate to other professions.
- There is a projected shortage of teachers. Not enough teachers to meet demand.

Recommendations of the Inquiry:

- Increase the amount of preparation time teachers have (Release from Face to Face (RFF) 2 hours per full time staff member - should be doubled).
- RFF for Deputies in primary schools should be lined up with High School. Assistant Principals in primary schools don't get any extra time.
- Calling for school counselors. Goal of 1 counsellor per 500 students has not been met.
- More security in work.
- Increase in salary between 10-15%

There are actions (leaving school 10-15min) at various schools around the State because they have not been able to get enough teachers.

Ways to support the Teachers Federation

- Pass a motion of support
- Support industrial action by teachers
- Meet with local member

Mrs Comninos confirmed that all of the issues raised by the Inquiry are things that are affecting Kogarah Public School. Kogarah has had its counsellor off unwell since last year and we only have 1.5 days a week for the whole school, nowhere near one per 500. She also agreed it can be very difficult to find casual staff. This is partly because of the Covid funding which is using a lot of casual teachers.

The Chair thanked Michelle for her attendance and said we will discuss ways the P&C might support the campaign.

6. Reports

6.1. Principal's Report

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

6.2. Treasurer's Report

Iwona provided the Treasurer's Report. We have transferred the \$20,000 grant to the school. There are funds remaining to pay for insurance etc.

6.3. Events Sub-committee Report

- The Committee is planning ahead for Father's day – will just be a celebration, not a fundraiser.
- Mrs Comninos asked if there is a time to get together about memorabilia for the 150th? Jude and Shivani to meet Mrs Comninos on Friday morning to discuss memorabilia for the 150th.

6.4. Development and population pressure sub-committee report

- The committee is continuing to monitor developments in the area.
- The committee is concerned about the progress of new infrastructure for the school given all of the developments. We need to hear directly from the Department about what they are going to do about this problem.
- Mrs Comninos to ask someone from Department or School Infrastructure to speak to us about the process. She suggested we write down all our questions and she will pass that on.

7. General Business

7.1. **40km/h zone signs on highway** - someone from Council contacted Mrs Comminos about the school asking for flashing speed signs on the highway. Anna volunteered to follow this up with RMS.

ACTION: Anna to contact RMS about 40km signs along highway.

7.2. **Communication:** Mrs Comminos advised that we cannot use class dojo for P&C communication as the function is not available. Agreed to stick with facebook and email for now.

7.3. **New item: payments required for zoom membership and any P&C membership fees:** it was unanimously resolved to approve the payment for zoom membership and P&C membership fees.

7.4. **New item: Acknowledgement of country:** it was unanimously resolved that we should add Acknowledgement of Country to the agenda for every meeting.

8. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be at **9am Thursday 29 July.**

9. Close

Meeting closed at approximately 9.55am.

P&C General Meeting ZOOM 24 June 2021 9am

Principal's Report

Professional Learning - Staff

Transforming Schools

Mrs Gonzalez, Miss Serratore (Co-leader of Strategic Direction 2) -and myself attended Dubbo for a Transforming Schools Network Day. There were 17 schools who attended from various primary and high schools around NSW a total of approximately 90 teachers. This was an opportunity for our school to share how we have been adapting our practices to integrate communication, collaboration, critical reflection, and creativity into our programs so that students have deep learning experiences.

We will continue to work closely with Oatley PS as our Community of Practice, who are on a similar journey to our school in Transformational Learning. Working with colleagues beyond our school opens opportunities to collaborate on a deeper level and share expertise. We plan to host a combined SDD on Monday 12 July.

Strategic School Support

Our school has been identified as one with a high middle band of students, who with targeted support will see a shift in the number of students in the top 2 bands of NAPLAN.

During T3, staff will be working with Literacy Consultants from the DOE to help them better read and analyse internal and external data, increase our understanding on teaching comprehension and vocabulary, especially in years 3-6.

150th Memorabilia

A range of memorabilia will be ordered to sell for our 150th celebration. A decision about what to buy has been made with the assistance of Jude and Shivani. These items will be sold towards the end of T3.

An insert will be included in the June Newsletter asking parent to complete the survey questions for the final chapter of the commemorative book.

Playground Improvement:

Quotes have been sourced for artificial grass and a shade shelter, to utilise the donation given by Level 33. The students at the SRC meeting voted on the shade shelter as their first choice but wanted to also complete the top grass area in artificial grass. Both these projects are hoped to be complete before the end of the year.

Update on accommodation:

I have placed a request for an additional demountable to be installed in the bottom playground to provide us with much needed space for staff to collaborate while planning, meeting space or an extra space for small group learning.

Plans are in process for a proposed rebuild to the school. At present, Infrastructure NSW and DOE are in the planning stage. These plans then need to go to Treasury for approval. At present, the plan is for the school to be upgraded on its original site.

Upcoming Events:

NAIDOC Week will be celebrated in week 2 with a visiting performer who will create an artwork with students and demonstrate a fire ceremony.

Education Week will be in Week 3 of next term. We will have open classrooms with an opportunity for parents to view how students are learning incorporating 4Cs into their activities.

Premiere's Spelling Bee- Students in 3-6 can participate in Term 3

Premier's Sporting Challenge / Jump Rope for Heart

Mrs Nitsa Comminos Principal