## THORNLEIGH-WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL P\&C Meeting Minutes Tuesday $13^{\text {th }}$ March

## THORNLEIGHWEST

### 1.0 Opening and Apologies

Meeting held at TWPS library Tuesday 13th March 2012. Meeting opened at 8.02pm.

Attendees:
Apologies: Stuart Bidwell, Karen, Michelle Wood

### 2.0 Minutes of the Meeting - $7^{\text {th }}$ February 2012

Accepted as true and accurate record of meeting. Proposed Veryan McAllister, seconded Gordon Dracup

### 3.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

3.1 State of grounds inside of school - Paul Miller to check out and address
Paul - the area behind E Block and mess and plants overgrown has been addressed by school
Floor - there are a large amount of mosquitos around kindy rooms. Paul have put bug repellent in some rooms. Problem at the moment all around area
3.2 Nature trail - any Council/protection issues or funding available -

Dana, Helen, Paul and Finbar met with council. It is a big deal to do anything. Removal of weeds etc cannot just be pulled out. It is a long term project that would need to be maintained.
Didn't get project local grant. Veryan suggested NRMA eco grant. Suggestion of Keep Australia Beautiful - Dana to check out Council suggested doing a small area at a time. Need to have a think about what to do with this - area from back of BER to gate.
3.3 Composite classes - general parent information - to be put in Wednesday Weekly - Paul Miller has done this
3.4 MDFG - financials to be included with P\&C financials - Stuart and Dana - still to be done
3.5 Band - financials to be sorted out - Stuart and Juliette - To be done

### 4.0 Correspondence

### 4.1 P\&C NSW Association Magazine - available from Delvene if anyone wants to view

4.2 NSW Association Term 1 mail out - includes information on Annual conference, Workplace Health \& Safety
4.3 NSW Department of Education - funding allocation for TWPS for Semester 1, 2012
Paul-This is the amount received from government amounts. However not really what is spent. School applies for supplements to cover. This system ends this year. Next year a different system with My School. Will be looking at more environmentally friendly energy for school then.

### 5.0 Principal's Report


$7^{\text {th }}$ February, 2012

## Principal's Report...

"The most important thing in raising a child is not to try to put the stamp of the past on that child, but to give that child the freedom to grow and explore"- Catherine

> Bateson

## Upcoming Events

## Week 8

15/03 Selective HS tests
16/03 'Cyber bullying' education
Week 9
20/03 K-6 Assembly
21/03 Harmony Day
Week 10
26/03 Young Leaders 'Conf.
27/03 Paul Kelly Cup
K-2 Assembly
28-30/03 Year 5 Camp

## Other

1. Empowering Local Schools (ELS)

- 47 school pilot 2008-2009 (extended)
- Based upon Local Schools/ Local Decision (LS /LD) consultation
- 160 schools added to program(+ 47 existing pilot schools)
- 5 areas- timeframe for implementation 2013-2015

2 China 2012 \& Mandarin

- Students in Year 6 Mandarin - one term each; commencing Term 2
- Partnering with a sister school in Beijing Shijia Hutong PS

3 Swimming Carnival- open discussion

- House points
- Facilities
- Student attendance


## 4 Staffing

- We welcome back Mrs Zinsli
- Will be team teaching with Mrs Starreveld
- Expertise of two teachers

Paul Miller
Principal 13 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ March, 2012

From the meeting
Paul - There has been news coverage about Teacher wage/bonuses. With the federal government 2008 pilot Project 47, schools were given financial control keeping within budget (cost neutral). Schools used funds resourcing other/different staffing eg it, admin staff appropriate to benefit school.
TWPS is tightly controlled over purchases eg computers controlled by state government.
Pilot worked reasonably well - another 160 schools to be added to pilot which will be approximately $10 \%$ of schools.
Local Schools, Local Decisions (state government)consultation came out last year. Here the community given opportunity for input into how schools run. Report linked in Wednesday Weekly this week. Not impact on TWPS at moment but expect by 2014/15. 5 areas covered (detail in report link) managing resources, staffing in schools, reducing red tape, working locally, making decisions
Floor - Will principals be given any extra training etc for this - covered by staffing in schools. School leaders, performance management and professional development.
Floor - principal moving from teaching position to business management position. Responsibility for large amount of funds compared too previously. Huge jump in short time
Finbar - over last 20years leadership has developed from teaching to admin.
Paul - schools in trial used funds to have business managers
Mick - are there community boards/ self governing to help manage the school/principal? Paul - has been tried in other states VIC and WA Principals have quite a rigid accountability

## Chinese/Mandarin

Now introduced at Pennant Hills High School. Year 6 will have a taster before they go to high school.

## Swimming carnival

Floor -why are there no house points at carnival. Paul advised this has been discussed and child attends carnival, enters a house race then house gets a point
Facilities - closure of Hornsby school. Difficult to get into Homebush. Have looked at Knox, price $\$ 1500$ higher than this year (includes electronic recording, staff) - in negotiation with Knox for dates
Suggestion about Macquarie University
Attendance of carnival - Only students participating attend. Abbotsleigh had restricted space this year.
Child drowned a few years ago at another school. DET introduced very strict guidelines. Cannot now have novelty events or free sport Students have to be verified very clearly on ability (banded).
Staff question why not bring all students (peer support etc). Those that cannot swim cannot participate which can cause issues.
Approximately 150 attended this year - this took all day (very slow)
Paul asked floor what thoughts on all students attending
Veryan - safety issues, keeping bored kids but also good to encourage participation.
Paul - maybe look at year 3 somehow participating more due to swimming program in year 2

Floor - could all years be offered swimming lessons - $1 / 2$ school not participating in swim carnival. Paul - large cost involved. Dana - some parental responsibity to teach children swimming, schools cant do all. Floor - some students can swim but don't not necessarily attend/don't want to go.
Floor - Saw an improvement in house spirit this year - colours, chants etc. Veryan - make it a house colour, spirit thing
Floor - could borderline kids be cheer squad and perhaps watch and get motivated to join next year
Paul - need to encourage swimmers who don't attend to attend.
Floor - parents from overseas don't really know how, what a swimming carnival is about
Paul - acknowledges school needs to not presume that people know what things are about eg what is wakikiri, school carnivals
Floor - no school records kept of race times. If using electronic scoring and 50m pool good to keep records.
Paul - yes, very good idea
6.0 Other Reports - from P\&C Subcommittees
6.1 President - Dana Logiudice

Two things to look at this year - nature trail. All whiteboards in. 5 classrooms still need air-conditioning.


From the meeting
Gordon - balance quite healthy. Still have to pay for rest of whiteboards approx $\$ 19000$. Projecting $\$ 49000$ by end of year. Band might be after some funds. Mufti made $\$ 1600$ profit - largest profit on mufti day ever. Very well organised.

## UNIFORM SHOP REPORT

(Figures are approximations as at $13 / 3 / 12$ )

## FINANCIAL POSITION IN A SNAPSHOT

Cash in bank
Outstanding debt to suppliers
Pre loved cheques to be cashed
Credit refund cheques to be cashed
\$43,868.82
\$18,019.09
$\$ 804.00$
\$371.50
Balance of cash \$24,674.23

Sales from 8 February to 13 March $=\mathbf{\$ 6 , 1 1 1 . 0 0}$. A total of 247 items!
Flexischools - nearly ready to run a trial of the on-line ordering system. Will do a flyer on how to purchase items for all parents and put into Wed Weekly. Aiming to have it up and running for Term 2, 2012.

Winter Uniform - the majority of our large winter order has arrived so will be put into stock once the existing stock is sold. We are still waiting on winter tunics and tights together with our additional order of boy s/s shirts \& girls dresses.

Fleece Jackets - a large order of the new style is due next week. We only have 4 x size 12 of the old style jackets remaining in stock.

Sale Items - we are selling the winter skirt, sloppy joe and long sleeve sports shirt (old style) for $\$ 15$ each.

Buying the Winter Uniform - an email was sent over the weekend to all Class Parents for them to send onto their classes. It was a reminder that it's time to check winter uniforms and come \& visit if new ones are required. I also attached the order form \& advised I am happy to accept email orders with payment via EFT.

From the meeting
Flexischools - aiming for term 2 launch.
Helen doesn't think can manage lost property - can school assist e.g. do a first cull with those with names? Can Paul put into Wednesday Weekly about about kids/parents taking more responsibility for checking lost property.
Paul - will put in Wednesday Weekly

### 6.4 Canteen - Karen Edmond - read by Chloe

From: Karen Edmond
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 11:20 AM

Report from the Canteen

1. Thursday opening is proving more popular that Monday was.
2. I have been phasing out the more unhealthy options and introducing healthier home made options e.g.the pasta sauce has added grated vegetables - invisible to the naked eye! The home made pasta sauces are a higher profit item too.
3. We have introduced vouchers on the Flexischools system so students can purchase items at lunch i.e. ice blocks and slushee's
4. Account balance is looking healthy - we have purchased a new dishwasher and a coffee machine to make good coffee for the volunteers.
As at 5th March the balance was $\$ 18363.63$ - since then $\$ 4883$ - in cheques to suppliers, a deposit of $\$ 1126.52$ from Flexischools and approximately $\$ 1600$ - worth of stock on hand. So a rough balance of $\$ 16,206-$
5. Over 500 registered children on FlexiSchools. This does include last years Year 6 kids, so 400-450 though after today's mufti I would say we have 414 registered.
6. Harmony Day is next Wednesday and we will be selling Butter Chicken , Cup Cakes and the ever popular ice cream cups
7. Our winter menu will start in Term 2 and will include Butter Chicken and Hot Potatoes - Hot Dogs will remain as a Wednesday special

Notes for FlexiSchools Users

1. If you have a repeating order, please check that your child will actually be there on that day. There have been examples of where children have been off or their class has been on excursion and the order has still been processed. You can cancel your order with Flexischools up until 9.30am and the amount will credit back to your account. The canteen can not accept cancellations as we have no way of crediting your account.
2. As the menu changes quite frequently and items can be out of stock, it is worth checking occasionally that the repeating order has valid and current options on it. We will endeavour to fill all orders but unfortunately I cannot magic something from nothing! Some items will be discontinued as they are not healthy options.
Thank You
From the meeting
Karen recently went to a canteen convention and got very good information. Reviewing menu on order e.g. Jumpies, Want Wants as flagged with high salt etc.
Floor - can photos of items be added on flexischools so parents can know what items are, kids can show what they want? Chloe - will add to next agenda. Gordon - we have stock photos that can be used.
Chloe - can whirly bird be used instead of air conditioner in canteen to relieve need to run air conditioner. Paul - this has been has been looked at previously.
6.5 MDFDGG - Dana Logiudice

Mothers day stall will be held on Monday 7 May - will put info on website.
6.6 BASC - Lisa Whittaker Knight - read by Dana

| THORNLEIGH WEST PUBLIC SCHOOL BASC CENTRE Coordinator's Report- 13 March 2012 |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| ISSUE | COMMENTS / ACTION |
| Enrolments/Attendance | Enrolments are steady and we are receiving new applications every week. We have an average of 224 children attending BSC a week and 460 Children attending ASC. |
| National Quality <br> Framework (NQF) | The regulations have now been in effect from 1 January 2012. We are currently working towards implementing all the changes needed. <br> We have received all our paperwork from the Department of Education and Communities to begin the process of lodging our applications for approval. These applications must be lodged my $30^{\text {th }}$ June 2012. |
| Program | We are very pleased that we are able to offer Vacation Care in the April School Holidays. A detailed program and booking form is available in the BASC room and on the website. <br> We are now taking bookings and bookings will close on Monday $2^{\text {nd }}$ March. <br> We will also be operating on the Pupil Free day (Monday $23^{\text {rd }}$ April) bookings forms are available in the BASC room or on the website. Bookings will close Monday $15^{\text {th }}$ April. |
| COORDINATOR'S SIGNATURE: Lisa Whittaker | ATURE: DATE: <br>  $13^{\text {th }}$ March 2012 |

6.7 Fundraising
6.7.1 General - Dana Logiudice

Phonebook - we are getting free printing so currently collecting details. Helen
Tibett doing data entry. Chloe advises that she and others have not received forms - Dana will put in Wednesday Weekly.
Music Night - will be held in June this year.
Easter egg raffle - a free hamper was received with other goods purchased so will use this as the prize.
Hot cross buns - Janda organising this

### 6.7.2 Spring Fair - Helen Roberts

Spring Fair parents meeting 29 March. Need one more stall. No sports spectacular, smash em up or tombolo. Class parents will be asked for top 3 preferences for stalls then will be finalised. Looking at market stalls for basketball court. Scaled down canteen service. Pony rides

### 6.8 Band - Juliette Kelly

Budget setting with more realistic expectation - fees will be increasing \$10-
20. Simplifying fee system to make more understandable/simple to reduce fee payment issues. Will use flexischools.
Cannot use flexischools for instrument hire fees as school agreement.
Bunnings offered cancellation spot for Sunday bbq. Last minute - worked brilliantly -thank you to parents to help out. Made $\$ 880$.
Thanks to Juliette worked all day to carry out
Stuart unable to join budget meeting. To meet at another time

## $6.9 \quad$ Catering - Michele Wood. Report given by Dana

 Have had a large number of catering volunteers. First event will be Grandparents Day.
### 7.0 Agenda Items

### 7.1 Swimming carnival

Floor - on form given out there are a few options that are indicate that cant go, eg can tread water, and only one option that can go Paul - form comes from Department of Education

### 7.2 2012 School Fees

Helen- is there some clarification as to where the library fund etc goes Paul - Library and Hall separate to school money. Library fund tax deductible. Buys books, resources etc Dana - garden fund - looking a bit better Paul - yes need to give more info on what money is used for Floor - was discussed last year that more info would be included. Dana - was done from P\&C perspective

### 7.3 Working with Children Check

Del - there is confusion as to who needs to do.
Paul - all parents who have any contact should have them. Please advise Paul if not received by parents and will address
7.4 Homework - Kylie Duncan

Would like to put forward a motion that a committee be put together to discuss homework set for students. To look at revising homework policy, get fresh ideas etc.

Paul - homework policy in student welfare policy. Reviewed on a regular basis. Understand there may be frustration however have not had much regular feedback
Veryan - parents haven't been asked for feedback on homework
Paul - some parents want more, some want less. Primary purpose of homework is reinforcing school work and learning good study habits.
Gordon - subjects seem repetitive.
Veryan - could we liven it up so not so repetitive
Paul - no absolute. Happy to review further
Kylie - $25-30 \%$ of homework (stg 2) seems to have little to do with what learning. Repetitive (file/print) over and over. Homework could be cool and engaging. The grid does well.
Floor - repetition can relieve some anxieties and will make students more comfortable and students know what is expected of them. Like the repetition. Kylie - some repetition good. Look at issuing homework over weekend, two weeks so can be done over weekend.

ACTION POINT: Paul to give some feedback by next Pc meeting with a view to moving issue to proposed solution

### 7.5 Flexischools

Dana - do not need to use credit card, can use payclick or direct debit If do not wish to use flexischools can use brown paper bags. Need exact change and child must bring order to canteen as no more collection from class room
Gordon - not enough volunteers to man without flexischools

### 7.6 Support Teacher - motion to send letter to regional P\&C association

 questioning why not funded by DETDana - why does P\&C pay not Department of Education. No school in northern Sydney has them as not considered needy enough.
Finbar - Learning support teacher - not reading recovery (only year 1). Not teachers aides - paid by DET funded

### 8.0 General Business

8.1 Floor - why no kiss and drop for size of school. Have used at other schools.
Veryan - quarter sessions road. - council area set there
Dana - can be problematic and we are lucky with parking around school. Bus stop is where would be.
Paul - what will be achieved if we have it
Kylie - Turramurra have it - run by teachers. Have sign in car - teacher looks at car - gets car in - if kid not there - car goes around. Good turning point in Quarter sessions road.
Julie - need to think about priorities. This will take staff time, have other priorities
Dana - will ask council to see possibility of having zone.
8.2 Other

Veryan - year 3 have been asked if interested in Wakikiri. But parents have not informed. Finbar - note going out

Haven't received any info on what time/dates parent teacher info -will be going out.

No dance group this year.
Gordon - do blueys accumulate?
Finbar -yes they do. A group of teachers currently looking at rewards and achievements system
9.0 Closing

Meeting closed at 10.03pm
10.0 Next Meeting - 8pm, Tuesday $8^{\text {th }}$ May 2012

