



**Randwick Boys' High School
P&C Meeting Minutes
Tuesday 20 August 2019**

Chair: Birgit Schickinger

1. Attendance:

Alison Bell	Janine Beck	Mary Jo Rigotti	Rachel Daly
Birgit Schickinger	Lance Raskall	Michelle Bradley	Sarah Brill
Caroline Windsor	Laura Tamir	Natalie Keledjian	Sean Loughman
Dacre England	Leanne Bergan	Ngaire Smith	Suzy Forrester
Daniel Chapman	Louise McNeil	Nicola French	
Emma Digan	Lyn Swinbourne	Philip Booth	

2. Welcome to new financial members, observers and guests.

3. Apologies: Adriana Skleparis, Jane Knowles.

4. Determination of quorum: Quorum reached (quorum is 5 if under 50 members and 11 if over 50 members).

5. Guest speakers: Dr Marjorie O'Neill, MP, Member for Coogee, sent her apologies. She is unable to attend as Parliament is sitting, but sent through a report to BS to attach to the minutes. MO would like to congratulate all the students, staff and parents involved in *Masterpiece*. She noted the government's decision not to convert RBHS to co-educational described the outcome of the consultation process as inconclusive. MO will now focus on ensuring the upgrades are processed in a timely manner. She has been in contact with the Minister, who has agreed to a walkthrough of both schools with her, and is happy to be contacted with any concerns. MO would be available to come to a meeting of the P&C on 22 October, in Week 2 of Term 4 – we normally would meet on the 15th, but as school only resumes on the 14th, it was suggested that we move the October meeting back a week to the 22nd. The purpose of the visit would be for MO to introduce herself to the school community, provide updates on any developments with the upgrades, and provide information on how she can advocate on our behalf.

6. Confirmation of the Minutes for August 2019: (MB, DE)

Minutes confirmed.

7. Business arising from May 2019 Minutes:

- BS presented information regarding My Organic School from their website. It is a social enterprise to facilitate the set-up of parent-run school community organic veg box service. This would require P&C members to divide up produce for boxes, as well as families who would want to buy regularly through the scheme.
- MB has volunteered to coordinate book packs for next year, and will confirm numbers remaining from this year with the office.
- LB has contacted Bunnings regarding a holding a fundraising barbeque at the Alexandria store. She has received a lengthy form to apply for a date, which will be a priority after the Trivia Night.
- Discussion of the motion regarding the invitation to the P&C Federation was deferred to General Business.

8. Correspondence:

- Correspondence this month has mainly related to the organisation of the Trivia Night and donations for the event.
- There were also emails to and from Marjorie O'Neill, MP, regarding pressing for an outcome on the co-education consultation.
- The P&C insurance is up for renewal.
- We have also received information for a fundraiser through NESAs. This involves a 30% discount for the P&C on books bought through the NESAs website which can then be sold on to students and parents. Further information is available if anyone is interested.

9. Reports

President's Report

BS presented a brief report in anticipation of later discussion regarding the co-education consultation outcome:

- Congratulations to all of those involved in The Show, *Masterpiece*, for contributing so much energy and time.
- Thank-you to the School for setting up online bookings for Parent-Teacher Night interviews. These were much more efficient and easier to arrange than the paper system.
- A special thank-you to LB for doing such a good job coordinating the Trivia Night. Please sign on to help on the day / evening if you can.
- Given the position adopted by the P&C, there has been a disappointing and nonsensical outcome to the co-education consultation. LR will discuss this further.
- The P&C Executive met mainly to discuss pressing for an outcome to the consultation process as a step to getting the promised upgrades started. Now that the outcome has been announced, the question is whether the P&C still needs to agitate for the upgrades, where this process stands, and how we will be involved. Further discussion on this will be left to the Principal's Report.

- We have received the yearly P&C contribution from parents into the bank account. Thank-you to the whole school community for donating.

Principal's Report

LR spoke to his tabled report. The following was noted.

The outcome of the co-education consultation has been announced, with the School to remain boys-only. LR tabled a copy of the four-page document released along with the decision. The Department described the outcome as "inconclusive" and said the data did not show a clear desire for change. The decision is disappointing, as are the views expressed by the NSW Secondary Principals Council and the NSW Teachers Federation, and unfathomable based on the information in the document, which shows the community as a whole strongly in favour of the change. Far from seeking to undermine RGHS as some seem to have incorrectly perceived, we were in fact aiming to offer families of current primary school students a fantastic co-ed option. Pat Mahony came out with the new Director, Paul Owens, and spoke to staff here and at RGHS but no new information or concrete reasons for the decision or the thinking behind it other than what's in the document were given. We now need to focus on the upgrades and continuing with current plans, acknowledging that we have made inroads and improvements, and knowing that the P&C will continue to support the staff.

The perceived general lack of willingness on the part of staff at RGHS to work together with those at RBHS in the interests of achieving more beneficial outcomes for students was noted. Local primary schools and parents are not interested in co-ed schools further away, and saw this as an opportunity to send siblings to the same school. The question of whether better facilities could be obtained by sharing new buildings between the two schools was taken as moot – the previous attempt to do this (the multimedia, music and dance centre constructed 18 years ago) did not take, and SINSW has decided the schools are to be treated as separate projects.

There was discussion of ways to strengthen ties and promote collaboration with RGHS. Concern was expressed at the unfavourable attitude of RGHS to hold joint classes, particularly for electives which may otherwise not run due to insufficient numbers at one or both schools. Up until the last couple of years (during the co-ed debate and consultation period), RBHS has let RGHS know if we were unable to run a class due to numbers in hopes of forming joint classes. While RGHS is open in theory to students in Years 11 and 12, RBHS is happy to have enrolments in classes from Year 9, although the last RGHS P&C meeting suggested they are not interested in allowing this from their end. LR noted that parents of any Year 8 boy interested in taking any Year 9 and 10 elective that isn't available at RBHS but which is, or may be, on offer at RGHS are welcome to contact him with a request to forward to RGHS.

There was also discussion of activities outside classes that could include students from both schools. LR emailed the Principal at RGHS to invite them to join the yoga classes that have started for senior boys and staff, but they have decided to start their own instead. It was suggested that we could make use of activities involving UNSW to include girls, as well as promoting broader joint participation in events such as White Ribbon Day and International Women's Day. We could also investigate joint activities between the SRCs and P&Cs. Parents who have children at both schools

are particularly encouraged to attend RGHS P&C meetings and express the desire of RBHS to promote positive interactions between the schools. In addition, the Director may be able to encourage RGHS to be more open to our attempts to foster collaborative relationships.

LR described the School Show, Masterpiece, as absolutely brilliant and congratulated those involved. He specially thanked Alysia for her 29 enthusiastic years as Choreographer and Director.

The Film By program is now state-wide. Traditionally, it has just been for primary schools, but is now open to secondary schools as well. We will be putting an entry in this year, making our region one of the first to have secondary students involved.

68 students sat the Gifted and Talented test for Year 7, and interviews are taking place now. The amazing quality of the students coming through augurs well for the future. Almost without exception, when asked their favourite subject, the interviewees have nominated Maths. Interviews for current Year 7, 8 and 9 students will also take place at the end of the term.

The Canberra History and skiing excursion was well-attended and thoroughly enjoyed by students. Thank you to the staff who took part.

The School is just about to order the minibus, pending final approval from the Department. LR thanked the P&C for contributing funds.

Winter sports finals have happened, and summer trials are due to start.

Josh Bennett (Science) did a great job organising the NAIDOC Week assembly on Friday 26th July, featuring several students presenting and performing.

One Year 11 student and one staff member from RBHS were presented with awards at the 2019 Deadly Kids Awards presented by the Aboriginal Education and Wellbeing Team Metropolitan South Operational Directorate.

The Years 8, 9 and 10 Parent-Teacher Night on 6th August was very well attended. Thank you to those involved.

The first week of August saw Year 11 students wishing to be considered for prefect positions in 2020 give their speeches, and voting has happened. Of the 13 elected, five have chosen to run for the Captain and Vice-Captain positions.

The defibrillator bought by the P&C for the School was almost used during the Year 8 and 10 subject selection evening on Wednesday night when a 23-year-old hirer collapsed in the gym. Bystanders started CPR and an ambulance crew had already arrived by the time the machine was brought over. The School is planning to purchase a second defibrillator to be installed in the gym. It was suggested that RBHS could collaborate with RGHS to offer St Johns Ambulance courses for students.

Leah Pappin launched STYMIE, an online bullying prevention program, with staff and students. She may present on the program at the next P&C if not launched to parents and community before then.

LM reported that various outreach activities with local primary schools are going well. Clovelly Public School is sending 100 Year 4 students every Wednesday for a STEM program, which sends a very positive message about our School. RBHS is also in discussions with Randwick Public regarding a Maths program, which may include allowing G&T students from RPS to come to RBHS for Maths classes. These activities include both boys and girls. BS expressed the members' willingness to support the School Executive in their outreach efforts to local primary schools. These already involve the School Exec accompanied by Year 7 boys attending P&C meetings to talk about RBHS.

There have been a number of excursions and activities (listed in LR's report) since the last meeting.

LR gave his apologies in advance for the next P&C meeting. He will be on long service leave for two weeks over that time. LM will be Acting Principal, and Louise Harris will be Acting Deputy.

LR noted that enrolments look like keeping up the pattern of larger enrolments in younger years, with around 120 Year 7 students next year.

LR was congratulated on positive feedback received from the family of a prospective student from Coogee, who spoke extremely highly of the courtesy and attention they received on a 'Principal's Tour' of the School. It is hoped that the G&T program will also become more of drawcard, as the first cohort are soon to reach the end of Year 12.

The Breakfast Club has been running for a few weeks, discretely promoted by teachers to relevant students. There have been around 10-12 students attending each morning on average, and there has been a consequent reduction in the need for staff to organise other food assistance for students during the day.

Treasurer's Report

LB tabled the Treasurer's Report and bank statement. The P&C contributions from parents have come through, as has income from the book packs. There have also been donations towards the Trivia Night, with a special thanks to Mary Jo for her generous contribution.

The current bank balance is \$45,470.28. It was noted that the money designated for contribution to the cost of the School mini-bus is still to be deducted from this total.

10. Agenda Items:

Trivia Night Update (LB)

The Trivia Night is next Friday night, 30th August. Around 30 businesses are supporting the night, with donations at around \$2,200. The main prize for the raffle is a \$3,000 trip to the Hunter Valley. LB has also confirmed with Rebel Randwick that we have \$630 to spend towards prizes. Thanks to SB, MB, Peter Wong and MJR for donations. There are 5 booked on the Year 7 table and only 2 on the Year 8 table. We will advertise for more, but may combine. There has been no uptake for the Year 9, 10, 11 or 12 tables, but these parents may already be on other tables. We should end up with 9 or 10 tables, the aim being 10. We are still looking at more environmentally-friendly ways of decorating the gym. SB has been working on succulents as table decorations and could still use donations of large, clean jars. Lighting between the carpark and gym needs to be considered. LB

asked that attendees pre-book pizzas as Rocket Boy will be cooking these on-site on the night and donating part of the proceeds – 18 have been booked so far. There are 54 bookings with the aim being 100. LB has laminated a sign about the pre-buying raffle tickets to display at the School Office. We could consider an online auction service for next year for the silent auction, but anyone not attending will need to bid through friends this year. Volunteers to help on the day and at the event would be appreciated. If an EFTPOS terminal can't be set up, we will provide bank details for transfers for the silent auction.

Letter to Sarah Mitchell, MLC, Minister for Education and Early Childhood Learning

BS wrote to the Minister requesting the announcement of the co-educational consultation to allow for the commencement of the promised upgrades. Now that the announcement has been made, we need to plan our approach. SB suggested a template letter for parents to send to Minister, possibly a petition, and some kind of social media campaign to ensure upgrades happen in a timely way. We need to request timeframes for plans, and details of the process including the budget available and the extent to which the School's own priorities will be taken into account. Minutes of an RGHS meeting with SI gave a time-frame of around 3 years for planning, costing, consideration by Treasury and building. To be prepared, we need a clear list of our requirements and how they include community-accessible features. LR has applied for air-conditioning through the Cooler Classrooms program, and is waiting to hear the outcome. The School has been waiting on clarity on what will be included in the upgrades before spending money in order to prioritise areas that won't be covered. This has delayed some necessary maintenance. LR asked that parents aware of any particular issues (e.g., broken classroom blinds interfering with seeing the whiteboard) contact him directly so they can be attended to. Another concern is the School has buildings with concrete cancer, so this will need to be addressed. It was suggested more research and a more coordinated approach with RGHS and UNSW may be useful. The involvement of UNSW is unclear at present as SINSW has taken over the discussions with university, although LR and BS have asked to be involved. Given the current media interest in the School, it would be good to maintain momentum with the story. SB offered to draft a template letter to the Minister with suggestions for personalisation (to increase impact and necessitate an individual response) and circulate it to members for comment prior to the September meeting.

Grants

The Community Building Partnership grants open in September. BS has asked LR for a list of priorities, and will also speak to Marjorie O'Neill about what kinds of project would be most likely to succeed. Some of the options to consider include: air-conditioning in the hall; sound-proofing the Music rooms; replacing the floor in the Mini-gym with rubber for increased safety when working with weights; a steam-room fit-out; outdoor furniture behind the Office where the tree was removed; and awning / COLA and seating outside the Canteen; a mural; and an upgrade of the Library including furniture (Mr Sellies has provided costings on some suggestions). It was noted that we can only ask for one item, so we need to decide which benefits the most students and is most likely to successful given the community aspect to the guidelines. It was agreed that extending the covered area outside the Canteen and providing additional seating to best meet these criteria.

The Federal MP for Kingsford Smith, Matt Thistlethwaite, also has grants of up to \$20,000 available for small scale, community-led environment projects that address local environmental priorities. Applications close on 6 September. The School is planning to apply.

11. General Business:

- Motion 1: That Steve Carpenter of the NSW P&C Federation be invited to attend a RBHS P& C ordinary meeting. (LT, NS)
Motion deferred pending further information.

LT reported that she is still waiting to hear back from Steve Carpenter, so the motion was again deferred.

- Mention was made of the Max Potential program for young adults, a coaching initiative designed to develop leadership skills run through City Tattersalls. RBHS had two Year 10 students involved this year. The young adults are assigned a mentor and work for six months on a project. At the recent Showcase event, participants presented very impressive personal expressions of how the program has impacted them to their friends, families and members of the school communities taking part. It was gratifying to see LR and LM in attendance on the night to represent RBHS. Congratulations to those involved.
- In response to a question regarding on staffing appointments, LR provided an update. Due to a slight drop in numbers compared to 2015, the Department has had a non-curriculum Head Teacher position "on review" this year and has decided to abolish the Head Teacher (Well-Being) position. The School has chosen to pay to maintain this position rather than appoint a second teacher, although Leah Pappin, the current incumbent, may be moved to another school by the Department. The Department has appointed a Targeted Graduate, Rachel Carl, in English. She will be starting next week.
- No strong interest was expressed in My Organic School, so this will not be pursued further.

12. Next Ordinary Meeting: Tuesday, 17 September 2019, 7.00pm

13. Meeting closed: 8.50pm

P & C Meeting

Tuesday 20th June, 2019

1. Co-education decision and announcement
2. School Show – Brilliant. Congratulations to all students, staff, parents and extended family and friends. Special ‘thank you’ to Alysia, 29 years as Choreographer/Director.
3. Film By..... One entry for the film festival at The Spot
4. G & T interviews taking place in afternoons
5. Ski excursion. Well attended. Students thoroughly enjoyed themselves
6. School Bus – Will be ordered once DE gives final approval
7. Winter sport finals
8. Summer Sport Trials
9. NAIDOC Week assembly Friday 26th July
10. Deadly Awards. One student and one staff member were awarded Deadly Awards
11. Australian Mathematics Competition
12. August 6 – Years 8, 9 and 10 Parent/Teacher Evening. Very well attended
13. Year 11 speeches and voting for Prefect
14. Year 8 and 10 Subject Selection evening – Wednesday 14th August. Issue in Gymnasium
15. Science Trivia competition
16. STYMIE launch with students and staff. Parent/community launch – possibly before next P & C meeting. TBC
17. Upgrade update. Schools Infrastructure toured RBHS and RGHS on Wednesday 5th June, with Birgit. The details of the upgrade are still very much up in the air.
18. Enhancing primary links – STEM project with Year 4 at Clovelly PS; Electrical circuits with Year 6 at Rainbow Street PS and Year 10 Science.
19. Trivia Night

Excursions:

Since the last meeting:

- June 20th Sydney Symphony excursion

- Rainbow Street – Year 6 Science visits
- Zone Athletics Carnival
- Study Skills – Year 11 and 12
- Music performance evening – Year 11 and 12
- Assessments – especially in Year 11 and 12
- Basketball U/15's knockout
- Rugby League – knockout
- School Show Trivia night

Next P & C Tuesday 17th September.

My apologies, I will be on Long Service Leave next meeting.

Louise McNeil will relieve as Principal

Marie Harris will relieve as Deputy Principal



Treasurer's Monthly Report

Income & Expenditure Statement AUG 2019*

Income

Opening Balance from June 2019		\$28,933.86
P&C Contributions		\$11,460.00
Bookpacks		\$6,630.00
Trivia		\$301.34
	subtotal	\$18,391.34

Less Expenses

Bank Fees	-\$4.92	
P&C Federation Membership	-\$445.00	
P&C Insurance	-\$390.00	
Trivia	-\$1,015.00	
	subtotal	-\$1,854.92

Book Balance **\$45,470.28**

Bank Statement Reconciliation

Balance as per Bank Statement
Unpresented deposits (P&C membership)
Less unpresented cheques/transfers

* Information current as at 18AUG19 for P&C meeting Tuesday 20AUG19