

Homebush Boys High School
P & C Meeting
21st February 2012

Meeting opened: 7.15pm.

Presidents Welcome:

Simon Ford welcomed to the first P & C meeting of 2012 Parents, Mr Jurd, DP's Ms Dwyer and Mr Khurshed, the Year 7 Co-ordinator Ms Fattouh and HT Student Welfare Ms Juska. He handed over to Ms Dwyer and Ms Fattouh who presented the Year 7 information package and a wonderful short film from the boys Year 7 camp to the Coolendel Camp on the Shoalhaven River earlier in the month.

Upon arrival at camp, the 186 boys were split up into 'tribes' and participated in activities such as swimming, archery, canoeing, mountain bike riding, and team building exercising that included riding down a flying fox and stacking milk crates as high as possible and then climbing up them (attached to a safety harness of course). Ms Dwyer said that these activities help to build confidence and most importantly teaches the boys team work and co-operation. Boys bonded and made new friendships and learnt that you can go away without your mobile phones or computers and actually have fun! The theme on camp was titled **NED** - **N**ever give up, **E**ncourage others and **D**o your best. Ms Dwyer and Ms Fattouh said that the boys were a delight to take away and thanked the 11 teachers and 9 Prefects who also participated in the Year 7 adventure.

Ms Dwyer outlined the path the boys will take at HBHS - their transitions through year 7 - 12 and then introduced Ms Juska who discussed student wellbeing which is a way of supporting students through curriculum and engagement. Our Year Advisors and support staff work closely with the boys to create a safe and happy environment. Their aim is to help the boys develop strong personalities and independent thought. To become involved within their community at school and the wider community outside, such as taking part in delivering food through the Meals on Wheel program, supporting the Red Cross donations and school working bees. We have an advisory program called 'Tough Guise' (Born a male - Become a man) that compliments the school philosophy that teaches respect, interaction, resilience, communication, leadership, anti-bullying/ cyber bullying techniques, stress management and physical wellbeing and the boys are taught to take responsibility for their learning and finally, preparation for life beyond school and 'taking my place in the community'.

Simon Ford introduced our new Deputy Principal, Mr Khurshed (who is joining our school since the retirement of our very popular Mr Bill Hilliard). Mr Khurshed said that he was honoured to have been accepted on staff and was very much looking forward to working at Homebush Boys High and can't wait to compete against his old school Epping Boys High in upcoming sport competitions. We warmly welcome Mr Khurshed to the Homebush Boys community.

The annual AGM took place and office bearers elected (please see separate report) then the P & C meeting commenced chaired by the incoming President Simone Burton who thanked the outgoing President Simon Ford and welcomed her new team. Simone's P & C focus for 2012 is to think of ways of encouraging our school staff and ways of being inclusive of new parents within our P & C community.

Attendance: As per record book

Apologies: Maria Ikimis-Healy, Helen Turlikar

Minutes Previous Meeting: Accepted Simon Ford/Seconded Anita Kumar

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Business Arising: Nil

Correspondence In: P & C Journals/ Fundraising fliers

Correspondence Out: Nil

- Principal's Report:**
1. Welcome to Students/Parents and New Staff
 2. Study Skills – Students undergoing structured program at school
 3. HSC 2011 – Excellent achievement record by students
 4. DER Laptop Evening – Year 9 meeting 1st March.
 5. Clean Up Homebush Day 2nd March
 6. Instrument Music Program (IMP) is expanding. Thanks to Ms Tracy Burjan (conductor), Mr Andrew Smith (music teacher).
IMP meeting at school 28th February 5pm.
 7. Uniform – reminder to ALL boys. Please adhere to the regulatory school uniform. No exceptions!
 8. Year 7 camp – Well done everyone.

Treasurer's Report: Current bank balance is \$12,291.25. This does not include the P & C special Contribution donations.

General Business:

The P & C discussed how money raised in 2011 will be distributed from the P & C to the school. At the November 2011 meeting, the P & C voted to help fund the new **Music Program in 2012** and this matter was discussed further. Mr Jurd suggested that a scholarship fund be set up to assist disadvantaged families with either music tuition or buying/hiring musical instruments for their sons. This would promote new talent and allow boys who might otherwise not be able to afford to participate in the band. Fiona Murray moved that \$5000 be allocated to the Music Program. Cheryl Miller seconded this motion. All in favour. This matter will be discussed in depth at the next P & C meeting on 20th March 2012. Mr Jurd will invite Ms Burjan – Musical Director to our next meeting to outline the 2012 musical program direction.

Musical Instrument Donation: Do you have a good second hand instrument that you no longer use? The schools Music department would be delighted in receiving it. Please contact the school office on ph: 9764-3611 and leave your details.

Mr Jurd relayed a recent story where he heard of an ex student who went into cardiac arrest with an undiagnosed heart problem and required resuscitation. HBHS doesn't have an emergency resuscitator and he suggested the purchase of an **Automatic External Dibrillator** (AED) for the school in the event that any boys or teaching staff ever need resuscitation. They're incredibly easy to use – so even untrained individuals can quickly and effectively save lives. Mr Jurd will look at the cost of this machine. Simon Ford moved that the P & C purchase a machine for the school. Cheryl Miller seconded that motion. All in favour. This matter will be finalised at the next P & C meeting.

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Strathfield Citizenship Ceremony: Four ceremonies take place at the Strathfield Town Hall per year and Homebush Boys Prefects/senior SRC assists with food service. HBHS receives a donation from the Strathfield Council for their services. The P & C requires at least 40 families to donate a plate of food or send in a monetary donation to the school office to cater for this event quarterly. We are looking for volunteers this year. Any parents who would like to help out can contact Fiona Murray on her mobile 0413 429 415. The dates for upcoming ceremonies are: Thursday April 12th, Thursday June 7th, Thursday August 30th and Thursday November 8th. Please note that the April ceremony falls inside school holidays so non-perishable food or money can be left at the school office made to the attention of: Citizenship Ceremony.

Review of Constitution of Homebush Boys High School Parents & Citizens Association & School Council. Amendments were made to the documents as follows:

P & C –No: 5. Office Bearers:- Amendment (c) Term of office shall be for 1 year.

School Council –Nominations were taken and moved in favour for membership on the School Council. The following parents will be the representatives: Simon Ford, Kim Houhlias, Catherine Lea and Nicole Zabbal. Two staff members and one non-teaching staff member is to be decided. Mr Jurd moved that both documents be ratified as our new Constitutions. Motion Passed.

Year 7 Parent-Teacher Introduction afternoon will be held on Tuesday 28th February from 4.00pm – 6.30pm followed by a musical presentation by our new school Band. The P & C will host an afternoon tea and sausage sizzle.

Mother's Day stall: Cheryl Miller will run a stall on Monday 7th May and Thursday 10th May at the school. Cheryl put forward a motion that the P & C buy gifts to the value of \$973.50. Motion passed. Cheryl will visit Friday's assembly prior to make an announcement.

Barefoot Bowls at Concord Bowling Club: Cheryl Miller to organise this event in the near future. Last year's get together was a huge success. Possible dates 23rd March or 27th April.

Trivia Night fundraiser: Fiona Murray to organise this event for August 2012. Updates to follow.

P & C Meetings will now start at 7.00pm in the teachers Common Room.
All parents are most welcome.

Meeting Closed: 9.40pm

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 20th March 2012 7.00pm start

Matters for discussion: How can the P & C best support the HBHS Music program