

SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES

Homebush Boys High School

August 6, 2013.

The meeting was called to order by Simon Ford, President of School Council at 6.25 p.m.

Apologies

In attendance

T. Jurd, C.Dwyer, G.Sheath, M.Reardon, S.Ford, S.Burton, N.Zabbal, K.Houhlias, C.Lea, K. Sozen (SRC)

Minutes of previous minutes

Accepted with correction noted:

- Simone Burton's report - *Shade structure as fund-raiser target needs to be ratified at next P&C meeting (p.3) amended to "Specific amount to senior lawn needs to be ratified at next P&C meeting.*

Reports

SRC

- Tim to follow up

Caitlin Dwyer

- Plumbing issues
- PLASST – (Personal Learning and Support Tool) http://www.nswtf.org.au/files/2013_07july_15_plasst_fact_sheet.pdf. is a 3 hour self-paced e-learning tool designed to identify the strengths and educational needs of students with additional learning and support needs. 550 schools including HBHS involved in this trial. All teachers will be trained.

Tim Jurd

- SCOLA – **Senior Covered Outdoor Learning Area** – will also include picnic tables but limited wi-fi coverage.
- Fig tree – mulch removed and replaced with plastic compound to allow water infiltration. Asphalt to be replaced.
- Rooms 17&18 (Gumnut Cottage) - \$10k new furniture.
- Prefect elections – student pictures published with nomination forms.
- Staff review of new (8 to 5 periods) time-table. Senior school impacted mostly - 8 periods for English – 7 for other subjects. No DEAR (**D**rop **E**verything **A**nd **R**ead) on Wednesday to increase periods to 4 on Wednesdays. Increase from 46 to 48 per 2 week cycle.

- “Welfare Muster” – all staff (teaching and non-teaching) have extended recess on Mondays for school communication.
- Thanks to P&C secretary Annette Bremner for nominating Judith Edwards for NEITA Award - we wish her well.
- SRC fundraiser for Jeans for Genes Day successful.
- December 6 - Year 7 orientation day; different to DEC December 4
- NSW Premiers Student Volunteering Awards – William Nguyen and Vidhushan Paheerathan – achieved “Black Opal” award for over 150 hours of volunteering. Vidhushan instrumental at HBHS for development of Breakfast Club and Interact Club. He is an exemplary student.

Greg Sheath

- Thanked Fiona Murray for her input into the new HBHS website.
- Discussed BOYD (**B**ring **Y**our **O**wn **D**evice) policies <http://nswdecbyod.weebly.com/index.html> and presented 3 strategies for computer provision at HBHS given 2013 is the final year of the Digital Education Revolution’s NSW *one to one laptop program*. For HBHS to continue this initiative the cost is too prohibitive - \$100k per year. Options:
 1. Bring only 1 device (all students buy the same)
 2. Bring any device “internet ready”
 3. Bring any device that meets proposed HBHS specifications (eg screen size.)
- 2 biggest issues are equity and security. One strategy mentioned to address equity issues included lending devices from the library. 5 iPads for library are in production.
- Tablets would be preferable with 2015 being the proposed commencement of the devices for Year 9’s at HBHS.

Action: Discussion noted with further information to follow.

Simone Burton – per attachment below

HBHS P&C Report to School Council 6th August 2013.

- P&C 11 June 2013.
- topic talk : “Developments in Technology at HBHS”
- Commitment to senior lawn ratified
- Reimbursement to school for gardening equipment
- Acknowledgement of outstanding students
- P&C 23 July 2013.
- Topic: Learning Support, Ms Edwards.
- Trivia night organization
- AGM date changed to November so that a new committee can be organized for the beginning of the following year
- Communication between parents and school.(Fiona Murray’s website improvements)
- Acknowledged teachers of year 12 giving extra lessons, including holidays

- Next meeting: 20 August.
 - Cheryl and Linda to give feedback on P&C annual conference
 - I would like to have a brainstorming session on communication between school and parents.
 - Dates to remember:
 - Trivia night: 10 Aug
 - Gardening bee: 14 September
- Simone acknowledged Fiona Murray, Wendy Wong-See, Nicole Zabbal, Linda Tarasenko, Cheryl Miller and Catherine Lea for their contributions to HBHS.

General Business

- IFTAR – Catherine Lea and Annette Bremner attended on behalf of the P&C. The “breaking of the fast” was organized and driven by the students. Catherine praised all involved for a memorable event.
- Vidhushan Paheerathan at Youth Leaders Day (CRC Community Relations Commission) - Nicole praised Vidhushan for his wonderful ambassadorship for HBHS.

Action: School Council to write a letter and congratulate Vidhushan Paheerathan.

Meeting closed 7.55 pm.

Minute taker: Kim Houhlias.

Next meeting 12 November 2013 at 6 pm