

Lane Cove Public School School Council Meeting Minutes

24/11/20 – via Zoom

Present: Luke Andrews (School Council President), Myles Davis (P&C President), Terry McKinnon, Catherine Lavery (Secretary), Bec Myers, Sue Sutton, Tony Nolan, Sarah Smyth, Judy Ross. Darshini Heaney (New P&C president)

Apologies: , Sue Procopio

Previous meeting minutes: Approved

1) Principal's Report

Situational Analysis

- Back to normal other than parents accessing school grounds
- New updated guidelines awaited in next week or two
 - ? back to 3pm finish or staggered times
- Will be streaming celebration of learnings, Year 6 dinner etc on web this year.
- Teaching staff did a self assessment on school excellence framework. Areas of focus
 - How we use our data
 - Explicit teaching (making learning intentions clearer)
 - Child centred learning, collaborative learning,
 - Reestablishing the balance between child/teacher
 - A research document within Dept of Ed has been collated in one document and analysed the 8 main areas (high expectations, explicit teaching, collaboration, use of data, giving effective feedback, use of assessment (formative and summative)
 - LCPS identified we need to focus on summative assessment

Tell them from the survey completed by:

- Teachers – main themes: How we use data, technology, consistent use of assessment, setting clear and visible goals
- Students – Open ended Questions asked - How do we know when they are feeling successful (teacher cares about them, receive explicit feedback, set goals and achieve their goals, teacher has high expectations, learning is fun and engaging)

- Parents – Still waiting more about their child's progress on top of the school reports and parent teacher sessions

Classes for next year

- 2021 – lost 35 students since start of 2020 to other suburbs. Mostly COVID related. Logistics could be easier with fewer students.
- 32 classes next year (2 less than this year). Numbers should work.
- 6 kindy classes in 2021 expected.

Staffing updates

- Wendy Murray retiring this year
- Sue Sutton on leave next year
- Chris Scully working part time next year as deputy principal
- Alana Moss – leaving us next year for a permanent position

School Hall

- Draft project update in next few weeks.
- Set person from school infrastructure NSW will be communicating with community
- Any questions to go through that body.
- Hall on the bullring
- Old site for canteen and playground space – preferred option but will be decided up at the infrastructure NSW level.

Positives from 2020

- It has been a challenging but positive year despite the COVID challenges.
- Positives include:
 - Gains in Professional learning (Tech)
 - Highlighted how students learn differently
 - Some students learn better at home
 - School community has really come together after the hall and then COVID

Directions going forward

- Quality teaching rounds – were ready to go start of 2020 but COVID halted that plan. Feedback to continue (relationship with Newcastle uni). Teachers giving explicit feedback to each other.
- Visible learning (John Hattie – guru in Education Research) - setting simple, explicit goals, steps to achieve them, clear feedback on

progression, where to next? Common language across the school will allow for consistency.

- Wellbeing (staff and students)
 - Has been a focus for past 3 years
 - Bullying rates have come down to 4% (perception of students)
 - We want to bring that down further
- Mathematics specialist in Schools Project
 - 6 schools in NSW taking part
 - 2 teachers across a 2 year project (half a week for each teacher) will engage with Melbourne professors. Intense professional learning, work together to improve maths teaching across the staff/school.
 - Commitment from the school to release teaching staff
 - Feedback on this has been very positive
 - Tony will be asking Teachers Guild if any possible grants/stipends to support this initiative

2) P&C Update:

- A challenging year but lots of people worked together.
- Managed to turn a surplus despite no events (jobkeeper helped!)
- Restructured the P&C
 - Part time addition – Santhi King - Finance administrator
 - Convenors roles have since changed
 - Frees up those who want to contribute to the committee without having to take responsibility for HR
- Welcome to DARSHINI! Taking over from Myles as President
- THANK YOU to Myles for 2 years as president!

3) Tell them from the survey – Luke collated info and put together a report

- Strong level of desire from parents to volunteer across a range of areas
- Time pressures and family commitments were a real barrier to people volunteering
- Other barriers: Perceived cliques, conduct of members of P&C, lack of coordination of volunteering opportunities, utilising email/smartphone application
- Recommendations/Solutions: flexibility to offer one off volunteering, easier recruitment, tech access, use of niche skills etc.
- P&C to be approached with this information.
- Council to go back to the school survey participants to let them know the outcomes and plans going forward.
- Thank you to Luke for collating this valuable information.

4) Any Other Business:

- Discipline system – statewide review next year
 - Suspension guidelines etc.
- There will be an opportunity for the school staff to review the policy initially
- Then Terry to bring to School Council for feedback

Actions Items:

- Terry to review how we prepare Year 6 for high school (emulating high school, organisation, accountability etc)
- Luke/Terry to distribute main findings and then add recommendations from the survey into the LOOP to inform community/participants of the survey
- Terry to add End of Term Date to the LOOP as some confusion
- Tony to ask Teachers Guild re; Possible grant to support the Specialist Maths program

Meeting ended at 8.50pm

School ends on the 16th December 2020

Next Meeting: 2021 - TBC

Dinner: Tues 8th December - Lillah