

President: Megan Bennett
Secretary: Cass Duckett
Treasurer: Luke Asher
Vice President: Kris Hill
Vice President: Lisa Lucken

P&C Minutes 3rd August 2022

Meeting Opens: 5.30 pm with Acknowledgement of Country by Megan.

Attendance: Kris Hill, Luke Woodward, Sally Ford, Chris Williams, Belinda Marr, Dimity McKinlay, Sonya Gibbons, Megan Bennett, Lisa Lucken, Heike Gottschlich, Luke Asha, Cass Duckett.

Apologies - Joye Spinks, Philip Courtney (in lieu of Phil's absence, Megan agreed to chair the meeting).

Minutes of last meeting: Motion to accept the minutes by Lisa and seconded by Kris.

The Rivers Secondary College, Principal:

Chris Williams acknowledged the work that the teachers have undertaken to get the demountable school set up in a 15 week timeframe. Luke was noted as having been an excellent leader in representing the kids, the campus and the culture of the school with support from Belinda and Dimity. Chris confirmed that the other campuses will continue to support Richmond River High School and its needs.

Chris confirmed that a new Director of Education has been appointed so it is anticipated that the process for the selection of a new Principal for RRHS will be initiated.

Business arising from minutes of last meeting:

Hemp t-shirts

There are currently white shirts available for purchase. P&C will liaise with Joye to advertise the shirts in the newsletter.

Correspondence:

Cass confirmed that the ACNC (Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission) financial reports for 2019, 2020 and 2021 have been completed and submitted by Kris and Cass.

General Business:

P&C President

The President position has become available following the confirmation, in writing, from Philip Courtney that he will be unable to continue in the role. Megan nominated herself for the position and all members voted in favour. Megan's move to President meant that a Vice President position became available. Lisa nominated herself for the role and all members voted in favour.

Megan suggested that a photo of the new P&C be included in the newsletter along with an invite to families to join. Megan will send the photo to Cass to prepare the invite.

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Sonya

Sonya Gibbons attended her last P&C meeting. Sonya has been a valued member for many years. She expressed concern about the implication of current Covid regulations and further technological developments (face recognition, finger print recognition, digital identities) on the mental health of kids.

P&C

P&C agreed to present a tree to the family of Riley Martin. Lisa will select a tree for Luke to deliver on the P&Cs behalf.

President's report:

Nil this meeting due to the change of President.

Principal's Report:

Open afternoon

Luke expressed the wish to hold an open afternoon to the school community to visit the new site. The front access needs to be completed for this to happen. Many ideas were discussed such as the hospitality students providing refreshments, the music students providing entertainment and parents bringing a share plate.

It is anticipated that the event will take place after week 4, when Covid regulations are due to relax.

Beautification of new site

Many ideas have been put forward. Luke is starting to organise picnic tables for students.

Sally Ford (Head of TAS) discussed her ideas in creating a herb corridor (including edible flowers, berries, mushroom buckets and trellises of passionfruit) to beautify the site and provide produce for her hospitality students. A coffee cart has been donated which can also be put "in situ" and used for student to gain hospitality experience. The Science Department also need specific plants for its work which can be incorporated into the gardens along with bush foods and native foods.

There is a desire to get the Green Team back up and running. The school wants to work with the community to develop the site and transform the site, drawing on the expertise of students, staff and parents.

Megan contacted Lismore City Council to ask if the "parklets" that were used in Lismore before the flood (and are now being stored) could be used by the school.

The possibility of murals was discussed. There may be grants available to assist. Local artists and indigenous artists were suggested. Dimity confirmed that kids artworks are being used for room numbers and direction signage around the site.

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Out of school experiences

The P&C supports students having out of school experiences in Terms 3 and 4. Megan quoted research that concluded that out of school experiences were a big influencer in improving kids performance at school. The school executive discussed pre-Covid excursions and expressed their enthusiasm to re-establish these experiences for kids.

Welfare and Discipline Policy

Luke confirmed that the new policy has been implemented and that all staff have been trained. This will ensure a more consistent approach across the school. Feedback will be sought from students, staff and parents.

School Uniforms

The school has donated uniforms to all students who were flood-affected. With the move to the new site, the implementation of this policy will therefore be more consistent for the remainder of the year,

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The school executive explained that the policies differ slightly between school sites. For example, at Lismore High School, phones are confiscated if seen. At RRHS, phones that are seen, have to be put in a pouch. The phone is confiscated if it is seen a second time. There are unlocking stations at the new site (2 in the office and at the 4 gates). It was noted that one is needed at the University gate.

Old school site

The Agriculture Department has access to the site. New toilets have been installed and the animals are back. Students will be bused over to site for lessons. Sally Ford is in the process of getting her licence to drive the bus. Sally is supporting the school in its participation at the Lismore Show 2022.

The new site

There will be continued work on drainage at the site and then the next phase of installing additional demountables will begin. This will give the school more space for offices and general learning spaces. Teachers are working to get all the resources that they need

Merit Selection Panels

Parent representatives will be needed for the upcoming Merit Selection Panels for Head Teacher (CAPA) and for the ALEC Centre (Aboriginal Learning and Engagement Centre). Megan, Lisa and Luke volunteered to assist. Cass has also completed the training and can assist if required.

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Enrolments

Enrolments are healthy for 2023. It was suggested that the new cohort of Year 7 be invited to the open afternoon. Megan suggested how important it is for future students of the school to get involved in shaping its future at a possible new site. Megan volunteered to write a letter to parents to request feedback and input which can be sent to feeder schools.

Treasurer's Report: Nil report this meeting.

Meeting close: 7.20 pm

Next meeting: Tuesday, Week 3, Term 4 (25th October 2022)