

NBHS P & C Association

4th Meeting - Tuesday 13th May 2008

Meeting commenced : 8:00 pm

Apologies : Pevlin Price and Sandeep Dharni

Special Presentation :

Mrs Joy Straw, the school counselor was unwell and sent her apologies.

Minutes of last Meeting (April 2008)

Passed by Julie Churton and seconded by Judy Day

Business arising from the Minutes : Nil

Principal's Report :

The school development day was held at Hornsby Bowling Club. It focused on strategic planning for the school. Parent participation was invaluable. 12 students from the SRC attended and their contribution was critical. Many concrete ideas were put forward which may be incorporated over the next 2 to 3 years.

The Annual Report will be available in early June. This will include the school plans and targets for 2008 and aligning these with our goals.

4 targets were set :

1. To enhance the quality of teaching & learning programs through
 - the implementation of technology
 - Gifted & Talented education (including review meetings with Head Teachers)
 - Maximise boys' education strategies
2. Further implement technology more effectively with the better use of data projectors & smart whiteboards.
3. Review school programs for student welfare
4. Increase collaboration between school and community.

Another project being initiated is to improve the physical environment of the school. One aspect of this would be to refurbish the school foyer to be more user-friendly. This will however be a long and protracted process because of the costs involved. There is also a need for more covered areas - perhaps the provision of a cover in the rear of the school hall as a flow-out area.

350,000 students in Years 3,5,7 & 9 across Australia will be sitting the NAPLAN exam this week for Numeracy & Literacy.

The Athletics Carnival was held for the second year in Homebush and the Cross Country in Pennant Hills Park. Sean Barnes broke a number of records and the team beat a 40-year school record.

The SMS messaging system is to alert parents to late and absent students on any given day. The newsletter will also be sent to parents via email. The initial set-up costs for these services is \$1,200 with an ongoing monthly cost plus the cost of each message sent. A notice will be placed in the school newsletter to advise parents to update their contact details and email addresses to facilitate the implementation of these new services.

There will also be an automated bell system in 2 weeks.

Air-conditioning in the school library will be replaced by the department at a cost of between \$235,000 to \$255,000. Our school has been short-listed for this project and it is expected to be up and running by the end of the year.

NBHS has also been short-listed for the provision of new boundary fencing which is expected over the next couple of years.

With regard to Year 12 exams, teachers are currently writing reports. There is a change in the way marks are reported ie raw marks will now be shown instead of mean marks. The timetable for the HSC exams has been issued and is available on the website.

Year 7 students are currently doing the study skills workshop. Year 11 students are attending a course on road trauma and driver education. The ANZAC ceremony on the first back from the school holidays was a somber and dignified event. School captains went across the road to the aged home to pay their respects.

Thursday 22nd May has been set for a full day teachers' strike. More information will be provided closer to the date. Also, the merit selection workshop on the 15th of May has been postponed.

NBHS will be used to accommodate pilgrims attending World Youth Day. Modifications will be made to facilitate fire evacuation procedures and upgrades to be aligned with regulations. Hot water showers will also be temporarily installed. Approximately 30,000 and 60,000 pilgrims will be accommodated in NSW government and Catholic schools respectively.

The Year 12 debating team beat Castle Hill High School and remain undefeated after 3 debates. The final debate will be against Carlingford High School. Years 7,9 and 12 defeated Newington. Open Boys soccer/football made it to the final after beating Forest High and are meeting Epping Boys in the finals.

Our school was not part of the first rollout of laptops initiated by the federal government.

President's Report :

The New Constitution which was flagged a couple of meetings ago was proposed by Julie Churton and seconded by Steven McIntyre. All were in favour.

The By-Laws which was mentioned in the newsletter was proposed by Mai Brett and seconded by Noel Christie-David. All were in favour.

An administration fee of \$100 to the Federation of P & C was proposed by Julie Churton and seconded by Judy Day. All were again in favour.

Treasurer's Report :

The P & C has collected \$24,355 in P & C contributions in last month with a total of \$34,015 thus far in 2008. If 90% of families pay the contributions, the P & C can expect another \$40,000. A reminder for school fees will be sent later this week.

The software for the new messaging system software from Full Circle will cost \$1,200 with an ongoing monthly cost of \$20 + 14c for each SMS with an approximate 30 absences a day. This payment was proposed by Noel Christie-David & seconded by Phillip Brophy.

The purchase of a DVD Duplicator for approximately \$900 (excl of GST) was proposed by Judy Day and seconded by Jasmine Madon. This software would facilitate boys having a DVD copy of their camps ie Jenolan for Year 7, Northern Explorer for Year 9 as well as Graduation for Year 12 and the 50th Year celebrations.

Correspondence :

Nil.

50th Anniversary Celebrations Committee Report :

Friday 29th Aug :

Teachers have suggested a day of sporting events for the current students ie. soccer, rugby etc.

Saturday 30th Aug :

A day of formal celebrations - open day, rides, coffee & tea, fireworks, program, gift and DVD, dinner on the grounds with a marquee (approx \$5,600) for 500 - 600 people.

Sunday 31st Aug :

Informal fun day for all - old and current boys. Picnic, international food fair.

Things to consider for the celebrations :

Notice to be placed in the newsletter for any sponsors for the marquee or any other aspect of the 50th celebrations.

Requests for parental involvement.

Invitations to local politicians to be sent out.

School band to be involved.

Website linked to school newsletter regarding the celebrations.

Radio advertisements, teachers' magazines, reunion section of the SMH, reunion programs on the radio/internet, flyers at universities through newsletters, ex-students.

Possible purchasing of wine on consignment as a fundraiser.

Canteen's Report :

Nothing new to report.

Clothing Pool Report :

There is a delay on blazers because of the Beijing Olympics. \$1,500 owed to the P & C by clothing pool - to be paid by internal transfer.

General Business :

The next working bee will be on Sunday 25th May. A reminder is to be placed in the newsletter.

Community Chest was sent to all families at NBHS to be sold in 5 weeks. Unsold tickets to be returned to the Rotary by 20th June. Reminders to be placed in the newsletter. A free Berri juice will be given to any boy who sells all his tickets.

With the Entertainment books, 49 books have been sold amounting to a total profit of \$684 + \$93 in donations.

Any Other Business :

Parents who went to the trip to China with the school band were delighted. Complimented the band teachers Sally Cousins & Margaret Johnson. The boys were very well behaved and it was very well run.

The Andrew Martin seminar is to be held on the 18th of June (Wednesday). This week's newsletter will include information and payment methods. If the numbers are small, it will be open to outside parents.

Meeting closed at 9:30 pm. The next meeting will be on the 10th of June.