

NBHS P & C Association 2008 December General Meeting

Tuesday 16 December 2008

Meeting commenced: 7.45 pm, Chair: Pevlin Price

Attendance: As per sheet

Meeting approved Helene Mountford to be acting secretary.

Apologies: Jeff Bruce (Principal).

Minutes: The minutes of the general meeting of 11 November 2008 were approved.

Matters arising: Rani has organised the gifts for office staff which will be given to John Fielding tonight for distribution. Mr Fielding will also ensure the fruit platter for the staff Christmas lunch is ordered. He thanked the P&C for an appropriate gesture. No one has ordered the magnetic school calendars. The meeting decided they were of value to parents and as they only cost about \$400 last year, we should try to order them. Ganesh will contact Julie about organising printing and try to add a reference to the P&C. Sean Barnes, who was given a \$450 P&C subsidy to compete in the National Athletics competition, came first in two events.

Principal's report: (Mr Fielding)

1. Under the Building Better Schools program, five of our six science labs will be refurbished together with a refurbishment of a prep room. This will include a fume cupboard and chemical storage. Work may commence Term 4 2009 and extend into the vacation so as to minimise disruption.
2. Thank you to Ganesh for representing parents on the school's finance committee convened to allocate 2009 funds. The school will be increasing its expenditure on maintenance and refurbishment to improve its physical appearance.
3. School Certificate results continue to be strong. In English 13 per cent of students were in Band 6 and 82 per cent in Band 5; maths 68 per cent Band 6 and 30 per cent Band 5; science 29 per cent Band 6 and 63 per cent Band 5; history 14 per cent Band 6 and 58 per cent Band 5; geography 14 per cent Band 6 and 51 per cent in Band 5; computing skills 96 per cent Highly Competent.
4. HSC results are due tomorrow and UAls the following day when a BBQ will be held for year 12 students.
5. Years 10 and 12 had very successful formals which were well attended by students and staff. Behaviour was outstanding drawing favourable comment from venue staff.
6. Australian Business Week held in conjunction with HGHS was an outstanding success this year – possibly the best yet. Particular thanks to Ms Black and Mr Spoor for their organisation.
7. Year 10 Community Service Projects also very successful with much positive feedback. Thanks to Mr Bennett and Mrs Packham.
8. A new school website was launched two weeks ago and has been well received. It was designed by two former students and will continue to be developed.
9. A new prefect's initiative to organise a Christmas tree and urge students to donate food for the Exodus Foundation generated a large response.
10. NBHS has had unprecedented success in sport claiming for the first time both the junior (Daniel Yu, golf) and senior (Sean Barnes, athletics) Northern Sydney Champion of the Year awards. Sean also won two bronze medals at the Pacific School Games in long jump and triple jump.

11. Two Year 12 students have work short listed for Art Express. Pujath Vijayaratnam's work was selected for the main exhibition and Kristian Fuhrer was on the short list.
12. Staff changes: NBHS will lose Craig Anderson (HT TAS) and Jim Seabrook (science) at the end of the year. No replacements had yet been made. David Pike (groundsman) and Marilyn Voysey from the SASS staff will also leave.
13. Industrial action is planned at the beginning of the next school year. The Teachers' Federation has called for stoppages on the first two days of school – January 28 and 29. Parents should obtain updates from the news and information will be posted on the school website.
14. Mr Fielding thanked the members of the P&C for their ongoing support both financially and by volunteering in the canteen, clothing pool, working bees and at various functions.

Mr Fielding reported that there was no further information on the NSW Government's plan to charge students for school transportation. He expected the first three weeks grace period at the beginning of Term 1 would still operate.

Committee reports:

Catering has spent the \$200 advanced it on a number of functions including Dr Martin, and the prefects' induction.

Fundraising: Celia Poppa will put a full proposal to the next meeting from Water to Go. She will also obtain information about Rebel Sport school rebates.

Finance committee: Ganesh commented on the fairness and transparency of the finance committee's procedure. He particularly noted that maintenance was under budgeted for a number of years and would be increased in 2009, and that the school will begin allocating annual funds to accumulate for large projects.

P&C calendar/organisers: Helene reported these were distributed last week.

Vice President's Report:

1. Thanks to Tracy Wong who organised and distributed the class lists. Forms will be resent in 2009 to update the lists.
2. Last week Pevlin addressed the SRC and Ms Cooksey on "goal setting", the purpose of the SRC, defining the roles of prefects and the SRC input into issues.
3. Mr Seabrook should be recognised as a pillar of support behind the Duke of Edinburgh Scheme. Mr Steed will take over from him.

Other business:

Ross reported that the school had earned \$300 commission from photographs he had taken of events such as the 50th anniversary, the athletics carnival and the Year 12 graduation. The meeting discussed the need for more publicity for Ross's website and possibly a link from the school website.

Meeting closed:

The meeting closed at 8.20pm.