Meeting: Tuesday 10th March 2015
Meeting Start Time: 7.45 pm
Meeting End Time: 8.50 pm
Location: School Library
Chair: Sade Kalasabail – P&C President, Praveen Aranha - P&C Vice-President
Attendance: 23 as per the sign-in book
Apologies: Lainie Kalnins, Felicity Wong, Mark Anderson

Part 1 Opening Session:

Presentation by Kathy Barbeler, Head Teacher, Science
Stage 4 (Yrs 7,8) and Stage 5 Science (Yrs 9,10) are compulsory; in Stage 6 Year 11 students can choose from Preliminary Biology, Chemistry and Physics. In Year 12 students can choose from HSC Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Senior Science.

The new National curriculum was introduced for Years 7 and 9 in 2014, and for Years 8 and 10 in 2015.

Science for Years 7-10 is not streamed. Year 9 and 10 are "team taught" – i.e. four teachers each specialise in one topic which is taught to each class in turn on a rotation through the year, so each class has a different teacher each term.

All teaching programs are uploaded on Moodle. Textbooks have also been uploaded on Moodle – these are for reference, teaching programs refer to textbooks but do not use them exclusively.

Accelerated Preliminary Chemistry is being introduced for Year 10.

Co-curricula activities include participation in ICAS Science and RACI competitions. Year 7 also enters the RACI Crystallography Competition. Year 10 students enter the Brain Bee Challenge and the Science Interactive Competition. Selected Year 9 and 10 students sit for entry to the Sydney University Gifted Alliance Program each year and successful students participate in workshops in the July school holidays. Selected Year 10 students will do work experience with Dr Danny Wong in environmental chemistry this year. Year 7 will have a reptile incursion this year, Year 8 excursion/incursion are not yet decided but may include an Astrolab experience. Years 9 and 10 will participate in forensic workshops.

We have had considerable success with Titration teams and Olympiads in chemistry, physics and biology.

Assessments throughout the year include Data Processing and Practical Skills in term 1, ICAS and RACI tests in term 2, research projects in term 3 and a formal exam-style test of the year's work in term 4.

Principal’s Report (Asli Harman, deputy principal)
We are still working on the School’s strategic plan for which a community forum was held a couple of weeks ago. We are now concentrating on establishing our milestones.

Our Head Teacher – Maths position has been advertised. We hope to select and appoint for this position for Term 2 commencement.

We will be issuing Year 7 interim reports (a less formal and less detailed report designed to give parents an indication of progress) for the first time this year. These will go out towards the end of the term.

An additional Year 12 parent evening is scheduled for Term 2 for selected parents and students who may need specific guidance.

Thank you to the P&C for assistance with the Years 7 and 12 parent information evenings held this term.
Part 2 Business Session

Minutes of Last Meeting

- **Motion 2015-3A** to accept the minutes of the last meeting.
  Proposed: Henry Liong, Seconded: Sam Tan, Carried

Correspondence

- Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Annual Statement submitted
- Notification of March Grounds Day to P & C Federation sent and covering Certificate of Currency received
- Part-time Canteen Manager position advertised in local press
- DEC semester 1 funding allocation, showing an entitlement of $183K, received
- Cheque book #601-650 received

Business arising from previous minutes and correspondence

- **Motion 2015-3B** to approve funding of the School’s ongoing and special programs - to the value of $32,000.
  Proposed: Praveen Aranha, Seconded: Ross Horsburgh, Carried

REPORTS

- **President’s Report** (Sade Kalasabail)
  Nothing to report

- **Treasurer’s Report** (Helmut Hiebl)
  *Statement for period 1st – 28th February 2015*
  - The trading account began with a balance of approximately $2800 with income of $13K in parent contributions. $15K was transferred to the ING investment account leaving a balance of approximately $400
  - The ING investment account began with a balance of approx. $105K to which a small amount of interest and the $15K transfer from the trading account was added, leaving a balance of just under $120K.
  - Details on the Canteen Account February activities are included in the monthly Treasurer’s printed summary


- **Fund Raising Committee Report** (Sade Kalasabail)
  - Nothing to report

- **Function Committee Report** (Sade Kalasabail)
  - Nothing to report

- **Canteen Report** (Bindi Shah)
  - Advertisements have been run to fill the vacant Canteen Manager role. Interviews will take place this Thursday. We hope to fill the position by next week.

- **Grounds Report**
  - The next Grounds Day will be this Saturday 14th March. There is a lot of mulch to move.
New Business

- Ash Gholkar has been approached by Ms Ramen for P&C funds to support Harmony Day on March 19th. The meeting agreed that the P&C had supported Harmony Day in the past and would be happy to consider a few hundred dollars for 2015, which could be approved retrospectively once the amount was known.
- Ross Horsburgh asked if the School and parents would be interested in hosting a Careers night along the lines of the Hornsby Girls event – where universities set up information booths, and past students and parents who have pursued specific careers give presentations about the day-to-day realities of various occupations. Ross offered to coordinate such an event if there was sufficient interest.
- Julie Crouch asked if there was a plan to refurbish the remaining unrenovated science labs. Asli Harman explained that the cost to refurb labs was very high but that she would raise the issue with Mark Anderson to see if this project had been considered for inclusion on the Priority List.

Next meeting: Tuesday 12th May 2015.