

Blackwattle Bay Parents and Citizens Association

March General Meeting, March 19, 2014

Continues from 2014 AGM

1. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Moved Janine, Accepted.

2. PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Diversity Day

Diversity Day was held today and was attended by Year 10 students from Leichhardt and Balmain.

2014 under way

The school is at capacity with 654 students enrolled. Y11 have settled in well and assessment tasks are starting. A seminar on Surviving The HSC was presented to parents and students of Y12 and had good feedback.

The school has started a program of promoting its co-educational record. The school currently has more boys than girls so working to promote the positive outcomes for girls at the school.

The school is also organising tours for Year 7 parents. There is now demand to see the senior campus as well as the junior campuses for parents considering the Sydney Secondary College.

Foreshore development

Completion expected by the end of June but could be August, It has been quieter than expected.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL

The EDiary has been launched, look out for the character "Daisy" who is used as the mascot. Students and teachers adopting the diary, parents should have access later in the year. Likely to take a year to transition to this format fully.

A small group of students will be visiting East Timor in July as part of the school's long running project with a school there.

COLLEGE PRINCIPAL

There has been a positive start to the year at all campuses. A college council meeting was held last week. The Director outline the inner city working group reviewing the changing need for education facilities in the Sydney city area (not the CBD, not the local government area - a DET region). An additional primary school at Ultimo is to be built, use of high schools under review.

3. SECRETARY'S REPORT

Minutes of November meeting accepted. Moved Michael, seconded Tracey.

Light rail

Multiple e-mails around extending school travel to Light Rail. Local Member Jamie Parker has a petition organised and is requesting signatures. Leichhardt P&C President Nick Potter is approaching primary and private school to seek more support for all schools in the Light Rail service area. P&C will circulate the petition address.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

School laptops

College Principal's update: Leichhardt and Balmain are running BYO programs but they are different. Leichhardt allows all devices, Balmain does not allow phones to connect to the school network. Blackwattle will do BYO, currently assessing and will report back through the year. Departing Y12 are often leaving their laptops so there are spares at Blackwattle. Blackwattle will continue to fund tech support when the program ends in July.

Toilet upgrade

The department has agreed that the toilets need urgent attention. Wait on results for further action. Two hand driers approved last year will be fitted soon, review outcome.

School Jerseys

P&C offer to fund Y12 jerseys was not required.

5. NEW BUSINESS

Y12 formal

The P&C acts as the official client for the company providing the formal. President signed paperwork so booking can proceed. Formal is scheduled for November 17 at Doltone House at Jones Bay Wharf.

Pedestrian crossing in Taylor Street near Quarry Street stairs

Robyn advises the options that have been offered by the department. Requirements for the crossing indicate that it cannot be placed where students cross the road. Agreed that students will continue to cross directly from Quarry Street, Robyn to query traffic calming or crossing refuge.

Funding requests

- School representative sport uniforms. Purchase approved, quote is \$1693. Moved Tracey, seconded Lynn.
- Air conditioning for The Edge Y12 study space. Purchase pre-approved to the value of \$6000 to allow quick progress (next meeting not until May). Moved Lynne, seconded Tracey.
- Reading program iPads. Purchase of three iPads approved to a maximum of \$2400. Moved Michael, seconded Robyn.
- Baby grand piano for HSC exams and performances. Cost estimated at \$18,000. Planned to be a multi-year fund raiser. P&C to consider some funding allocation at future meetings.
- Duke of Edinburgh program extension to senior campus. P&C willing to offer seed money to start the program so that there is a continuity from the junior campuses. Principal to confirm whether a staff member is able to support the program. Update at a future meeting.

Next meeting May 21