



# St Mary Star of the Sea College P&F Meeting

**8 November 2017 (7.00pm) – Polding Learning Centre**

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**Attendance:** *Frank Pitt (late), Scott Sutton, Jennifer Bean, Belinda Cutter, Zoran Jovanoski, Karin Sylvester, Elizabeth Cavdarovski, Anna Tomasiello, Angela Hunter, Mary Hawkins*

**Apologies:** Frank Pitt, Rob Anderson

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**Welcome & opening prayer**      **Emma Magill**

## **1. Minutes of previous meeting (8 August 2016)**

Thanks to Belinda Cutter for recording the previous minutes.  
Minutes accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting:

Accepted:      Scott Sutton  
Seconded:      Anna Tomasiello

## **2. Correspondence**

Nil correspondence

## **3. Treasurer's Report**

Balance is \$192,562.79.  
Cheques to be cleared total \$4070  
Term Deposit \$200,123  
Polding Place landscaping ~ \$70,000 + Term 2 teacher list ~\$81,000 outstanding.

## **4. Pastoral Care Report**

Sister Rita continues her important work supporting the community. Term 4 will be busy – she will visit the HSC students during this time.  
Sister Rita requests more meals for pastoral care.  
She has just spent the last Woolworths gift card (October 2017) and requests 10 x \$100 gift cards. The last time the P&F provided the gift cards was August 2016.

Motion:            That the P&F fund the purchase of 10 x \$100 gift cards for Sister Rita's use for pastoral care.  
Accepted:        Elizabeth Cavdarovski  
Seconded:        Anna Tomasiello



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### 5. President's Report

Nil to report.

### 6. Principal's Report

See attached report.

### 7. P&F Events Update

Mary Hawkins debriefed the experiences coordinating the Year 12 lunch:

- There were some disgruntled parents that expressed their frustration to Mary about the restriction on participants (ie each girl plus two). The original intent was the parents and daughter (ie two adults plus one child). This doesn't take into account different family configurations eg if there are two sets of parents.
- This raises the issue of how to manage the numbers? There is a fine line between maintaining the quality of the event vs the quantity of participants.
- Need a rule and communicate it early and clearly to parents and students. Recommend putting an explanation onto SEQTA to raise awareness. Perhaps change the terminology to 'significant people who have taken you through the education process'

**ACTION:** further discussion on numbers per student at this event is required so that early communication can occur for the 2018 cohort.

Mary Hawkins outlined some ideas for improvement on the organization of the year 7 bbq:

- This event provides an opportunity for parents and students to meet others – adding structure to the event this may facilitate this socialization.
- Use this event as an opportunity to recruit the girls into clubs.
- Hold on a Friday afternoon to get teacher and older girls involvement
- Organise house events such as house war cries!
- Facilitate parental connections by dividing them into house groups where they can meet other parents.
- Event is usually held after camp, so aim to hold this year's BBQ 2 March 2018.

**ACTION:** Scott Sutton to provide a list to Mary of the logistics required for the BBQ.



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**ACTION:** Mary Hawkins to coordinate the Year 7 BBQ. Elizabeth, Anna, Angela, Belinda, Scott, Jennifer and Zoran all expressed their willingness to assist on the day.

## **8. General Business**

### **1. Mildred Sin and Emma McFadden**

Mildred Sin and Emma McFadden applied for P&F financial support - they are representing the College at the National Youth Science Forum in January 2018. The total cost each is \$3097 however the Rotary Club has subsidized this by contributing \$1500 to each student.

**Motion:** That the P&F subsidise the two girls to the amount of the P&F formula (estimated to be \$490 each).

**Accepted:** Elizabeth Cadarovski

**Seconded:** Angela Hunter

### **2. Hannah Preeo**

Hannah Preeo represented the school at the NSW All Schools in Cross Country in Tasmania in August 2017. She is seeking financial assistance to cover airfares (\$490) and accommodation (\$250).

**Motion:** That the P&F subsidise Hannah to the amount of the P&F formula .

**Accepted:** Elizabeth Cadarovski

**Seconded:** Angela Hunter

**ACTION:** Belinda Cutter to research the P&F formula/policy on subsidizing student activities.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday 6 March 2018



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## Principal's Report to P&F November 2017

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### HSC

The HSC finished yesterday, Tuesday 7 November, and we have some very excited Year 12 girls returning to the college to hand in text books and to thank teachers for their work throughout the HSC. From my perspective this has been a successful HSC year, with girls generally remaining calm and approaching their exams in a mature and prepared manner. While the girls didn't find every exam to their liking, they felt that papers were fair and that they had studied the areas that were examined. Teachers have been pleased with the way the girls approached the exams and we are anticipating good results again this year.

### HSC Requirements and NAPLAN

As I have discussed throughout the year, the NSW Government has introduced the requirement that all students wishing to gain their HSC must achieve a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy in their NAPLAN tests. This means that students in NSW must meet minimum standards in these areas to attain a Higher School Certificate from 2020. The State government announced that students would be required to achieve a band eight standard in the Year 9 NAPLAN Reading, Writing and Maths tests to guarantee eligibility for the HSC. An analysis of our 2017 results shows that our Year 9 NAPLAN results were above both State and independent school results which give us confidence in our current programs and identifies areas where further work is required.

### Try Year 7 For a Day

This coming Thursday and Friday, 9 and 10 November, we will hold two opportunities for students from local primary schools to visit the college to experience college life. The Try Year 7 for a Day sessions provides the opportunity for Year 5 students to visit the college to spend the day as St Mary's girls. They will visit classes and take part in lessons, tour the college and be looked after by our older students. We have around 350 girls booked in, however, we could end up with 400 girls visiting the college over the two days.

### Year 7 Orientation – Wednesday 15 November

The college is preparing to welcome the Year 7 cohort for 2018 into the college for their Orientation Program. The girls will attend school for the day and join our community for an Assembly. I would imagine that the girls will be both nervous and excited as this day approaches and parents are already organising school backpacks and summer uniforms to start the 2018 school year. This is a very exciting time for the girls and one which they enjoy immensely. The new girls also cause great excitement among our current students as they welcome the "little girls" into the college.

### Mary Poppins - 24 - 26 of November

Preparations for the college production of Mary Poppins are at a very busy stage, with students and staff holding rehearsals before and after school, at lunch times and on weekends. There is a sense of excitement in the college as stage props magically appear, girls are humming or singing numbers from the production and the publicity in the college is



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beginning to ramp up. The Creative Arts faculty is working very hard at this stage of the production and their organisational, musical and production skills are on display. I commend this show to you as I believe it really does give an insight into the vast range of opportunities that are available to all students in the college.

## **MYP 2018**

The teaching staff are currently involved in planning and PD for the introduction of the MYP into Year 9 in 2018. With the introduction of the Year 9 program comes the planning of the major project that will be introduced and commenced by students in semester 2 of 2018. This project will involve planning, independent study and organisation as students research an area of interest and present a finished product or project in Year 10 at a celebration gathering. Staff will be undertaking training on how to guide and mentor students as they begin their projects.

## **Master Planning**

The Master planning process is well underway, with the architects meeting with student groups, staff and the PCG. While the consultation process has been interesting and, I am sure, will provide great ideas, I am looking forward to hearing the planners' thoughts on what possibilities the site holds for us, particularly with regard to the use of learning spaces, new opportunities for internal renovation and what facilities are required into the future. I believe this will be a worthwhile process and one that will provide our community and the College Board with much food for thought.

## **Twilight Concert and Parent Social**

The annual Twilight Concert and Parent Social will be held on Thursday, 30 November in the College grounds, commencing at 5.00pm. This is always a beautiful evening as our very talented performers provide the entertainment and our hospitality girls assist with providing a delicious array of savoury and sweet treats. It is our opportunity to thank you for your wonderful support and cooperation throughout the school year. I would ask that you put this date in your diary and allow us to spoil you a little as a way of showing our appreciation.

As we approach the end of another school year, I thank our P&F executive and our regular members, for their help and support throughout 2017. We have had a positive and productive year with a new executive and new members attending meetings, some wonderful initiatives and really interesting discussions taking place. Please know that your efforts are greatly valued and deeply appreciated.

Dr Frank Pitt  
Principal