



St Mary Star of the Sea College P&F Meeting

30 August 2016 (7.00pm) – Polding Learning Centre

Attendance: *Frank Pitt, Susan Adams, Scott Sutton, Catherine Sutton, Jennifer Bean, Rob Anderson, Catherine Ryan, Catherine Martin*

Apologies: nil

Welcome & opening prayer **Dr Pitt**

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Accepted: Rob Anderson

Seconded: Scott Sutton.

2. Correspondence

Letter from Holly Robson thanking the P&F for their support in her endeavor's at Las Vegas for the Hip Hop World Championships.

3. Treasurer's Report

Report attached.

Accepted: Catherine Sutton

Seconded: Cathy Martin

4. Pastoral Care Report

See attached report.

More meals are now required as the stocks have diminished.

Sister Rita also requires another 10 of the \$100 gift vouchers.

Recommendation that the Year 7 acceptance pack should also include information on the frozen meal initiative.

5. President's Report

Report attached.

Accepted: Frank Pitt

Seconded: Jennifer Bean

6. Principal's Report



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Report attached.

Accepted: Scott Sutton

Seconded: Rob Anderson

7. General Business.

(1) Woolworths vouchers

Motion: that the P&F Committee approves the allocation of another \$1000 for Woolworths vouchers towards Sister Rita supporting families in need.

Motioned: Rob Anderson

Seconded: Scott Sutton

(2) Year 7 BBQ

Discussion occurred about including the Year 7 BBQ date in the 2017 diaries (generally it is the first weekend in March). Scott Sutton to confirm date.

(3) Term 4 P&F Meeting

Will be scheduled for Thursday 27 October. As it is the last meeting for the year, drinks and nibbles will be available. The format of the meeting was discussed with agreement that a tour of the new installations would be good (starting at the Good Samaritan installation near the chapel).

Next meeting: Thursday 27 October 2016



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Treasurer's Report: Calendar 2016 to 26th August

1. Cheque Account (in Dollars)

OPENING BALANCE:			138,931.16
RECEIPTS:	31/3	Interest	58.87
	30/6	Interest	25.26
	13/5	P&F Levy #1	47,162.00
	5/8	P&F Levy #2	46,621.00
TOTAL INCOME:			93,867.13

EXPENSES:

Cheque No.	Date	Description	Amount
751938	2/3	Yr12 Grad Lunch - Lagoon Deposit	1,000.00
751939	23/2	St Marys College: College Cross, Gym equipment, others	107,216.35
751940	18/3	Yr7 BBQ - Chicko's Chickens	363.80
751941	15/3	Yr7 BBQ - Packaging Direct	112.29
751942	16/3	Yr7 BBQ - Coniston Bakery	243.00
751943	5/4	Yr7 BBQ - Kieraville Butchery	340.00
751944	14/3	Yr7 BBQ - Scott Sutton - reimburse drinks, other costs	84.50
751945	18/3	Yr7 BBQ - Hasties Meats	145.00
751946	17/3	Student Grant - E.F. - Air Cheerleading in Hawaii	240.00
751947	15/3	Student Grant - O.M. - Air Cheerleading in Hawaii	240.00
751948	23/3	Student Grant - X.P. - Air Cheerleading in Hawaii	240.00
751949	21/3	Student Grant - G.B. - Air Cheerleading in Hawaii	240.00
751950	18/3	Student Grant - K.D. - Air Cheerleading in Hawaii	240.00
751951	7/6	St Mary College - Reimbursement of 2015 purchases	46,187.40
759152	20/6	Student Grant - H.R. - Dance Troupe to World C'ships Las Vegas	800.00
759153	22/6	St Mary College - Outdoor Ed Program: Camping Equipment	8,939.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:			166,631.34
BALANCE:			+66,166.95



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2. Term Deposit Account (in Dollars)

OPENING BALANCE			191,749.69
RECEIPTS:	24/3	Interest	1,290.76
	24/6	Interest	1,313.73
TOTAL INCOME:			+2,604.49
WITHDRAWALS:			
Cheque No.	Date	Description	Amount
		Nil	0.00
TOTAL EXPENSES:			0.00
BALANCE:			+194,354.18

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE:	+260,521.13
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Pastoral Care report
30/08/2016

The Family Care Project is an initiative of the St Mary's P&F. It was established in 2008

St Mary's P&F Family Care Project is a group of parents and friends who can provide practical help and support to families in need in the College community. There may be a sudden illness, an accident or crisis that impacts on the family and places them under stress. Not all families have extended family or neighbourhood networks to call on. By being able to provide families with a meal or two in times of stress can be a great blessing.

The P&F set up a roster of those who can help. We now have within the College community a way of providing practical, confidential support in such situations. It is great to have a team of committed volunteers available when needed to cook meals and deliver them to the College to be stored frozen until required.

We work with Sister Rita who is our contact with the College and families. Sister Rita has a freezer and can store about a dozen meals. She says that it is a great help having this practical support in place for when it is needed.

Sr Rite called for frozen meals at the beginning of Term 3. The meals provided by the P & F family care meals from term 2 had been gratefully used by Sr Rite during her visits to those in the St Mary's Community in need of help and support.

The P & F also donated 10 \$100 gift vouchers from Woolworths for Sr Rita to hand out to family she felt would benefit from the boost to their financial situation. Sr Rita has asked for another 10 vouchers, which we have previously authorized. I will purchase the next 10 and deliver them to the school.

I would also like to get an email or some form of communication into the college asking for new volunteers for the care meal programme. What would be the best way of doing this.

Thanks
Catherine



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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

WELCOME PARENTS AND STAFF

Firstly I'd like to thank the committee for standing again and to Jennifer Bean who has agreed to take on the role of Secretary. I fully understand the extra effort required to fulfil the roles on the committee.

Year 12 half yearly reports have been distributed and parent teachers interviews held. It was great to receive these reports electronically via SEQTA. Thank you to the Year 12 teachers for the great level of feedback provided. I have found SEQTA a really easy way of keeping up to date with my daughter's workload and progress and encourage you to jump on line and have a look at it. We wish our HSC students well over the next 15 weeks as they prepare for the HSC.

Our next event will be the Grad Lunch on 20 September at the Lagoon, and Cathie Martin will kindly take on the organisation of this event again this year. The lunch will be held following the Graduation Mass. Invitations will go out early Term 3 and as was the case last year students will be organising their own tables.

Thank you for attending, and please don't hesitate to contact me directly should you like to discuss anything concerning the P&F.

Susan Adams



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Principal's Report to St Mary's P&F August 2016

The Year 12 girls have completed the Trial HSC exams and they are beginning to contemplate the various celebrations that they will play a central role in over the next six weeks. They have already taken starring roles in the HSC Showcase on 22 August and organised and participated in a very successful Good Sam's Day on 26 August. We are in the middle of planning the many graduation celebrations that will be held as they complete their school education in mid-September. The girls have coped well with the trial exams, with stress levels well controlled and most girls remaining motivated throughout the exam period. The difficulty for Year 12 students is re-engaging with the books after the exams are over. We now move into Preliminary Exams with the Year 11 girls commencing on Friday.

Our teaching staff were involved in two excellent professional development days, providing them time to engage in a number of nominated projects, focusing on various aspects of contemporary education. Working in faculty groups, staff had the opportunity to plan, develop and map implementation plans for various initiatives. We also had the opportunity to work with Mark McCrindle, an award winning social researcher, influential thought leader and a best-selling author, who works with boards and executive committees of some of Australia's leading organisations. He is also an excellent speaker who provided all staff with a view of the future in terms of lifestyle, education and social trends.

We also recently hosted four inspectors from the Board of Studies Teaching and Educational Standards (BOSTES) for a successful 5 yearly Registration and Accreditation inspection. While the visit did cause us to be just a little stressed, the inspectors were pleased with the programs offered and the quality of teaching and learning taking place at St Mary's College. The registration and accreditation process is a wonderful exercise for the college community as it makes us reflect on our policies and practices and it provides opportunities for us to ask important questions about the education we offer and our effectiveness as educators.

Our newly elected student leaders gathered for a weekend at Gerringong a few weeks ago to begin to focus on their roles and to think about what they hoped to achieve in the coming twelve months. The girls came up with some excellent initiatives and were very positive about the ways that they will contribute to college life as leaders. They are a bright and enthusiastic group of girls who will continue our fine tradition of student leadership into the future.



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We have had a number of subject selection evenings over recent weeks as the Year 10 girls think about their subjects for senior secondary school and the Year 8 girls choose elective subjects to commence at the beginning of Year 9. This is an interesting time as the older girls begin to contemplate what they may like to study or train in after the completion of school and our younger students have the opportunity to choose subjects that really excite them and allow them to pursue particular interests. Many girls were overwhelmed by the choices available and some are still trying to decide from a number of subjects. The Year 8 students feel very grown up as they select their subjects for Stage 5 while the Year 10 girls are able to determine their pattern of study for the remaining two years of school education, a task that many of them find both liberating and terrifying.

We are continuing to see our Year 7 students grow in confidence as they enjoy the opportunities that the MYP is providing in both the quality of teaching and the learning experiences that are being offered. The girls are now using the language of the MYP quite freely, as they discuss the various ATL's (Approaches to Learning), identify opportunities to make global connections and they take control of their learning in a variety of different ways. We are pleased with the progress the girls are making in this new program and we are very happy with their levels of engagement. We will continue to seek feedback from the girls through focus groups and surveys as the year progresses.

I have been working extensively with focus groups in Years 11 and 12 to gain insights into how they experience relationships in the college and the ways that we as a community can support all girls in feeling both safe and supported. The feedback from the girls has been excellent as they have highlighted both the positive aspects of college life and also some of the challenges. Some of the positive aspects identified include the support that they receive from both their Tutor Group teachers and the ways in which girls support each other and the positive learning environments that exist in most areas.

The challenges identified included how to motivate some girls to be more involved in the community, both in participating in college activities and being more engaged in classes and how to work with teachers who may have set ideas on how girls should participate and contribute both in class and out of class activities. I must say that I find these opportunities both exciting and a little terrifying at times as you never quite know what is going to be raised. However, in every instance the meetings have been positive and the outcomes have been generally satisfactory to all parties.

The first stage of the Good Samaritan Installation has been completed and installed, with the sandstone blocks and the bronze etchings mounted in time for Good Samaritan Day. The installation will be completed over the summer holiday



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break when we continue with the second stage which will involve landscaping the site and putting in seating and stone blocks for students to work in or just relax. The staff are very pleased with the progress to date and we are very grateful to the P&F for your very generous contribution to this structure.