

Excelsior P & C Meeting

460th General Meeting

Tuesday 28th October 2021, Meeting opened at 7.15pm via Zoom

Chair- Shannyn Geeve (SG), Minutes taken by Sarah Quinn (SQ)

Attendees- Sandra McKay (SM), Georgia Courque (GC), Shannyn Geeve (SG), Sarah Quinn (SQ), Krystal Lees (KL), Nikki Sandercoe (NS), Emma Escott (EE), Sona Swindley (SS), Lydia, Elena Chovancak (EC), Steph Whittington (SW), Andrew Tan, Manhesh Thapa, Lalana, Daniel X, Jeetendra S

Apologies- Brett Mc Murtrie, Nidhi Kaushik (NK)

Minutes from last minute- No minutes taken due to no formal meeting/ informal due to not having a quorum.

Principal's report

SM gave an update on the children's garden project. Lovely garden area's being enjoyed by the students including shaded areas, fairy gardens etc.

Numbers for 2022 stand at 611.

Hoping as COVID 19 restrictions ease – possible Kindergarten orientation onsite in Term 4.

Students have settled nicely back into school in Term 4.

School governed by department of education which is conservative. School Ventilation audit was carried out prior to students returning onsite. Fresh air is decided better over machinery air quality control for now. There will be a quote to provide the next phase in the development of this garden.

Question for the P&C asked by SM was does the P&C need to engage a professional external body to check the CO2 levels and possibly buy machinery to ventilate classrooms? When discussed with the P & C it was deemed not necessary at this stage as school governed by Best practice guidelines.

End of Year/ Year 6 graduation will be going ahead and will be in December at the Castle Hill RSL. Due to COVID restrictions this year, year 6 has been unable to fundraise done previously in years gone by. Previously the P&C donated \$3,000 in 2020 towards this event. Would the P & C agree to this year donating more?

School offered Gingerbread House fundraiser which sold roughly 35 houses.

P & C voted and agreed on donation towards this year's event be \$5,000, approved by KL, SW, EE.

Teachers awaiting restrictions to ease before planning fun events/ fundraising for end of year.

The YMCA has extended their commitment to the school offering to be involved with events for the school and possibly send someone to attend the P&C meetings on their behalf. This was approved by committee.

School prayer- wait to discuss next face to face meeting- on hold

School Banking Scheme- Comm Bank closed this scheme/ receiving some bad press of late. P & C agreed to leave this banking scheme closed for now due to lack of interest/ volunteer to run this program.

School reports- the commonwealth sets the mandate reporting for all children within Australia. This semester they have allowed for an amended version of school reporting due to COVID with no scale ranking. Teachers will provide a report on how well the student's studies from home and what they have seen with them returning to school. These reports should be finished and sent home around Week 6.

GC let the committee know there was a new school councillor for the school, her name is Ali Robinson and she will work Mondays and Tuesdays weekly at the school. She has a lot of experience in both psychology and school counselling.

GC during the holidays the recent Naplan results came home. State schools were offering Years 3- 6 a mini Naplan this will be occurring in Term 4.

CG Tell them from me surveys will be coming out soon to assist the school with planning. All feedback is valued as this assists the school with future planning and development.

Staff changes- Mrs Rhodes is currently on mat leave and not planned to return at this stage. Meagan T will be on her class.

Mrs Hinding who was working as a RFS teacher has taken leave end of Term 3- currently have 3 casuals in role Mrs Horgan, Mrs Carton and Sarah Descent. Awaiting feedback on library restrictions easing.

President's report

Kindergarten orientation booklets were approved and prepared again this year through P & C.

Uniform shop co-ordinator – SG has a job brief which she has given to Nicki to then place an ad through Seek to advertise for this paid role. SW volunteered to be on the selection panel for interviews with Nicki for this role.

EREA update-

Band kept operational during lockdown via Zoom and Mrs Cherlin was amazing in keeping the students engaged through this process.

A special thank you to Krystal Less for her exceptional work during lockdown with payment to tutors and her work on P & C insurances which was a lot of work. Thank you Krystal for all of your hard work.

Executive Committee leaving end of year- come November the committee will lose 3 Executive members due to leaving the school and work commitments. Brett Mc Murtrie- Treasurer, Shannyn Geeve- President and Sarah Quinn- Vice President will all be standing down from their roles. Members are currently approaching people for these roles, but it would be good to hand over.

Without these roles the committee will fold after 3months leaving no more EREA, no more Band, no more school events, no more discos, and no more fundraising for the school for much needed resources.

SW asked the question- "what does the P & C mean for the school?"

SM replied "To gauge what parents feel/ think. Bigger picture though Excelsior is a community school and the P & C is core of that community. It would be sad for the school to lose this support"

EREA Yoga class option for school.

Krystal introduced Elena who would tutor the students in Yoga, possibly before school in the hall Thursday or Friday. Afternoons limited due to Hall availability. \$12 per child similar price to existing EREA classes.

No objections by committee for Yoga to be offered at school starting late Dec/ possibly next year 2022 through EREA.

Tutors Agreement rollout no First Aid for all tutors. Our agreement states First Aid kits provided. First Aid kits cost \$65 per kit, First Aid training per tutor will be \$245, and Anaphylaxis training additional \$120 per person.

KL- proposed approval for tutors to receive this training and First Aids kits. Approved through committee EE and SQ.

All EREA activities on hold for Term 4 due to COVID.

KL and Brett working through refunds for Term 3 EREA activities of those who paid.

Uniform Shop

Uniform shop role needed. Convener role needed. Volunteers needed to assist uniform shop. Currently only 1 volunteer Lydia has been allowed onsite to fill uniforms and this has caused a back log of orders.

Uniform Shop Coordinator role will be 10 hours per week paid role. Possible align with convener role which takes care of the ordering of uniforms. P & C agreed this should be included in the role.

Band

No one there for band for update

Events

All events postponed until 2022 due to COVID, including the 50th Anniversary for the school. EE asked about a possible cake stall/ BBQ event for election in December 2021- all agreed not enough time due to COVID to arrange and source volunteers.

Actions

SG and SM will also advertise the EXEC P & C roles through the school newsletter, through notes home to parents and through the kindergarten orientation packs.

NS to Advertise Uniform Shop Coordinator role in Newsletter and Seek

Brett needs to do the TAX

Brett needs to pay for Payroller subscription

Sub Committee members need to come back to SG with role / job process for succession planning

KL to start the set up process for EREA Yoga for 2022.

Canteen to continue using wristbands/ android phones- needing follow up

Next meeting and AGM will be 23rd November 2022, 7.15pm

Meeting finished at 8.55pm