Newtown High School of the Performing Arts P&C Association

Minutes NHSPA P&C Meeting
6pm Tuesday 9th November 2010
School Common Room

Chair: Darren Mitchell - President

Welcome & Introductions: Darren introduced the Proceedings and welcomed everyone.

Attendance: The meeting was attended by 12 parents, Stephen Gray Principal, Peter Shields and Betty Romeo Deputy Principals and Ula George Visual Arts Faculty.

Apologies: Jenny Shay, Lisa McManus, Callum Gibson, Cat Kutay, Rachael Vallentine, Lyn Wise, Katerina Thurlow, Edi Condack.

Minutes of September Meeting: Read and accepted (moved by Jacquie Fine and seconded by Yolanda Schmiga).

President's Report: Darren Mitchell

- P&C News- Showcase front of house still has some gaps in the roster Bettina is coordinating the roster, please contact her if you able to help.
- Google Groups- The P&C executive, after recent discriminatory comments on the postings, has decided to introduce a moderator to be activated by the end of the year. If you have concerns about this please contact Darren Mitchell, Donna Huggart or Edi Condack. This is a regrettable outcome however one that the executive believes necessary if Googlegroups is to continue..
- P&C Renewal- some members of the P&C executive will be moving on in the next two years, as their children leave the school. This would be an ideal time for new members to come on board, while the current executive is available for a considered hand over.
- Voluntary Fundraising Contribution- how is it used. This year the funds financed MASTER CLASSES and a SOUND DESK in the Studio Theatre. It is proposed that the funds raised in 2011 go towards an upgrade of the studio Foyer and continue to support Master Class initiatives. The contribution information letter will go out at the start of the year.
- Volunteers Grant: purchased a BBQ, Trestle tables, Shade Cloth, a Ladder, Wheel barrow, Chairs. The P&C is organising additional shed space for the school to store this new equipment. Thank you Julie Moffat for all the work you did to organise this. The P&C would like to acknowledge Jo Azzopardi’s assistance.
Report from Mary Mooney on National Arts Curriculum:
The draft National Arts curriculum was discussed. The draft curriculum includes K-Yr8 and the elective Yrs 9-10 and 11-12. The consultation process ends mid December 2010.
The draft looks at 5 art forms: Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts, and Media Arts. Discussion focused on how this related to Newtown HS. Mary’s report to the meeting aimed to outline areas for consideration as well as encourage input from the school community. Ula George from the Visual Arts faculty also encouraged P&C involvement in the consultation.
Comments included:
> Newtown offers curriculum in all 5 areas and would like, as a minimum, to maintain the status quo.
> Media Arts- currently offered as Film Making. The faculty would like to keep film making and not have it watered down to be arts analysis alone.
> Similarly, performance remains essential to arts learning.
> Newtown is ahead of the game in years 7&8 and would like the electives in 9& 10, 11& 12 to also stay as strong as they are.
> Audition entry is a key issue for NHSPA’s maintenance of standards.
> The intent to embed the arts in the curriculum and ensure all K-10 students are involved in arts learning is welcome.

> The best response - The P&C Executive will seek to make a submission to the ACARA consultation process, which will be informed by faculty heads, and the school executive through Stephen Gray.
Discussion on Google group for about a week to help inform the response.?

Principal’s Report Stephen Gray:

> Thank you to P&C for contribution to Yr 12 farewell - the cake.
> The China Tour has been reported on in the newsletter. It was a wonderful experience for everyone who was there. An exhausting but wonderful experience in culture and performance. May happen again in two years as the students from China are visiting again next year. A stunning success.
> Showcase concludes with the 20th Anniversary concert at the Seymour Centre. Tickets on sale at the Seymour centre Box Office.
> Presentation Day- will be available to the school community as a whole of school event. The venue has capacity for 788 people as large as any school's venue for such an event.
> New school captains elected this week are Max Tiles and Sophie Stratton.
> Yr 9 peer support training camp: 60 students attended and 40 were selected.
> Yr 10 sat their School certificate this week. Letters will be sent home to let parents know what happens next.

Treasurer’s Report Jeremy Challen:
> Report tabled and Jeremy spoke to it.
> We have $35,000 left after expenses.

2
> there was an error in calculation by the school, where the money for the China trip was mistakenly reported as voluntary fundraising- that error has been corrected.

**P&C Sub-Committees:**
- Environment Sub-Committee - no report
- PVASC - Michael manuell:
  Report back on master class program tabled.

**Correspondence:**

Secretary forwarded bills to the treasurer for payment and junk mail disposed of.

Next meeting Tuesday 15th February 2011 at 6pm in the staff common room.