Minutes NHSPA P & C Meeting
6pm, 12 February, 2013
Common room

Chair: Darren Mitchell

ATTENDANCE
Staff: Principal Stephen Gray, deputy principal Peter Shields.
Parents: Jenni Wilkins, Lisa McMurray, Tim Jones, Jill Robinson, Katie Mann,
Lannen Stapleton, Denny Burgess, Clare Burgess, Tony Ryan, Mark Rolfe, Debbie
Whitmont, Nicki Wilkinson, Briony Magoffin, Daniella Sloman, Dennis Dumlao,
Donna Huggart, Michael Scott-Mitchell, Kelly Burke

APOLOGIES
Terry Bail, Lyn Wise, Ailsa Weaver, Lisa Penlington, Rosina Schinella, Ross
Moffatt,

Welcome and introduction: Darren Mitchell welcomed all parents, the principal and
deputy principal.
Minutes for November 2012’s P & C meeting accepted by Donna and Jenni.

MATTERS ARISING
World Earth Festival: Donna explained to new parents the 8 March event involved the
whole school community event, with an afternoon of barbecues, stalls, promotion of
environmental awareness and live performances.
Following this event the welcome barbecue for new parents and students will be held
from 5 to 7 pm.
Mark is the co-ordinator of WEF, Jenni the co-ordinator of the welcome barbecue.
There are still vacancies on the barbecue roster for token sales and the juice stall.
The principal, head teachers and year heads will be attending.
October 2013 P & C meeting: Stephen authorised moving October’s P & C meeting
back to the third Tuesday in the month.

CORRESPONDENCE
• Invitation for local residents to apply to join the Lillian Fowler Reserve
management committee.
• More than 100 applications for P & C membership 2013.
• A range of advertising for school fundraising projects.
Darren suggested someone attend the public consultation for Lillian Fowler Reserve.

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Stephen welcomed new parents and noted the school year had started smoothly.
Betty Romeo gave birth to a healthy boy on 1 February. Betty’s replacement will
attend the next P & C meeting.

Stephen was very happy with the 2012 HSC results. Fifty students achieved a band 5
or 6 in every subject they studied. The number of students achieving this goal has
tripled in the last four to five years. The school’s value-added statistics between years
10 and 12 remain one of the best in Sydney region.
In HSC advanced English 21 per cent of students received a band 6, up from 3 per cent last year and 13 per cent statewide.

Parent permission notes have gone out this week for the swimming carnival.
The Federal health minister, Tanya Plibersek, is to visit the school this Friday to launch the vaccination program for years 7 & 9 students. This is the first year boys will be included in the program. Parents must sign the consent form to have their child vaccinated. Other forms which require signing this week are for the swimming carnival, school photos, and years 8 to 10 sports, which will go off site at some point. All forms except the vaccination form are on the school’s website.

World Earth Festival tickets have to be pre-purchased, the information will be sent out soon. There will be no ticket sales at the gate for security reasons.

Auditions for the school’s co-curricular program are underway. Some 120 students auditioned for 50 places in the ballet company last Friday.

Dates for parent/teacher nights:
Years 9 & 12, 18 March
Years 8 & 11, 3 April
Years 7 & 10, early in the second term.
The school is trialling an online booking system following feedback from parents last year. Information will be sent out in the school newsletter.

Seventy two students will participate in the 2013 China tour which leaves on 7 April. The 12 day tour will feature music, drama and dance performances by students, a visit to the sister school and a tour of the Terracotta Warriors. There will be a farewell performance concert on 4 April before the tour leaves, details will be sent out shortly.

Some parents have been inquiring about available places in the drama ensembles. The school tries to accommodate as many Year 7 students as possible, with subsequent years becoming more competitive. All students have the opportunity of joining one of the choirs.

Parents are welcome to attend the swimming carnival at Enfield pool. Four hundred students will travel to venue in buses. There are no uniform restrictions for the carnival.

The new sports program for years 8 to 10 will see students remain in their allocated groups for the entire three-year program, rotating through the 12 selected sports. PDHD student teachers from the University of Sydney arrive to coach the students next week.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Darren tabled the job descriptions for office bearers of the P & C and gave a brief introduction to the role of the P & C in the school’s operations.
A number of positions on the P & C executive, including president and deputy president (2) will fall vacant at next month’s AGM.
The positions of year 7 and year 11 contact parents were filled by Daniella Sloman.
and Miriam Perl for Y7 and Jill Robinson for Y11. The P & C still has no independent auditor for the books. To be discussed at the AGM.

Mark manages the Showcase roster but will be leaving at the end of the year.

Google Groups is in need of a monitoring person. Terry is investigating the possibility of asking a parent contact to design information postcards to hand out to new parents.

ENVIRONMENT REPORT
John explained to new parents the importance of working bees as the school does not employ a gardener. The student environment committee is keen to plant more greenery and work on energy and water efficiency. The committee would benefit from help and guidance from the P & C.

PAVAC REPORT
The sub-committee is looking at how to continue Lyn Williams’ role, with the possibility of her chairing a meeting to discuss how the broader arts community can engage in the school.

Michael has spoken to Tim Ailwood about the possibility of engaging NIDA student directors for Showcase productions. Tim has a list of recent graduates and he has engaged two for forthcoming productions.

Lisa is looking to bring arts professionals from a broad spectrum for talks at the school. The first one will be an agents evening, with two talent agents giving advice on how to go about gaining agent representation. A date in May would be ideal, to be discussed with Stephen.

The sub-committee is still keen to send a drama staff member overseas to forge links in a similar way the dance faculty has achieved in the US. The committee is waiting for Tim to decide who has been elected to go.

BUILDING REPORT
(Darren, on behalf of Terry)
Improvements to the Studio Theatre foyer continue, with new bench and chair seating and lighting close to being finalised. The front counter needs further work, as does the box office to improve traffic flow from the Newman Street entrance. The new storage area is finished. The sub-committee will examine ways to spruce up the walls by finding a suitable display system for posters advertising past productions. The P & C is able to access St Georges Hall funds to upgrade the toilets adjacent to the Studio Theatre. Darren congratulated Terry on his architectural leadership and tabled Terry's report for the minutes.

TREASURERS REPORT
There was no treasurer’s report.

GENERAL BUSINESS
There was no general business

Meeting closed: 7.10pm.
Next P & C meeting: 12 March, following the AGM at 6pm.