Minutes NHSPA P & C meeting
7pm, 14 May, 2013
Studio Theatre

CHAIR: Darren Mitchell
STAFF: Peter Shields,
ATTENDANCE: Lisa Penlington, Dennis Dumlao, Katie Mann, Steven Brown, John Caley, Terry Bail, Kelly Burke, Deb Barnstone, Briony Magoffin, Peter Denholm, Tony Ryan, Nicki Wilkinson, Mark Rolfe, Clare Burgess.

APOLOGIES: Ross Moffat, Ailsa Weaver, Daniella Sloman.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION: Darren welcomed all parents, the acting principal and deputy principal.

ACTING PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
Stephen Gray is in London as part of the State Government’s empowering local schools initiative. Peter Shields is acting principal, Leisa Munns is acting in Peter’s role.
Peter tabled the staffing mix variation proposal.
Following the departure of the school’s careers adviser after 33 years of service, it is proposed a new position be created to staff a dedicated learning centre, to be located in part of the existing library, on a trial basis.
NHSPA is the first school to trial this proposal.
There will be a review panel for the trial that will include the deputy principal, a NSW Teachers Federation rep and a member of the P & C. The review will take place late in Term 3 to allow feedback from Year 12 students.
Darren confirmed the P & C’s consent of the proposal.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT
Adrian Shipp will report on the Year 8 iPad pilot program following its conclusion.

Lisa attended the second meeting for the Showcase review. The logistics were discussed, including how to make it more manageable and sustainable. There is an issue with falling attendance numbers and audience members leaving before the evening’s performances have concluded.
The P & C should examine ways of marketing Showcase to families, including the possibility of involving local restaurants and cafes for package deals. The cost of tickets should also be revisited.
Further discussion is needed on how to communicate to parents that it is preferable they stay for the entire performance.

Darren congratulated Lisa on the success of the inaugural Afternoon Tea With event, with about 100 students and parents having attended. This should now be a regular event each term, to be held on a Tuesday afternoon and striving to cover all creative arts forms.
Darren thanked Mark and Katie for organising the catering, and David Ferguson for his technical assistance. Mark to send Ross the receipt from Shenkin.
Darren also congratulated Terry for his ongoing work refurbishing the Studio Theatre Foyer. Terry said more work would be finished on Saturday. The rolling benches have yet to be installed.
Terry to confer with Nilauffer Rajwar and Leisa Munns on a suitable Showcase night to formally open the new foyer.
The concern over the mounting of the large gold frame on the foyer wall has been dealt with. The frame is removable so it may still be used as a prop.

The State Government’s sandstone restoration project facing King Street continues.

Darren asked parents to assist Mark in filling the gaps for the Showcase roster.

Leisa Munns has secured a short visit by Garfield Lemonius. This will be his third visit. The choreographer’s previous two visits have resulted in an extremely high standard of performance from the students involved. The P & C executive have agreed to provide $5000 to assist in the cost of his stay.

Peter obtained a series of quotes through David Ferguson for the Studio Theatre’s new sound system, which also can be used for film production. The P & C will contribute half the cost, at $14,000. The quote includes installation and the system is expected to last about 15 years.

ENVIRONMENT SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT
John said 12 people have responded so far to this Saturday’s working bee that will run from 9am to 3pm. About 100 plants have been ordered. The meeting point will be the school’s front foyer. John will put out a reminder message on google groups. Peter will open the gates at 8.30am. Students who want to participate must have a permission note.
Darren thanked John for organising the working bee.

GENERAL BUSINESS
Katie Mann is the new convenor of the Faculty Sub-Committee.
Ross will make arrangements to enable Terry and Katie to sign P & C cheques.

Meeting ended: 7.45pm
Next meeting: 6pm, 11 June, School Common Room.