

# MINUTES

WHDHS P&C Association

**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2023, School Library**

**Present:** Lorrice Richards, Peter Whitfield, Georgie Sadler, Lesa Simpson

**Apologies:** Aleisha Coad, Melissa Whyte, Fiona Yeats, Karen Box

## PREVIOUS MINUTES

**Motion:** That the Previous Minutes of General Meeting 13/2/23 are adopted as a true and correct record.

**Moved:** Lorrice      **Seconded:** Georgie      **Motion Carried**

## Business Arising

Addressed in General Business

## CORRESPONDENCE

### Incoming

- WACCSO Invoice
- Dowerin Field Days
- WACCSO Conference – Sponsorship
- IGA Cheque – Community Chest

### Outgoing -

## UNIFORM SHOP REPORT – MEL WHYTE

- No Report

## FINANCIAL REPORT & FUNDING REQUESTS – GEORGIE SADLER

- The Treasurer's Report was presented and is attached to these minutes.
- There is currently \$15308.06 in the bank account.

**Motion:** That the Treasurer's Report is adopted as a true and correct record.

**Moved:** Georgie      **Seconded:** Peter      **Motion Carried**

## PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – FIONA YEATS

Sorry that I can't make tonight's P&C meeting. If any of you wish to catch up with me at some stage in relation to the content of this report, please feel free to do so.

Term 1 was surprisingly busy and during the term we were faced with an unexpected influx of new enrolments – as is often the case these new enrolments were into classes where recommended maximum class sizes would have been exceeded. This caused a minor restructure, however now we have been faced with a number of exiting students which now has us back under recommended maximum class sizes which is far more desirable. Compared to many other Wheatbelt DHSs, we struggle to get enough parents across early childhood and up to Room 3 to ensure we can have every child being heard read every morning, or completing their mastery folders where appropriate. I would encourage our P&C class reps to encourage parents to support this program if they are at all able to do so. It really does make a difference and even if a parent can only help out 1 morning a fortnight, every little bit helps our students.

It has been great to see excursions being organised by class teachers again. Often this is another time we need parent support to make these events possible. Ideally we break students into small groups with 1 adult per 5 students as many of the excursion venues we visit can't handle a whole class in one area at once. Equally, for risk management and supervision, at times we will have students who need higher levels of supervision on a ratio of 1:2 or even 1:1. Having an education assistant in the room doesn't mean we don't need parent helpers as well.

Students have been much better at not arriving at school until after 8.30am. We do not have staff on duty before this time and so it is important students are not on site as we are not able to provide supervision. We were getting up to 40 students on site by 8.15, which did present a number of issues for us.

Overall, I would have to say that our greatest current concern is attendance. It is very difficult for students to achieve the expected levels of progress if they are missing more than 5 days a term and this creates gaps in their learning. What is most unusual is that, overall, primary attendance rates are lower than secondary. Relatively, that only serves to show how poor primary attendance is, rather than how good secondary attendance is. To meet the standards of attendance once would expect from our school compared to other similar DHSs, we need an extra 30 to 40 students attending regularly. These patterns have been evident for the last 3 terms. The other key aspect is that it is great that parents are generally being honest with absence reasons, but sadly there are way too many absences that are not for student illness, well over one third are currently not for illness.

Hopefully you have been noticing that more effort is going into making the school newsletter a key source of information about what is going on in our school. But that only works if parents read the newsletter. At present we still have over 20 students whose parents have not given permission for use of the third party apps, those parents have received individual emails with the link and we are about to go with individual phonecalls. Their children are currently feeling quite left out and as you can imagine it is also making life difficult for the teachers.

I would just like to finish on one thought that I was going to raise tonight, no decision is needed at the moment and I will raise it at our next meeting. A number of schools have successfully attracted in term swimming teachers by the P&C paying each teacher an extra \$200 as an incentive to choose that school. Is that worth considering here?

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **Catering**

ILN – 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 – Georgie to speak to Julie Sewell regarding how much is involved

### **Year 6 Camp Fundraising**

All ideas presented to be covered under our insurance

Money boards, raffles, cake stall, footy dinner, lunch order, wood & meat raffle

Vac Swim Teachers

Look into travel & accommodation allowances – careful to fund training as they may not stay & commit to our town

WACCSO conference

No nominations at this stage

## **NEXT MEETING DATES**

***The next meeting will be Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2023 in the School Library, 7pm***

*The meeting closed at 8.00pm*