

Anzac Terrace Primary School Council Meeting

3:00pm Wednesday 30 March 2016

ATPS Meeting Room

Minutes DRAFT

Apologies: Amanda Coall, Nan Zhang, Magdalene McCulloch, Liz Page
Present: Stuart Blackwood, Adam Cheetham, Sacha Bridger, Christine Thomson, Amanda McAlpine, Sally Pitchers, Stephanie Tarbin

1 Confirmation of minutes of Open Meeting, 26 November 2015

Moved: Adam Cheetham

Seconded: Amanda McAlpine

2 Principal's report

- Composition of School Council: discussion by email indicated that members were willing to approve the current membership of School Council and also to re-elect Adam Cheetham as Chair, in order to facilitate the school's application for independent status. The constitution specifies that Council consist of seven parent/community members and six staff with the possible enlargement of School Council to 15 members. The constitution could be altered to allow a smaller constituent group (eg. 11 members comprising six parent/community members and 5 staff) and to modify the timing of elections of new members. If the school achieves Independent Public School status then the School Council will be dissolved and a board appointed. Stuart will draft specific wording for an amendment and email it to Council for consideration.

- Confidentiality: matters discussed in School Council meetings need to be treated as confidential. Stuart has drafted a confidentiality agreement for members of School Council and is seeking feedback from Council. Document to be emailed for comment.

- Independent Public Schools: The process of applying for independent status has been re-opened. Stuart and Adam attended an information session early in Term 1. This time the application process will include a presentation from the principal and the chair of School Council explaining why ATPS should be independent.

- School budget: As tabled. Stuart explained that there are additional reserves in the one-line budget, in addition to the \$30K currently in the operating budget, owing to management decisions relating to Kindy and Pre-Primary, where classes have full-time EAs to address larger class sizes (rather than a separate class and teacher). Arrangements are within Education Department guidelines and have been negotiated with teachers. Additional funds in the budget will be used progressively on upgrades to buildings and facilities around the school.

Motion: That the budget be accepted and ratified by School Council.

Moved: Stuart Blackwood Seconded: Christine Thompson

- School Council meeting days/times: Thursdays after school is the preferred time. One meeting per term except Term 4.

- School annual report: Due at the end of week one of Term 2. Content of the report is well underway. Stuart will email a draft to School Council for comment and ratification in advance. Last year's report was put on the Education Department website as the example to follow.

- Secretary of School Council: Steph Tarbin indicated she was willing to continue in this role. Confirmed by consensus.

3 Promotional activities

The priority for promotion of the school in 2016 is the message that the school is a school of choice for the 21st century and particularly that ATPS is moving toward student-centered learning, in conjunction with the application for independent status. Council discussed various methods of keeping the school in the awareness of the local community, including:

- Information packs delivered by real estate agents, local childcares etc to new families. Note also the idea of a magnetic height chart with ATPS branding, but needs money to start up (possibly a budget allocation).
- Presence of the school at Bassendean Village (Hawaiian). Steph offered to follow up. Old Perth Road Market stalls may be more fruitfully pursued as a P&C fundraising activity.
- Website upgrade: Important as first port of call for new/prospective families.
- Student art work, especially through relations with Town of Bassendean (and Bassendean Library)
- Marketing the school on election day: information, photos etc could be available.
- Initiatives to bring families into the school: example of Literacy Week at All Saints (Como); a partnership with Ladybugs childcare (under new management); offer sessions with a speech therapist or occupational therapist once a term; develop links with child health nurse to have a 'book and bub' session; a science fair involving local schools; another evening with Maggie Dent.
- Initiatives to put school in the community spotlight/newspaper: School choir at ANZAC day services (not possible this year); choir at senior citizens' communities; Service learning projects/projects involving businesses (e.g. Bunnings)
- Social media possibilities: Twitter, Facebook, Instagram

Agreed that a subcommittee could work on promotional activities and incorporating people from outside School Council. Stuart to place item in Newsletter. Also to consider asking Finance committee for a small marketing budget.

4 General business

- Invitation to Literacy Forum, 19 March, from Alannah McTiernan, and associated information: tabled by Adam
- Kindy demountable to be removed during school holidays. Current site will be converted to grass and enclosed.
- Parent complaint about 2016 hat policy and request for the issue to be raised at school council. After discussion, School Council agreed that the current hat policy (wide brim with ATPS logo) was important for student safety, health and general welfare. Hats are an integral part of the overall school uniform. Students can remove hats to participate in sporting events, but must wear school hats at all other times when outside on school grounds or excursions.
- Question regarding membership of P&C if unable to attend meetings: advice that payment of money and supply of contact details to P&C executive would ensure inclusion in the P&C mailing list.

Meeting closed: 4:30

Next meeting: TBA