

# School Council Meeting

## Minutes

3:30pm, Monday 21 May 2018



Meeting opened: 3:35. Council wished Rebecca Benson a happy birthday.

Apologies: Mike Smith, Amanda McAlpine

Present: Adam Cheetham (Chair), Stuart Blackwood (Principal), Sue DeWitt, Magdalene McCulloch, Rebecca Benson, Sacha Bridger, Rachael Bernsousa, Suellen Harrison, Steph Tarbin (minutes)

### 1. Confirmation of minutes of meeting 27 February 2018

**Moved:** Adam Cheetham    **Seconded:** Rachael Bernsousa. All in favour.

### 2. Annual report 2017: for discussion and ratification

Stuart thanked Council for feedback on the draft annual report, which he circulated in hard copy at the end of Term 1. He tabled a copy of suggestions and noted he will make the following changes: clearer explanation of Naplan data; some rewording of the final sections to pick up on key points from ATPS from the mission statement, and a range of small changes to wording throughout. Final document will be completed by 31 May. Adam suggested that hard copies be made available at the front desk for review by Council; comments and ratification to be made within 7 days.

**ACTION:** Council members to review hard copy of report and send comments/assent to contents to Stuart by 7 June 2018.

### 3. School Council Survey: for discussion

Stuart spoke to this item and explained how the survey of Council members was implemented as part of the IPS application process in 2016 and continued at the end of 2017 as part of ongoing Council development. The survey tool we used was devised for IPS boards and, as a School Council, we are under no obligation to be measured against those criteria. Following the 2017 survey Adam compiled the raw data and provided graphs of the results (circulated prior to meeting). Feedback in the comments section was mixed: there was positive recognition of Council's effectiveness and ongoing development as well as comments that identified areas for improvement, such as a greater role for strategic planning and monitoring of satisfaction of school families. In response, Stuart observed that allocating time for strategic planning activity (e.g. Vision2020) is not currently realistic while ATPS staff are involved in additional committees and activities to address the findings of the ERG. Adam noted that the overall survey results were more positive than in 2016 and that the Council has shown development. He reminded School Council of his email (11/04/18. SUBJECT: School Council self assessment findings), in which members were asked to reflect on the survey findings and bring suggestions for improvement of School Council to the meeting in Term Three.

**ACTION:** Council members to identify do-able strategies for continued development of School Council.

### 4. Council and Board Development Workshop: for information (Stuart/Steph)

Stuart reported that he and Steph had attended day-long workshop as part of a new pilot program of activities to develop the capabilities of school councils and IPS boards. A number of modules to introduce board/council members to roles, responsibilities and effective practices will be made available online. Schools can also apply for facilitators to visit schools for the more advanced modules. Steph reported that the modules represent a valuable resource for new and existing

members of School Council and recommended that the modules be incorporated into the annual cycle of Council business.

**ACTION:** Adam to circulate the URLs for the training modules for council members to review, for discussion in Term 3.

#### **5. Vision 2020 (standing item)**

Covered in discussion of the survey of School Council.

#### **6. 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Planning**

A meeting of subcommittee has been set for Wednesday 13 May. So far that have been lots of ideas about the format of the celebrations but no firm decisions have yet been made. Proposals so far include:

- Formal assembly on anniversary of opening 11 February.
- School Open Day plus Family fun day with colour run, water slides, classrooms open to showcase student work. Possibly 15 March so teachers will keep some work back from this year
- Pictorial book of the 50 years of the school.
- New front entrance to school; pavers with family names.

#### **7. Premier's Education Awards**

The subcommittee will meet next Monday. The Education Awards are open now and are due at the end of Term 2 (substantially earlier than in 2017). Stuart reported that some families have submitted ONYAs. Members of Council voiced enthusiastic support for the creation of an online submission form.

#### **8. Promotional Activities**

- Magdalene reported that 7 students submitted art works for the Shaun Tan competition and have been delivered to Subiaco library.
- Stuart and Sue noted that the school now had a new 'on hold' telephone message providing information about the school to callers.
- Rachael suggested that the newsletter might incorporate some video sections and volunteered her assistance.

**Meeting closed: 4:50pm**

**Next meeting: Tuesday 3:15 Week 4 (7 August). TBC**