

ECHUCA SPECIALIST SCHOOL
COUNCIL MEETING Date: 21st August 2014

PRESENT: Scott Morrison, Deb McLaren, Simone Coutts, Maree Downey, Julie Sands & David O'Dea, Judith O'Farrell & Paul Marshall

APOLOGIES: Nil

MINUTES: of the last meeting were read & accepted as true & correct

Moved: Deb McLaren

Seconded: Julie Sands

Conflicts of Interest: Any conflicts of interest to be declared. D'Arcy Thomas a student has commenced work experience with Marc from Martra Constructions. Marc is Tracey O'Mara's (Business Manager) partner.

BUSINESS ARISING:

School Review The Parent survey was sent out and we got a great response from parents. The School needs to re-new their registration with VRQA. There will some policies that will need to be ratified by School Council these policies will be emailed out for council members to go over. Our school newsletter will need to contain our vision & values of the school. The review process will be happening on the 3rd and 6th week of next term. Maree spoke about being part of the review panel at Tongala Primary School and sent that it was great; it was like a celebration of everything that the school had achieved for the last four years.

Parent Survey Paul collated the information received from the feedback forms a summary is attached. Paul said it was a great response with lots of positive feedback and lots for us as a school to look into and review, such as the transition into Senior Department from Middle Department.

New School Paul & Maree went to visit two combined Special and Mainstream schools in Melbourne. They explained how one school operated as separate entities with separate offices and classrooms. The other school was fully inclusive. Both schools had some great ideas. The visits have given Paul & Maree some ideas to work with. Paul showed a presentation with photos & ideas from the school. Maree said the planning committee has been formed and the first meeting is next week.

Treasurers Report: Financial reports for July 2014 were tabled & payments ratified.

Westpac Purchasing Card Statement tabled & ratified.

Finance Committee Minutes Nil to report

Moved: Simone Coutts

Seconded: Julie Sands

Fundraising Report: Maree reported that the Little Black Dress is coming along nicely we have sold 165 tickets and everyone has been working hard with the final arrangements.

Principals Report: Attached & presented by Maree.

Leading Teacher Report: Attached & Presented by Deb McLaren.

One & All Report: Attached & Presented by Paul Marshall.

Grounds Report: Attached & presented by Paul. The play equipment has arrived and we will look at setting this up over the holidays as it looks like being a bigger job to do over a weekend.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Principal for a Day Programme Maree spoke about the visit we had from Neil Pankhurst. Neil was shown around the school and even got to attend a Junior School meeting where the students asked some wonderful questions.

School Concert The School Concert will be held on Thursday 18th September, tickets are on sale now at the Paramount.

Excursions:

Junior Long Day Excursion/Sleepover – Junior Department are requesting permission to have a Junior Long Day Excursion/Sleepover on 4th & 5th December 2014. Room 2 students will not be staying overnight. The students will be going to Mulligrubs, go for a drive to look at xmas lights and to the Adventure Park in Moama and see the Reptile Man. Cost to families will be \$44 for excursion and \$52 for overnight stay.

Moved: David O'Dea

Seconded: Simone Coutts

Swan Hill Sports Request for students turning 12 this year to attend the Swan Hill Specialist School Annual Sports Day. We have received a grant from Newsboy so the cost to families will be \$20 per student. The sports day will be on 10th September 2014.

Moved: Simone Coutts

Seconded: Scott Morrison

Queenscliff 2015 Camp One & All have successfully received funding to hold the One & All Queenscliff camp. This will take place in Term 1 2015. It will involve approximately 12 students from Echuca Specialist School and 15 students from Echuca College more information will be given to School Council next term.

Correspondence: Marg Lewis MP

Next Meeting will be Thursday 23rd October 2014

Meeting Closed at 6.30pm