

Chatswood High School P&C General Meeting (via zoom)
Thursday 15th September 2022, 7.30pm
Minutes (draft)

Attendees: Ange Todd, Karyn Cardew, Sarah Boyd, Briona Gill, David Osland, Sean Abernethy, Nigel Justins, Sanjeev Puri, Daniel O'Doherty, Ruchika Handa, Sean Wang, Sheya, Shreya Bhattacharya, Sushma Maskey, Ulrike Wagner, User.

Apologies: Dharini Pararajasingham, Apurva Kamat, Tali Friedman.

Teacher presentation by Ms B Gill

Ms Briona Gill, Teachers' Union representative from Chatswood High School, provided the P&C with an overview of the difficulties faced by teaching staff and students due to shortages of teachers. She encouraged everyone to talk to their children about how their classes are going. Parents should reach out to local MP, Tim James, and express their views about staff shortage issues.

Funding support for Year 12 Yearbook

Mr Sean Abernethy, Head of the Sports Department, is working with Year 12 students who are designing their Yearbook. The P&C budget includes a funding contribution to the Yearbook.

Motion: *To pay the full printing cost for the Year 12 Yearbook. Moved by Angela Todd and seconded by Sanjeev Puri .*

Previous minutes

Motion: *To approve the minutes from the previous meeting without alteration. Moved by Sanjeev Puri and seconded by Karyn Cardew.*

Actions Arising from the Previous Minutes

No actions arising.

President's report

Ange Todd welcomed all the parents at the meeting. Further to her written report (circulated with the meeting papers) she mentioned that a short report with the results from the parents survey is available on the P&C website under a new tab. She informed the P&C that a copy of our report has been sent to Stacey Exner at the Department of Education. The P&C has also been awarded another club grant from Chatswood RSL which will be used to fund well-being events. Ange thanked Chatswood RSL and also P&C Vice-president, Sarah Boyd, for preparing the application. Ange also reminded parents that the P&C website has a number of very good free well-being resources.

Principal's update

Mr Osland provided a building update: Building S is almost complete and then the School will be able to use it later this year, dates to be confirmed.

He shared with the P&C that the School has negotiated with Willoughby Council for space at the Concourse for Year 12 students to sit for their HSC exams, to ensure a quiet space without building interruptions. The School was able to successfully book the Civic Pavilion and acknowledged a generous discount from Council. One of the deputy principals will be there during the exam period.

Next week will mark the last set of activities for Year 12 students. They are doing a charity walk and then their graduation ceremony is on Monday night (19th September). New Prefects and Captains will also be announced this week.

In response to the parent survey, 2 team building programs were provided by company, Consent Lab. Mr Osland also was very happy to share that students are taking initiatives such as starting a new philosophy club.

Mr Osland advised that the total number of students at CHS is around 1700 and this number is expected to grow next year.

He also informed everyone at the meeting that the school is moving to a new payment system developed by a former student. He invited parents to nominate for user acceptance testing.

Parent questions:

Question : What will be the full capacity of the school once all buildings are completed?

Mr Osland : Total capacity of the School once all the buildings are complete will be 2000 and it is expected to hit this capacity in 2 years.

Question: What is the plan for the bush campus?

Mr Osland : Bush campus buildings were going to be taken away once the new school (Chatswood Public) was completed but it appears that the Department has changed this decision. He suggested that parents should write a letter to the Department of Education seeking clarification on the Bush campus plans.

Action: The P&C President will write a letter to authorities and prepare a template for use by parents as well.

Treasurer's report

The Treasurer's financial reports were summarised for the period January-August 2022.

Uniform Shop update

The Uniform Shop report was shared with P&C members with the meeting papers. There will be communications about Year 10 uniform appointments in Term 4 by email from the School. There are opportunities for volunteers, so please contact the Uniform Shop if you are interested.

Wellbeing program

Karyn Cardew provided an overview of wellbeing events and she is working with the School wellbeing coordinators to identify programs for next term/year.

P&C Building update

Nigel provided an update about the changes to the Uniform Shop. Security grills have been added to windows, and a security screen door. Approval has also been given for various changes to shelving and some of the fit-out inside the Shop. Nigel also informed the P&C that once builders have gone other items will be explored around the School, e.g water bubblers, canteen for new hall.

Facebook/website update

Nil to report.

Meeting closed at 8.37 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday 18 October @ 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm AEST.