



TIGHES HILL PUBLIC SCHOOL P&C ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

Term 1, Week 3 – 9 February 2015

1. **Attendance:** Ben Collis, Tony Selwood, Mary Crump, Tai Bawden, Monique Cooper, Kristen Tola, Larelle Haug, Anita Watts, Ben Coker, Kristy Crooks, Jenny Tarran, Ashley Sheddon, Hansi Hoye, Naomi Isaacs, Tess Lieberman, Ali Raine, Jane Lander, Sarah Nash

Apologies: Sam Rutherford, Kaylene Hanright, Neil McElhinney, Chris Tola

2. **Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting** – minutes confirmed by Tai Bawden, seconded by Monique Cooper
3. **Principals Report** – copy attached
 - Enrolments steady at 285
 - Student absences – the department policy has changed – absences due to vacations/holidays during term will be recorded on tally in student school reports
 - Meet and Greet afternoon – 5pm Tuesday
 - Kindy Club program commences 24th March
 - Is P&C continuing to fund \$10 per student to contribute towards bus travel for excursions? Yes.
 - Swimming carnival – was a well run event. P&C thanks to Mr Slade for his efforts
 - Canteen – volunteers still needed
4. **Presidents Report** – President welcomed members for 2015.

Storage Area update - President provided 3 quotes for upgrade of the storage area. The storage upgrade will be installed in the coming weeks to help with overall storage at school.

RESOLVED – P&C members voted to accept the quote for \$1295.00 was approved to be engaged.

5. **Actions arising**
 - Plaque for new playground – next meeting
 - Environmental statement from Environment group – next meeting
 - Assembly times – Principal advised that the assembly times will remain the same
 - Cost of facilitator for discussion about the environmental mission statement – in progress (Sarah N)
 - Discussion about dogs on school grounds – Kristy C will put forward a suggestion for how the discussion might continue– in progress
6. **Finance** - tabled



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7. P and C Initiatives

a/ Canteen Committee

We discussed the need for volunteers and that the Canteen is only open Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri for 1st term. This will be revised for Terms 2, 3 & 4.

RESOLVED – To spend \$115 on purchasing a rangehood, and \$440 for installation of rangehood & stove (electrician)

b/ Fundraising Committee

Planned fundraising activities:

P&C WELCOME NIGHT

Monday 2 March

6.30pm-9pm at The Grain Store, Newcastle

Entry by donation, will ask for RSVP

Depending on numbers, The Grain Store has offered to host for free

P&C will run a raffle on the night with 'adult' prizes

Flyers to be designed by Ash/Ben – handed out to parents at school, and also will be put in the Kindergarten bags

STATE ELECTION

Saturday 28 March

P&C will do a cake and coffee stall

Will ask TAFE to donate coffee trolley, and parents to donate cakes

BBQ (egg/bacon rolls) with cold drinks, and a raffle

EASTER HAT PARADE

Thursday 2 April

P&C will do BBQ lunch, sushi and drinks

MOTHERS DAY STALL

Friday 8 May

Tai will order gifts for the stall

Discussion about including some native plants in tubestock

SCHOOL MOVIE AFTERNOON

Location - Greater Union, King Street, Newcastle

Still looking for a suitable movie and time of year to run this

PARENT MOVIE NIGHT

Location: The Regal, Birmingham Gardens

We'd like to hold a parent fundraising event later in the year



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c/ Garden and sustainability Committee

P&C acknowledged the fantastic effort on the new sandstone that was placed around the entry garden to the school.

WORKING BEES

Quarterly working bees will continue to support school in maintaining and improving playground amenity.

GARDEN CLUB

Garden club will meet during Friday break times – volunteers welcome. This may increase to other days as the year goes on. Orientation for volunteers planned for this Friday.

GARDEN UPGRADE

Three quotes were obtained for upgrade to the garden beds, to improve soil and water efficiency (attached).

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT

Tess spoke to Principal about involving students in some weeding of school gardens, especially the Reconciliation Garden behind the Library. The Principal will discuss this with the SRC. Tess will tape tag all the plants that should remain in the gardens.

FRUIT BREAK SCRAPS

Tess is keen to continue with collection of fruit break scraps. The Principal says teachers are still keen too. Local business, The Green Helping Hand, is run by one of our parents (Mia's Dad, Steve), and they will collect our scraps to turn into soil.

MASTER PLAN

Environment group wants to work on a 5 year plan with the involvement of a teacher ambassador to facilitate teacher-parent communication. Tess asked if she can approach a landscape architect to assist with design and proposal.

OTHER IDEAS

National Ride to School Day – lots of discussion

8. General Business

Art Cave

Jane Lander, a practising visual artist, Diploma qualified in teaching visual arts, and parent, is working with the garden club to build an art space. Jane wants to deliver art classes, projects, ceramics tuition – to increase student's skills base and hands-on experience. The idea is to compliment the school curriculum, engage community partnerships, and support creative growth for students. This will start with Friday lunchtimes, in conjunction with Garden Club.



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Requirements: some art supplies, start up costs, someone to operate the kiln.
Currently: Jane is auditing the school's current supplies – tools, materials, etc.
Discussion on whether P&C will support financially.

RESOLVED – P&C to support the initiative with providing a \$300 operating budget.

Fairy Garden – Out of Bounds

School staff were not happy for the out-of-bounds garden to contain the new Fairy Garden. It has been removed. P&C were concerned about communication issues, as the launch of the new garden was advertised to the whole school community. Principal apologised for the communication issues between himself and staff. The Fairy Garden will be re-located and re-made.

Sports Fee

Is the \$24 the only option for sport?

Principal explained that due to the success of karate program in 2014, the Sports in Schools program has been introduced – offers a high level of resources at a very reasonable price. The PE teachers are trained. Principal received high response in 2014 from other sport options offered, and decided on a whole school approach for 2015. Principal has asked Mr Slade to look into the possibility of a discount for families with more than one child participating.

School Uniform

P&C enquired on possibility of the school uniform being reviewed. Principal agrees that this would normally happen every 7 years (it has been 10 years since a review). Discussion about protocols for consultation of parents and school community.

ACTION – Principal will contact other local Principals to see what they did when reviewing their uniform.

RESOLVED – Kristen Tola will investigate options for review of school uniform and report back to P&C.

Upgrade of school piano

With the provision of tuition for piano lessons, can we upgrade the school piano?
A second hand piano would cost between \$2000 and \$4000. Should we subsidise in advance?

ACTION – Put on Agenda for next meeting

Scripture opt-out

An end of year opt-out for the annual concert will be sent out in Term 4.

Meeting Close 8.10pm Next meeting: Term 1, Week 8 – Monday, 16 March 2015

Principals Report P&C Feb 9th 2015

Enrolments	<p>We have enrolled sufficient children (285) to form our 12 classes, 3 straight kinders, Y1, Y1, Y2, Y2,Y2/3, Y3/4, Y4, Y5/6 and the OC 5/6.</p> <p>All students have settled very well into classroom routines and school life – Thanks to the families for supporting this process.</p>
Absences/vacations	<p>There has been a change in department policy - recording of vacations & travel outside holiday periods – from term 1 (3/2/2015) 2015 are recorded as absences and will impact the absent tally in student school reports.</p>
Meet and Greet afternoon	<p>Tuesday 10/02/2015 session will begin at 5.00 pm for parents with children in year 1 to year 6.</p> <p>Wednesday 18/02/2015 session will begin at 5.00 pm for parents with children in KINDERGARTEN.</p>
Scripture	<p>We have been fortunate to again be able to offer Scripture lessons to the children and they will begin in week 6. Roman Catholic, Ethics (year 6 only at this stage due to the lack of availability of trained teachers for the Tuesday session) and joint denomination lessons will be delivered.</p>
Kindy Club	<p>Parent Orientation meeting to be held on Tuesday 17th February with program commencing on 24th March with 2 sessions each Tuesday. Speech pathologists will also be on board. Numbers for this program look very solid at this early stage.</p>
Book Pack	<p>Note out last week include list of projected costs & already booked events.</p> <p>Is P&C continuing to fund \$10 per student to contribute towards some of the cost of the buses for excursions?</p>
Swimming Carnival	<p>Last weeks carnival was fantastic. Thank you to all parents who participated/ assisted. Well done David Slade for excellent organisation. He will organize the zone team next week.</p>
Band	<p>Ashlea Robinson and Paul Isaacs will continue to organise the school concert band. We are hoping to continue to grow this program this year. Notes have been sent out with clear costings etc to make it self-sufficient in funding.</p>
Canteen	<p>Opened last week. Thank you for the hard work of all volunteers.</p>

Raised garden beds costing-

Below is for a basic rebuilding of the existing beds in roughly the same size & shape.

Other options could be considered including replacing with colourbond raised beds, drainage gravel & organic soil.

The big bonus with colourbond beds is that they require much less labour to install/construct, are resistant to rot/termites, last longer & come in a range of colours.

option 1 - 200mm raised beds with hardwood sleepers & organic soil (not really much different to what we have there already except a bit higher .

hardwood sleepers x 24 @ \$23.17 per = \$557

wooden stakes x 24 @ \$3.33 each = \$80

fasteners sleeper screws etc –

box 250 galv 100mm batten screws- \$39

organic soil –

approx 2-3 x m3 required + existing soil @ \$70/m3= \$210

Total-\$886

option 2- 400mm raised bed (ideal height , would look good with hardwood but a fair bit of extra labour)

hardwood sleepers x 48 @ \$23.17 per = \$1112.16

wooden stakes 90mm x 24 @ \$4.83 each = \$115.92

fasteners sleeper screws etc –

box 250 galv 100mm batten screws- \$39

organic soil –

approx 4-5 x m3 required + existing soil @ \$70/m3= \$350

total- \$1617.08

option 3- colourbond raised beds – simplest option but most expensive.

2200mm x 1300mm x 400mm deep @ \$199 per module x 7 modules = \$1400

drainage gravel quantity/price tbc-

organic soil @ \$70/m3 x 5- 6 m3 approx - \$420 (as well as existing soil)

total- \$1820

optional watering system- I would have to price this & do more design work & research.