

## General Meeting – Minutes

**Meeting Date & Time:** Tuesday 9 June 2021

**Meeting Location:** Zoom

**Attendees:** Ashley McGrath, Sue Ross, Sandy Pedley, Jane Morgan, Chris Freel, Taylor Moore, Harriet Fesq, Sarah Straker Williams, Kirsten Gleichman, Larni Malcolm, Geoff Watkins, Mark Beeley, Matthew Warnken, Julie Miller, Sarah Cranney, Devina Solanki, Carly Freel

**Apologies:** Todd Buncombe

	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Person Responsible</b>
<b>1.0</b>	<p><b>Meeting Opened &amp; Welcome</b></p> <p>38 members for 2021/22. Still a very high representation of families.</p> <p><b>New members since March meeting:</b> <i>none</i></p>	Ashley McGrath
<b>2.0</b>	<p><b>Approval of previous meeting minutes</b> - The minutes from the previous meeting are to be published online.</p>	Ashley McGrath
<b>3.0</b>	<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p>	
3.1	<p><b>Olympic Trivia Night</b>– Thursday 22 July at the EVH</p>	Chris Freel
3.2	<p><b>BKFA Assembly Day</b>– 18 June - Following on from our Mother’s Day walk where we raised \$5000, we will now have an day where we can assemble the birthing kits. We are able to include our school children from Stage 3. We have also reached out to the other schools if they would like to send down some representatives.</p>	Carly Freel
<b>4.0</b>	<p><b>Halloween Festival</b></p> <p>The Halloween festival will be held on Saturday 30 October from 2-5pm for the public. We will open one hour earlier for the Nicho school families.</p>	Ashley Morgan

	<p>We are also looking at a Halloween after party which may be at the Balmain Bowling Club. Early days with that concept but that is the idea at the minute.</p> <p>We are very conscious of being COVID-safe and will make sure all activities are in line with Covid regulations.</p> <p>We do need around 80 people to help – we normally ask for at least one volunteer per family please.</p> <p>Next Halloween meeting will be on 14 June so please join on Zoom if you are free and want to help in any of the following areas– Activities (Devina), Auction (Delphine), Catering (Nicole), Decorations (Ashley), Logistics (Nadira), Sales and Marketing (Ashley), Sponsorship (Carly) and Volunteers (Kirsten).</p>	
<p><b>5.0</b></p>	<p><b>Music Program</b></p> <p>We are thinking of an art evening on Thursday 18 September. We had a meeting with Sue.</p> <p>We have around 35% of the school involved in extracurricular music activities. The biggest thing about numbers dropping has been the small Concert Band. Lara is looking for more performance activities for the Concert band by speaking with Birchgrove School for a collaboration.</p> <p>Funding requests – will discuss later in the meeting.</p> <p>Introduction to Music Program – some K-2 parents have got together to organise the program for Introduction to Music. It is foundational music skills, including singing in rounds and things like trash percussion.</p> <p>Training band is well subscribed which is very promising for the future Concert Band numbers.</p> <p>We are looking for a Music Committee. Jane is struggling and would welcome some help.</p>	<p>Jane Morgan</p>
<p><b>6.0</b></p>	<p><b>Artist in Residence Program</b></p>	<p>Harriet Fesq</p>

	<p>Kate Banazi, a very successful artist and hands-on teacher is willing to work with our children in term 3. Harriet came in with her and had a meeting with the SRC about what they would like. She has put together a rough plan based on that conversation but in a nutshell, she would come in for a Visual Arts skill development program for Term 3. She would work with each class, one day a week. Proposed budget of \$10k including artist's time and materials.</p> <p>For K-4 the suggested program would be a stamping mono printing using various materials. Using clay and collage cardboard to create stamp sets that they can collage onto small tiles of paper.</p> <p>For years 5-6, the proposal is a version of the above program plus silkscreening.</p> <p>Potentially an excursion to Aisle6 which is very cool silkscreen studio.</p> <p>Sue Ross added that she had met with Kate Banazi and Julie Miller. Julie Miller is an artist herself and is having an art exhibition in Balmain herself later this year!</p> <p>Julie was very impressed with Kate. She says that the children had great ideas – one thing they wanted was for everyone to work on something that is in the school (potentially an artwork above the bubblers) and also something that they could take home. Julie thinks it is a great opportunity for the children to get involved in something like this. The feedback from the children was also very positive.</p> <p>Next steps – Harriet will meet with Sue and Julie. We will do a call out for parent volunteers.</p>	
<p><b>7.0</b></p>	<p><b>The Kindness Factory</b></p> <p>The Kindness Factory is run by Kath Koschel, a remarkable young woman who has taught herself to walk on three separate occasions, defying her medical prognosis of paralysis.</p> <p>She is an incredibly inspiring and in-demand speaker. She has agreed to come and speak at our school which is fantastic.</p> <p>The thoughts are that this talk could be an event that builds into a project that the school undertakes for World Kindness Day, where kids, teachers, parents and local community all come together around acts of kindness in the local community.</p>	<p>Chris Freel</p>

<p><b>9.0</b></p>	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>\$168,000 in the bank. We will take out money for air conditioning and learning support, which we have yet to be invoiced for. The term deposit will be rolled over.</p> <p>We saw a lot of transactions around the Birthing Kits. We ended up coming to an agreement with the other schools that, for this cause, we would not fundraise for our schools. We maximised the donation. It was a break-even exercise for us.</p> <p>Larni put in another grant request for the Community Development Partnership (which we won last year). We asked for \$24,000. We will see if we get that this year.</p> <p>We have entered Larni Malcolm for the 2021 Not-for-Profit Treasurers' Award.</p>	<p>Larni Malcolm</p>
<p><b>10.0</b></p>	<p><b>Principal's Report</b></p> <p>Late last year the NSW government announced that additional money would be given to each school. We got \$11,000 so we have been able to implement a fantastic learning support program this year.</p> <p>Very exciting for our Year 4-6 students to be at camp. They are having a wonderful time. The SEESAW app has been useful for sharing photos.</p> <p>To reiterate, please can parents help to maintain school uniform on various days. Preferably Zone jumpers should be worn on sports days and the Nicho jumper on other days. We have a great school uniform so let's wear it proudly.</p> <p>Semester 1 school reports go home on the last Friday of the term. Kindergarten reports will go home a week and a half earlier.</p> <p>We have around 10 enrolments for kindergarten next year. Two teachers will work with local preschools to increase awareness of our school.</p>	<p>Sue Ross</p>

	<p>This Friday we have a science show being held on site. This will be run by Sydney Secondary College Balmain.</p> <p>A big staffing change, which you may be aware of, is that Ms Nguyen and her partner have made the very considered decision to move to Italy for one year. Linda's last day for the year will be Friday 18 June. We are very fortunate to have Mr Muller to take over Linda's class. We wish Linda good luck and good bye next week and welcome Mr Muller. We will have a school assembly to wish Linda good luck.</p> <p>Finally, it is fantastic that we have been able to welcome Kara, our new school crossing supervisor. She has commented on how beautifully mannered our students are. Welcome news that Kara is there as an added extra safety measure for our students.</p> <p>Kirsten and Sarah asked the question re Mr Muller's support help. Sue is looking for a replacement. The great thing about Mr Muller being on board, is that he is a local parent (Lilyfield). He has a wide range of experience teaching in private and public sector.</p>	
11.0	<p><b>Funding Requests</b></p> <p>Xylophone - \$2,599</p> <p>Lara has been asking for it for a while. This is the main funding request. We have some old xylophones so we do need to replace.</p> <p>Lara's fees - \$2,000 per term. This is a ballpark figure. If our concert band children are going to Birchgrove, we need to pay Lara for her time. This could be less.</p> <p>Artist in Residence Program - \$10,000. Would be nice if we can pay Kate for her time.</p> <p>We will look to include this in the budget and forecast going forward.</p> <p>Lara knows someone who can come and look at our instruments and work out which ones are okay, which are worth fixing and which we could sell and/or replace.</p>	Ashley McGrath/Jane Morgan

12.0	<p><b>Other Business</b></p> <p>We saw other schools which had branded sunshades at the Cross Country so we have organised one (under \$1000 so Exec was able to approve).</p> <p>We can use it for all events. We can have a pack (including flags and sunshade) which can be taken out on events.</p> <p>Question re the Building Fund. He asked how we can make donations to that fund. Ashley explained that the donate button is on our website. All the funds in there go to the building elements of the school. We will send out a note reminding people re donations as we approach the end of the tax year.</p>	Carly Freel
<p><i>Next meeting: Tuesday 13 July at 7pm via Zoom</i></p>		