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**Hunter School of the Performing Arts**

**P&C Minutes**

**Committee Members:**

President: Dave Lewis

Secretary: Amy Maguire

Treasurer: Philippa (Pippa) Cottle

Senior Vice-President: Guy Pitkin

Junior Vice-President: Harriet Ferguson

Canteen Treasurer: Barry Dismoor

**Date Monday 6th March 2023**

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**Time 7.00 pm**

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**Location HSPA Library**

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**Acknowledgement of Country**

David Donnelly

**Apologies**

Julie Hoey, Guy Pitkin, Kath Fotheringham, Mark Pegler, Michelle Offen

**Attendance**

Kristen Allen, Philippa Cottle, Barry Dismoor, David Donnelly, Harriet Ferguson, Amanda Lewis, Dave Lewis, Megan Lubinski, Amy Maguire, Dee Morison, Darren Ponman, Malini Stephen, Kieran Thomas, Bernadette van de Wijgaart, Alison Verkuylen

**Minutes of previous meetings**

MOTION: To approve the Minutes of the February 2023 meeting as an accurate record.

Moved: Barry Dismoor

Seconded: Amanda Lewis

Motion carried.

**Correspondence**

Nil

**Matters Arising**

Nil

**Reports**

* Treasurer’s Report – see AGM minutes
* Canteen Report – verbal report provided at meeting
  + Canteen has been going very well
  + Dee requests a second air conditioner – the one there is too small for the space and the amount of heat generating equipment in the canteen
  + Dee will speak to Jeanette about getting quotes before coming back to the P&C to discuss funding
  + Canteen still struggling a bit with volunteers – 9-12 is a great contribution (doesn’t need to be a full day); people can email the canteen email or the school, there is also a HSPA Canteen Facebook page
  + Well done to the canteen for quick recovery after recent break in
* POPPAS Report
  + Met today
  + Lots of discussion in the meeting about communication and getting people involved in the fundraisers eg Mother’s Day, Easter raffle
* Music Subcommittee Report
  + New parents have joined the committee
  + National band comps at Easter, HSPA is a venue for solo comps
  + Lots of gigs coming up
  + Music department has been out of the Band Centre for four years, very excited to move back in!
  + School Open Day on 15 March – music students and faculty heavily involved
  + This year is the centenary of the Hay War Memorial – HSPA has been invited back to Hay to do performances and workshops with marching band, stage band and senior choir to represent. RSL Hay will cover the cost of the tour buses.
  + Currently around 70 kids in marching band – contrast to a very small turn out from Marching Koalas
  + Finance:
    - Account balance - $40,671.84 (as of 16/2)
      * $12,045.18 general
      * $28,626.66 uniform
    - Requesting from the P&C to buy a big Square that has its own SIM to enable card payments for uniforms etc – approved
    - Music subcommittee can donate the small Square to the canteen now
    - About 50% of families don’t pay for their marching band uniforms
    - Darren notes that payment rates improved when the school gained the capacity to send reminders – perhaps this is something music sub-committee could do (Darren offered to speak to Sarah and Kylie about it)?

**Parent Information Session**

Darren Ponman, Relieving Principal, presented on Key Directions for HSPA in 2023.

* Three strategic directions in the School plan (following Dept policy):
  1. SD1: Dept targets around NAPLAN have been scrapped because reporting of NAPLAN will change. Dept targets for HSC remain the same. For Years 7-10, HSPA is setting its own targets around literacy and numeracy. This is a recent development so the School executive will soon convene to determine how to frame this SD. However, focus will definitely be on ‘super six’ reading strategies and TEEEC structures for writing.
  2. SD2: Mastery Learning – this year parents will see more of this, particularly in Year 7. This approach assesses students on where they are at a point in time compared to a set of pre-defined criteria rather than in comparison to a cohort. The schema runs through: emerging-developing-competent-mastering-advanced. This aligns well with NESA outcomes – the C/sound grade equates to competency. Parents will see this SD reflected in the Learning Mastery Dashboard. This year, this approach will take the place of reports for Year 7.
  3. SD3: Wellbeing – Wellbeing hub is almost finished (painted over the weekend, furniture is coming in). School is building a scope and sequence for how wellbeing programs work across the years. Parents can see some of this information already in the Check In course on Canvas.
* Next year will bring curricular change in English and Maths – those departments are currently working hard to bring those changes into program planning. Coming years will bring curricular changes in other courses.
* External validation process coming in Term 3 – school has to self-assess annually against excellence framework and this helps the school to set strategic directions. External validation is a Departmental audit that requires the school to demonstrate achievement with evidence. HSPA has volunteered to go digital with this assessment which should reduce the staffing resourcing required.
* Band Centre will open on 23 March.

**General business / Discussion and Questions**

* Head Teacher Dance Hayley Vimpani – presented on the introduction of a HSPA Dance Representative Uniform.
  + Hayley would like dance students to have a uniform that would enable them to represent the school very professionally in all their engagements
  + Sample uniforms are made by dance brands – they are breathable, durable and suitable for performance
  + Includes a streamlined, contoured jacket
  + Capezio is the provider for the zip-up team spirit jacket and collection pant, both of which have a unisex fit
  + Other schools have dance uniforms – our students don’t and they are often wearing their gear from their external dance studios because it is more suitable for dance as compared to the school uniform
  + These uniforms are to be used for performance – dance students change for their classes and for performances (so this uniform does not replace the school uniform for other purposes)
  + Hayley and Darren note that dance have a lower secondary fee ($600) compared to drama and music ($750). With the addition of this uniform the dance fee will rise to meet the other performing arts ($750).
  + Parents choosing to pay fees by instalments can still pick up the uniform when it arrives (in 7-8 weeks time) – they will not have to wait until they have paid the full fee.
* Funding Priorities for 2023
  + School has contributed considerable additional funds to upgrade items in the Band Centre that weren’t funded by the Department. EG $30,000 or so for new windows and painted brickwork on Eastern wall, $27,000 for compactus to store music scores.
  + Any donation from the P&C would be greatly appreciated. The school can then make purchases without paying GST.
  + For next meeting, everyone will provide expenses and funding requests and the P&C will determine how much to contribute for the upcoming major costs (including the Band Centre, digital sign (currently held up in Council) and canteen requirements).
  + Darren reports that all faculties have been asked to send in a wish list and the school then does its best to meet these needs later in the year, once it is clear how many funds are remaining in the account that can be used for these purposes.

**Any Other Business**

Thank you to David Donnelly for his service and dedication to HSPA, the parent community and the P&C throughout his family’s 11 years of involvement in the school. David has been an excellent P&C President and the association greatly appreciates his efforts.

Darren Ponman reports that the cast for the school musical will be announced around Week 8 or 9. Darren will send an email to parents in the evening so that students are at home when they get the news about whether they are successful or not following their auditions.

A brief discussion was held regarding air conditioning in HSPA classrooms. Darren Ponman reported that every upstairs room and some downstairs rooms are equipped with air conditioners. In addition, the theatre, hall and G block are air conditioned (with these buildings powered by solar panels). Unfortunately, some fairly new air conditions have already broken down and the school has been waiting longer than ideal for repairs to be made. Recent investments have come from the Cooler Classrooms Initiative. Darren has offered to report on needs in this area for the P&C to consider at the next meeting alongside other potential items for the P&C to contribute to.

Sex education – Amy Maguire asked what provision is made for sex and relationships education in the PDHPE curriculum or otherwise at HSPA. Darren has advised that he will look into what is provided at various stages.

**Meeting closed: 9.00pm**

**2023 Meetings to come:**

Mon 3 April 2023 (venue TBD)