



Hunter School of the Performing Arts P&C Minutes

Date Monday 2nd September 2019

Time 7.00pm

Location HSPA Staff Room

Presentation: Jane McDavit, Relieving Head Teacher English. See notes attached.

Attendance

Jo Gray (Principal), Julie Hoey (Secretary), Jane McDavit, Guy Pitkin, David Donnelly (President), Mardi Ryan, Fiona Hanson, Harriet Ferguson, Dee Morrison, Lisa Griffin, Leslee Brown, Marcus Neale (Assistant Principal)

Apologies

Amanda Linstrom, Malini Stephens, Belinda Epstein, Natalie Allan, Emma Walker-Coon

Minutes of previous meeting

Motion: To accept the minutes of the August meeting as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Dee

Seconded: Mardi

VOTED

Business arising from previous minutes

- Pedestrian/student safety at Australia Road intersection – see Principal’s report
- National Excellence in Teaching Award nomination—ongoing
- Mobile phones issue / potential for Departmental blanket ruling similar to Victoria—to discuss at some point, depending on where the NSW government goes.
- HSC Scaling – value of another information evening on this topic? Offered information to Year 10 parents at subject selection evening—only a few parents came along.
- Freezer: Dee got folder from Lynne with details of two quotes. A freezer the same as the two they have: \$4,600 (old quote). Definitely worth getting a commercial freezer, not domestic. Grant is for \$2,000 and we already have the cash.

Correspondence

Workers Compensation Insurance premium—due 7th August. Dee not sure why we have another invoice as we have already paid. She will follow up.

Public Service Association of NSW—encouragement to show support for SAS staff during Staff Recognition Week. This was last week and was duly celebrated.

CIVIQ—public use drinking fountain brochure

Reports

- Principal's Report—see attached
- Treasurer's Report—see attached
- Canteen Subcommittee Report—no report, but profit & Loss statement attached.
- Primary Subcommittee Report—see attached
- Music Subcommittee Report—see attached

General business

There were some noise issues with the venue for the Language Trial Exams. Marcus reported that the HSC exams will be held either in the recording studios, or HG4, which has never been a problem in the past. Was there also a problem with the equipment? Marcus had not received a complaint about that, but they can use the music equipment which is top quality.

The Primary Subcommittee is raising money toward new playground equipment. Hoping to get help with grants: writing grants; finding grants. Both Councils put out lists of grants; available from local members' offices. Grants come out quarterly; list refreshed. We're not very successful with most of them because they seem to feel the Department of Education should be supplying the funds—but don't let that stop you. Orica (twice a year). Also the Port (twice a year). Going up the valley—Glencore.

Marcus: Snapshot. Six editions have gone home. Is it valuable? Yes—getting it and reading it. Maybe include future events.

Skoolbag no longer has a link to the website.

Thank you and congratulations to the library—Write a Book in a Day. Second year it has run. Additional feedback: seemed to work better for students who were in groups of their own choosing. Lots of enjoyment, very intense.

Principal's Report

Staffing update:

Primary AP position filled – Rachel Wilson- thank you Guy

Primary classroom teacher – advertised tomorrow- thank you Lisa

Permission to advertise for HT Welfare- thank you Belinda

HSC in full swing- this week HSC Art and Industrial Technology, dance pracs finished, drama this week, music week 9. Thursday—exhibition from 4.30, Music exhibition 7.30

Opening of new building September 23rd (last Monday of this term.) Three-hour long event starting 4.00pm for people to come and go as they like. Drama and Dance workshops to watch or join in. Marching Band show on oval. 5.30 Hospitality, buskers, performers. Official ceremony at 6.00 – not long, but good quality.

Staff development led by Michael McQueen- futurist. Twilight session to investigate changes in education. Artificial intelligence, health science, etc. Thought-provoking—worth sharing with parents. Session on student engagement—high impact activities. Also really interesting for parents. HSPA primary-school engagement is through the roof compared to state norms. Sense of belonging a significant factor.

Junior debating team (Y7 and 8) defeated Hunter River High

Semifinals of NSW chess challenge – Connor McKay Y9 individual tournament winner

Q&A last week—Year 11 and 12 students attended.

Tournament of the Minds- two primary teams (both given honours), and one secondary teams on Saturday

Primary fathers Day breakfast

Primary Showcase (“On Show” concert)—absolutely fantastic

Y11 Captain’s Interviews (for senior student executive). A wonderful, uplifting two-days listening to students talking about HSPA.

Stage Band at Nelson Bay Saturday (in the pouring rain)

Marching Band Wallsend Fair

Senior choir sang at conservatorium with Uni of Newcastle arts orchestra- part of Newcastle music festival

SICM—Curriculum Monitoring. Jane has been doing a great job as English Head Teacher.

Tessie Overmyer Collective- underground (saxophone at Sydney Con)

Congratulate the following students who competed at the National Aerobics Championships in Brisbane on the weekend. All have been chosen for the Australian team to represent Australia in Leiden Netherlands from the 10-12th October!

Siannah Pirona and Allira Bull: 1st Adult Pairs

Lateisha Pirona and Sophie Herbert: 1st Junior Pairs

Lateisha Pirona: 2nd Individual Junior

Victoria Lee: 2nd Adult individual

Uen Cartlege: 3rd Performance Aerobic team

Futsal – Brody Roussel- State

Caitlin Patey-Dennis- 2019 international Jiangmen Futsal cup 16s girls champions

Dance Festival—around a dozen ensembles in the dance festival

Chinese visitors from Beijing- 20 students 2 teachers- thank you host families

Data from Australia Rd:

AUSTRALIA ROAD DATA

Date	Timeframe / Students Recording	Number people crossing Australia Rd	Number vehicle turns in/out of Australia Rd	Number U turns nearby
19/8 Monday am	8.30 to 9.00am	125	40	43
19/8 Monday pm	2.50 to 3.20pm	131	16	17
20/8 Tuesday am	8.30 to 9.00am	192	42	41
20/8 Tuesday pm	3.15 to 3.45pm	133	40	30
21/8 Wednesday am	8.30 to 9.00am	167	25	43
21/8 Wednesday pm	3.00 to 3.30pm	91	36	21
22/8 Thursday am	8.30 to 9.00am	123	26	35
22/8 Thursday pm	3.15 to 3.45pm	115	34	20
23/8 Friday am	8.30 to 9.00am	149	38	41
23/8 Friday pm	3.15 to 3.45pm	137	52	34

Cassie Portelli organised students to collect this data. Mardi Ryan has drafted a letter to send to Council.

Pedestrian movements have changed due to the installation of lights at Curley Road.

Thank you to Marcus

This is Marcus's last P&C meeting. Thanks to Marcus for his fantastic dedication, knowledge and wisdom. Likewise—thanks from the P&C. Waiting to hear on whether or not Marcus's job goes to interview. Interim arrangements: Michelle Maher relieving for end of this term, and likely into Term 4. Unlikely the successful applicant would start until next year.

Treasurer's Report

Most exciting news: we are officially Incorporated. Somebody, somewhere saw sense and just ticked the button.

Primary—actually have more funds than what is shown here.

\$2,000 of the P&C funds is the grant money for the freezer.

Balance Sheet

Hunter School of Performing Arts P & C

As at 31 August 2019

Account	31 Aug 2019
Assets	
Bank	
WESTPAC Music Savings Acc	22,155.90
WESTPAC Music Transaction Acc	4,796.50
WESTPAC P&C Savings Acc	20,098.47
WESTPAC P&C Transactions Acc	7,837.46
WESTPAC Primary Savings Acc	4,471.42
Total Bank	59,359.75
Total Assets	59,359.75
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
PAYG Withholding Payable	1,050.00
Superannuation Accruals Payable	618.21
Trade Creditors	2,577.99
Total Current Liabilities	4,246.20
Non-current Liabilities	
Prov'n for Long Service Leave	11,394.00
Total Non-current Liabilities	11,394.00
Total Liabilities	15,640.20
Net Assets	
	43,719.55
Equity	
P & C Funds Available for use	12,295.73
Music Funds	26,952.40
Primary Funds	4,471.42
Total Equity	43,719.55

Canteen Subcommittee Report

No report (Emma away.) Profit & Loss statement provided below. August was a bumper month.

Profit and Loss

Hunter School of Performing Arts P & C

For the month ended 31 August 2019

Account	Aug 2019
Trading Income	
Canteen Sales	27,449.11
Total Trading Income	27,449.11
Gross Profit	27,449.11
Operating Expenses	
Canteen Expense	13,464.44
Superannuation	618.21
Wages	6,507.51
Total Operating Expenses	20,590.16
Net Profit	6,858.95

Primary Subcommittee Report

Minutes of meeting held Monday 2nd September:

Present

Jo Gray, Rachel Wilson, Lisa, Leslee, Dee, Julia

Apologies

Kim, Marlini, Karen, Amanda

Deputy principals report

Very successful few weeks. Water safety, ATYP video conference, Newcastle perm maths comp, stage 2 public speaking, zone athletics, stage 3 public speaking finals, healthy Harold, primary music camp, fathers' day celebrations, tournament of the minds on weekend (took out honours).

Coming up: primary proms, state dance, primary auditions, bandlink, schools spec rehearsal, new precinct opening.

Feedback:

- Grand friend day, lots of people around, all seemed happy, lots of smiles. Story with Mrs Gray was a hit with kids. Book stall would have better if had their wish lists. Some confusion with pricing made awkward, check over for prices next time, browsing time for kids
- Morning tea needs to be provided for Grandfriends next time, some brought picnic lunch was ok too.
- Grandfriends enjoyed being in classrooms
- Kids loved book week costumes

Disco

- Great feedback on water available, and reusable cups.
- Just dance was perfect for kids to break the ice and keep things going. "Best ever"
- No more glow sticks, left overs going to year 6 mini fete for kids to sell
- Lolly bags were a hit with decent product.
- Different process for getting into the hall, maybe give notes back to teachers to hand out.
- Reason for going outside to eat, enforced fresh air break, good behaviour as regards rubbish and self managing water cooler.

On Show

- Large selection of food
- Community activity
- Water coolers great, interesting
- Show was incredible
- Raffle, try to get to three prizes?
- Collection of kids seemed to work well
- Kids don't get to see show, would be good to have a rehearsal sitting in theatre. Good for them to see classmates. Great to see all the different disciplines. ? Using new hall. Ticketing, was it successful? Online? Fair system though.

Convenors report

- Thanks everyone for all the hard work, everything worked well
- Need to sort out orders, maybe if everyone had to return note even if not ordering then no need to over order to cover people
- Left over bacon for orientation breakfast, good start
- Start ordering earlier to take pressure off, also gives dads notice of event
- Father's Day gifts bought from charity organisations

- Gifts have received high praise
- Good to have a balance of gifts, working bee to help make the sustainable gifts next time.
- Share skills and resources
- Can we include high school kids? Recess possible

Treasurer's Report

Opening balance \$4703.44

Funds in from Disco 653.85

On show 304

Fathers bbq 905

Stall 1691

Balance \$8025.27 before expenses

Purchase of drinks cooler and Cups \$235.59

Principal's Report

Thankyou for hard work

Rachel Wilson appointed Primary AP, congratulations from all!

Agenda items

Orientation breakfast

Tuesday December 3rd

- BBQ for all primary and incoming/moving on year 7
- Will need parent helpers for BBQ , serving, taking orders.

Picture plates

- Must go out for week 8
- Souvenir of year 6
- Christmas gift etc

Five cent challenge term 4

- Class competition
- Small prize

Playground equipment

- Source funding???? Grants

Lids for kids

- Promote to school population

closed 6.58pm

Music Subcommittee Report—Fiona

Music committee met on 25 August.

Financials

Total in bank as at 25/8	\$22, 815.60
Uniform	\$21, 705.50
General	\$ 1, 110.10

Fundraising

Bunnings BBQ was held in early August and had a very successful day \$1,400.

There were a number of HSPA music students busking on the day. This provided a fabulous atmosphere & was a strong promotion for the school.

The kids made about \$30 each with one or two making a little more. Next time a parent needs to be appointed to coordinate the performers.

Though Bunnings had approved the busking, Centre Management on the day were happy to have music, but stipulated the kids could not take money for it in future.

We are following up to see if that restriction can be lifted in future. [Lisa: could be an insurance issue. Duck for Cover]

Wine & Cheese night at end July was one of the best we've had & raised \$ 1,887.

Music Faculty report:

Trials have been completed.

A small number of gigs coming up which are all on the gig Guide.

Senior Choir to perform with the Newcastle Arts Orchestra.

Percussion Festival at the Conservatorium

Stage Band to perform at Newcastle Diggers at the end of the month (Sat 28th Sep) as a thank you for support for the Outback tour in April.

HSC showcase on Thursday 6th

Dates have been set for music camps in Nov/December. The search for camp parents & helpers to commence.

General business:

One parent spoke to the committee of his concern about the weight of the Marching Band jackets when the kids are performing on hot days. There was discussion over what options might exist. Things to consider are:

- it must be long sleeved to stop sunburn
- it needs to reflect the school colours.
- its hard to get the kids to bring all pieces of their uniform, adding another piece won't improve this

The decision was to do more research and come back with suggestions.

Jane McDavit's presentation

UPDATE

Last week – went to Head Office for Secondary Curriculum Improvement Monitoring process. Focus on Stage 6. Great opportunity to validate processes. Very affirming e.g. giving a choice of ways of presenting a task – to suit students' different needs. Zero action items required. Two NESA inspectors in room listening to conversations and asking for evidence. Great feedback—first group in the state to have no follow-up actions.

Process English faculty is embarking on—how to improve after first implementation of new syllabus. How to improve 7 – 10 to prepare students for new Stage 6 syllabus.

Next week: cross curricular project with HSIE and Primary – looking at Aboriginal texts—how to complement what we're all doing, not double-up, etc.

Focusing on building a strength-based model – students understanding of Aboriginal culture and history—celebrate all the good things.

Also: trying to look at ways to build in more flexibility in assessment structure. Currently: stages—check-in task, then final submission. Provide opportunity for G&T students to extend what they're doing. Also take into account students' schedules.

Have been building up our book room to accommodate different learning and reading needs—especially the use of graphic novels. Working with Mel in the library to get audio copies—for use during students' travel times.

Working with other faculties to look at how to strategically develop essay writing skills—better and sooner. Year 7 and 8 – stronger basis in essay writing; more experimentation in Year 9 and 10 with different styles.

FEEDBACK/DISCUSSION

Policy—junior years have been able to take a scaffold into assessment tasks; get quite anxious when it's taken away in Year 11. Need to take it away sooner. Work on using summary/dot points better.

HSC will no longer be predictable—can't memorise an essay and make a "token" link to the question in the exam. Won't be able to do that any more.

Graphic novels—a lot of complexity in the reading skills required.

NAPLAN: multi-modal texts

Handwriting issues—pen grip

Catholic Schools Office—Aboriginal content. Getting Aboriginal students to record their stories.

How to write essays; good structure. Verb charts. Pulling apart a question—interpreting the question.

Aboriginal content: Can be very heavy. Needs to be an agreed language across the board, e.g. invasion vs colonisation. Australian history needs to be a true history. Mindful of not stereotyping all Aboriginal people with the negative story.

So many brilliant Aboriginal writers finding a great platform at the moment. Lots of cultural representation in the performing arts.

Does English have an image problem? Many students don't "like" English. Lack of confidence with writing. Department at HSPA has a strong focus on recreational reading. Growth mindset, not comparison to other students.

Core aim of English Studies course: work-ready skills, or non-Uni pathways.