BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2012

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Brett...............Community Member
Elaine Browne............Manager, P&C Uniform Shop
Tim Cunningham.......Chairperson
Colin Jones.............Community Member
Perry Kritselas.........Parent
Janina Longman ........Deputy Principal
Alice Magoffin ........Parent
Nick Miller .............Parent
Karyn O’Brien.........Deputy Principal
Patrice Simpson.......Teacher

APOLOGIES: Frank Levy .............Community Member
Mia Kumar .............Principal (LSL)
Gavin Parker ..........Teacher
Katerina Frolov........Student (late notification)
Tara Lau ...............Student (late notification)
Jenieka Oakes ........Student (late notification)

1. Welcome. New members for 2012 are Perry Kritselas, Alice Magoffin, Nick Miller, Katerina Frolov, Tara Lau and Jenieka Oakes. Unfortunately there was a communication breakdown and students did not attend.

2. Business Arising

2.1 Special Religious Education pilot program for 2012 was discussed.

Karyn distributed a copy of the letters that were sent home to parents regarding the Years 7-10 Combined Christian SRE Seminars and the SRE Classes in Year 7. School Council members again expressed concern about the implementation of this pilot program and are aware that it is an issue of current concern for the both the school’s P & C and NSWTF.

Feedback was given about the first SRE Seminar day held on Friday 17 February. The number of students who attended in each year group was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Period</th>
<th>Attended</th>
<th>Absent from seminar</th>
<th>Total expected (ie. no note returned)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>64/148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>73/173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>73/183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>75/190</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>196 (28%)</td>
<td></td>
<td>285/694</td>
</tr>
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Of particular concern were two issues:
1. The process of requiring students to ‘opt out’ of the program seems unfair, and the council would prefer an ‘opt in’ process to determine student engagement with the program;
2. If students choose to attend the program they should be required to catch up any work missed, rather than waste the learning time of other students not attending SRE.

Council members would like to see a copy of the Act in regards to SRE at the next meeting.

2.2 **Wangal Park** was discussed.

2.2.1 Tim Cunningham provided council members with the latest copy of plans from Burwood Council illustrating their changes to the previous plans.

It was noted that there were few changes, except for:
- A new pedestrian crossing over the road between the courts
- Gates shut between 8.30 – 3.30pm
- New seating beside the road through the courts

The proposal that access be gained via Monash Avenue and/or Royce Avenue has not considered favourably by Burwood Council – why not?

There is a meeting next week between DEC and Burwood Council. Mia and Tim will attend also.

2.2.2 The soccer club contract has been signed and the school is very pleased with the maintenance of the lawn (mowing and fertilising). They intend installing some porta loo facilities and portable lights which will operate with their own generator.

3. **SC and HSC Results for 2011**

Karyn outlined the terrific results for both the School Certificate and Higher School Certificates last year.

In the final year of the School Certificate we performed well in most subject areas. Percentages of Band 5/6 compared to the state were:
- English…………….. 47% (39%)
- Mathematics……… 42% (26%)
- Science…………….. 38% (34%)
- History…………….. 38% (27%)
- Geography………… 24% (25%)
- Computing………… 65% (53%)

In the HSC, students performed above State average in 91% of subjects (41 out of 45 subjects). In the two previous years, this percentage was 74% in 2010 and 61% in 2009.

4. **Annual School Report for 2011**

The ASR for 2011 is being prepared as we speak. We need a report from the following key groups:

School Council (Tim Cunningham)
P & C (Leanne McKee / Alice Magoffin)
SRC (Patrice Simpson to coordinate completion of report)

The report must be uploaded to DEC 1 April 2012.

5. **Student Representative Council Report**

No SRC report was tabled.
6. Building Developments
   - Toilet building is progressing well and should be finished this term.
   - Concrete paving and stormwater pit near Library is to be repaired to ensure it is not a WHS issue.
   - Leftover money from recent carpeting works means that we can also carpet a number of rooms (12, 13 and Science Staffroom) and paint walls in Room 15 (kitchen).

7. New Staff for 2012 and Enrolments

7.1 Changes to Staff

Social Sciences
Amy Adams started in Week 2 (Elena Softsis)
Julia Alvarado (Madison Shakespeare)
Bill Hilliard (Liz Bors)

History
Jenny Konstan (Cheryl Kimberley)
Emma Parsons (Julie Nugent LSL Term 1)

English
Serena Vecchiet (Amy Jamieson)

Science
Kirsty Tottenham now permanent appointment
Deborah Segal (Sarbpreet Kaur)
Angela Thorne (Lyn Thickett 3 days)

TAS
Louise Harper (replaces Marie Comino-Gartrell)

Creative Arts
Kate Tapp returns Monday and Tuesday
Caroline Thompson (replaces Lorraine Clairbrook)

PDHPE
Olga Dalageorgos (replaces Angie Bereveskos)

SASS
Vivian Webb (replaces Sue Ritchie)

7.2 Enrolments for 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Classes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 7</td>
<td>148</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 8</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 9</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>6 (maybe 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 10</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 11</td>
<td>213</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 12</td>
<td>199</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1108</strong></td>
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These numbers reflect a reduction in the anticipated number of Year 7 and 10 students, and an increase in the number of Year 11 students anticipated.
We had to create a new Year 11 Extension 1 Maths class to meet the needs of new students and are looking at the possibility of making an additional Year 9 class if staffing entitlement allows.

8. **School Visits and Sister School in Korea**  
A large group of Japanese students are visiting on Monday 5 March 2012.

There has been a proposal to establish a Korean Sister School relationship. A visit from Korean students later this year would require home stay for up to 20 students. The School Council believes this would be quite easy to achieve in our school community.

A copy of the draft school plan for 2012 – 2014 was distributed and discussed briefly.

The priorities which form the basis of our school plan for 2012 -2014 are:

- Leadership and Management
- Curriculum and Assessment
- Engagement and Attainment
- Literacy and Numeracy

The intended outcomes are:

- Strong focus on pedagogy and best practice
- Curriculum expanded to reflect student interests and needs
- Technology initiatives to support and enhance both student and staff learning
- High quality leadership, community programs with focus on becoming good global citizens
- Recognition and promotion of BGHS achievements
- Regular information meetings /evenings for students/parents
- New structure for school organisation to support student wellbeing initiatives (Middle School + Senior School)

10. **General Business**  
Elaine Brown asked if the uniform policy is being enforced as she had concerns about the lack of socks, and the inappropriate length of shorts and skirts.

Janina confirmed that we do actively police uniform and that we will again focus students’ attention on what is appropriate for a school uniform.

11. **Dates for 2012:**  
   - 23 May
   - 22 August
   - 28 November

Meeting closed.