1. Tim welcomed Kathy Lye, relieving deputy principal; Harriet Roberts (student) and the Regional Director, Phil Lambert for his willingness to attend the School Council meeting.

2. **Business Arising**
   2.1 Two documents were tabled:
   "Implementing Special Religious Education – Guidelines for Schools Providers of SRE and parents" which included extracts from the Education Act 1990 and the Director-General’s memorandum from 1993.
   The second document was the summary prepared by Liling Tan, SRE teacher outlining the SRE classes in Year 7 and the SRE seminars.
   - Number of Year 7 students attending SRE = 37
   - Number of students attending seminars = 196 in Term 1, 143 in Term 2

   Discussion took place on whether 37 students should dictate the curriculum? Concern expressed that the number of students involved was small. Principal reported that Liling Tan was a trained science teacher, had participated in Year 7 Camp and had developed excellent relationships with students and staff. The SRE program would be evaluated at end 2012 for inclusion in the 2012 Annual School Report.

2.2 Annual School Report for 2011 was presented to all members. The report is available on website and in fact is mandatory for all schools.

2.3 Toilet Block was completed as well as the stormwater pit and concreting area outside the canteen. Great improvements for the school. Photos presented.

3. The Wangal Park and access roadway was the main topic for the meeting. A slide show presentation showing the access road, proximity to the basketball courts, SES building, alternative access to Wangal Park as well as areas for development for school
purposes, was presented. A map showing access from Blair Park to Wangal Park across Burwood GHS was also tabled. Tim Cunningham had located this map in the minutes of Burwood Council’s last meeting. This map showed that Burwood Council had some plan to acquire school land to make a direct access from Blair Park to Wangal Park cutting across the portable classrooms. This situation needs to be clarified. Mia to send map to Lai Yin Chiew.

Tim Cunningham introduced Phil Lambert after summarising the outcome from a meeting attended on 29 February 2012 with Burwood Council. Simply, not in favour of Burwood Council having access to Wangal Park through Burwood GHS playing fields.

Phil Lambert, Regional Director addressed the School Council about his involvement with this situation. He reported that he had no prior knowledge about problems with access road before meeting with the principal Mia Kumar at the end term 1 2012 and a briefing from Lai Yin Chiew.

Phil also reported that he had looked at the grounds and agreed to meet with Charles Casuscelli who has been supporting Burwood Council’s view. Phil wants the best for all the schools in the region. He also has the responsibility to work with local councils and governments to ensure public money is used appropriately for the community. Three years ago there was a big push by councils to have the Department of Education give access to school facilities for sporting clubs, as a result of increased demand on council parks and council facilities. In return, councils should pay for lighting, maintenance and upkeep of fields. If toilet facilities were needed, then councils were to provide the funds for building – this has only happened in Sutherland area to date.

Phil met Charles the week before last and felt it important to come to this meeting to hear School Council views on the access road. The views of School Council were discussed. Principal reported that the school staff unanimously supports removal of the road so that the area can be available for students at recess and lunchtime. It has now been 3 years that the staff and students are waiting for occupation of this area (removal of barbed wire fences, roadway, trucks…). Phil suspects that Burwood Council wants to ensure our grounds look like part of the park. If Council was given access – a licence would need to be drawn up. Access for the community and use of green space needs to be specified very clearly.

Phil agreed with the school council that there should be no access road through school grounds.

It was reported that a soccer group, ‘The Fast Football Academy’, uses the grounds at least 3 times per week and at weekends and in return the soccer group maintains the fields. A contract between the school and the soccer club has been signed for 2012. Phil will report to the Minister that a sporting group is using facilities and the school could consider the soccer field being used by sporting groups recommended by Burwood Council but is not at all interested in having open access to the community. It is recommended that the access road is to be removed as there is no benefit to the school. Phil is convinced it is all about appearance. Phil will report this to the Minister. School Council was delighted to hear about this support.

Tim handed the following documents to Phil:
- History outline of developments/discussion between Burwood GHS and Burwood Council.
- Colour plans developed by Burwood Council for the access road from Cheltenham Road to Wangal Park and access from Blair Park to Wangal Park.
Letter to Lai Yin Chiew from Burwood Council outlining removal of access road (12 July 2011).
Response from Lai Yin Chiew (22 July 2011).
Letter to Burwood Council from Tim Cunningham (6 September 2011).

School Council is very appreciative of Phil’s support.

There is a huge SRC this year with more than 60 members.
Special events included:
- International Women’s Day
- International Day celebrations
- Interschool meetings
- SRC workshops
- Leadership days.

Focus on charities at the SRC meeting last week listed all groups and ideas for 2012.
New leaders were elected and the SRC is pleased to announce the following:
SRC Presidents: Katie Cunningham and Krissie Karatasas
SRC Vice-Presidents: Lolita Emmanuel and Zoe Zaczek

5. Principal reported on the School Finance situation.
At the end of 2011 there was a large overspending for utilities (gas, electricity, water, waste, etc) and a request for supplementation was submitted at the end of 2011. The additional supplementation of $97 000 for utilities was received in April. The Annual Financial summary in the 2011 Annual School Report is therefore not as grim as it appears. Complete copies of the Annual Financial Statement were provided to the president of School Council (Tim Cunningham) and to the president of P&C (Alice Magoffin).

The Budget for 2012 was tabled but it should be noted that the adjustment to include $97 000 has not yet been included. GST recoups need to be included in the income statement. The 2012 audit conducted recently indicated that the budget was on track but there is room for improvement in the following areas:
- maintaining the assets register;
- student enrolment numbers to be exact;
- teacher leave to be managed and checked regularly;
- DER charters to be collected for years 10, 11 and 12.

The OHS policy and procedures were deemed to be satisfactory.

6. Special Programs for Burwood GHS were outlined by Karyn O’Brien.
6.1 The Proud Schools Pilot Program involves a grant of $8000 to promote a whole school approach to address homophobia. A document highlighting the planning committee, the meeting on 1 June and the results of a school survey on gender and sexual diversity was tabled. Samantha Jones (Year 11) and Katherine Hudson (ex-student) are also represented on the committee. Katherine Hudson’s initiative was ‘Wear It Purple Day’ was recognised last year at Parliament House.

6.2 The Middle Years Transition Initiative attracted funding of $16 830 to work on literacy priorities with two primary schools: Croydon PS and Summer Hill PS. Burwood GHS is part of a pilot on Literacy Continuum and this will fit in well with Literacy focus in primary schools. All three schools will be involved in a regional program ‘Maximising the Middle’.
7. General Business involved the following:

7.1 Karyn O'Brien reported on the primary enrolment for Year 7, 2013:
- Total applications for Year 7, 2013 = 448
- Panel reviewed applications = 323
- Local applications = 125
Primary placement panel (Karyn O’Brien, Alice Magoffin, Meni Theodoropoulos) made 16 offers to siblings and placed 80 students on waiting list. Letters of offer and waiting list letters to be sent by 25 May 2012.

7.2 Principal reported that she had found two documents requested by Council members:
- School Council Guidelines
- Constitution for Burwood GHS High School Council.
These were both circulated.


Meeting closed 7:15 pm.