1. Welcome to the new representatives from the SRC: Chantelle Manion, Christine Trieu and Lucy Ward-Gemmell, who have been members of the SRC since Year 8. Our two new parents were unable to attend today’s meeting as Lesley Jolly is in the UK and Erin Dib is finalising membership of Croydon Primary School Council. We hope to meet them next term. Member list for 2013 with email addresses was distributed.

2. Business arising from meeting held on 28 November 2012 was discussed as follows.

   2.1. There have been several letters written by the school community to local press to correct the misrepresentation in the press from Burwood Council. The Burwood GHS P&C wrote a letter and letters were also published from Nick Miller and Tim Cunningham. Tim outlined some recent press articles:

   “Piccoli backs down on Wangal Park access”, Burwood Scene, 13 Feb 2013
   “Park Project Gets Extension”, Inner West Courier, 12 Feb 2013

In these articles Burwood Council seem to think that they have the right to the access road until end Term 3, 2013. Tim also provided photos of the new road which was being built from Monash Parade (only two or three trees removed and not the playground as first mooted by Burwood Council). Concern was expressed about the lack of transparency in Burwood Council’s actions regarding all aspects of the development of Wangal Park and Burwood Girls playing fields. Nick also raised issue of lack of support from the local member, Charles Casuscelli and commented on the written response he had received.

Other comments from parents (such as Jim Keldoulis) supported views of the school community that the local member and Burwood Council do not consider the needs of 1100+ students attending Burwood GHS. Tim tabled a document “Wangal Park Services – Technical Specifications” and discussed Burwood Council’s plan to place pipes in a trench below the temporary access road as well as the plan for a land swap.
The minutes of the Burwood Council meeting 12 February 2013, indicated that a petition has been received from residents objecting to the “stop the closure of Wangal Park Access Road by Burwood GHS”. There were 153 petitioners.

Burwood GHS also used a letter from Tim Cunningham at the end of 2012 to all new parents, outlining the issue. The school received 255 signatures from the school community in two days. This certainly indicates parents’ desire for students to have access to the playing fields at recess and lunch as soon as possible.

Members of the School Council resolved to take the following action:

- Monitor work undertaken by Burwood Council until end Term 1 and again in Term 2 to assess progress.
- Keep Burwood Council informed that a fitness track is being planned for the access road area for Term 3 and they need to speed up their progress.
- Refer to this issue as the “BGHS Sporting Field” issue NOT the “Wangal Park” issue.

2.2. Elaine reported on the Uniform Shop developments:

- Blazers are now in small sizes for all students.
- Manufacturer can customise blazers in small sizes with long arms (for our slim, tall girls).
- A new sports short is being designed from a different breathable fabric. A BGHS logo/monogram to be on the short this time. Samples to be presented at the next meeting.

3. The Student Representative Council Report was provided as follows:

- Proud Schools day held on 26 February, with Rainbow Flag Raising Ceremony was a great success and indicated Burwood GHS is accepting of diversity.
- Looking forward to celebrating International Women’s Day on 8 March with a special breakfast at school followed by an assembly focusing on the theme for IWD which is ‘ending violence against women’. This assembly is being organised by Year 10 International Studies students.
- The SRC is assisting in organising International Day for 21 March and would welcome School Council members to attend.
- A Leadership Camp is being held for 60-70 students involved in SRC on May 2/3 organised by Patrice Simpson and Janina Longman.

4. The school has some new members of staff and a full complement of teachers: Head Teacher, English – Pauline Hageman as Jenny Hardwick moved laterally to Head Teacher, Teaching & Learning to replace Jeff Stubbs who retired at end of 2012. New teachers include:

**English:**
Matthew Chalmers (Jodi Coleman on maternity leave)
Mark Dodshon (Jurate Janavicius for Semester 1)
Jo Keeling-Lowe (only on Mondays)
Lydia Parker (Amy Jamieson on maternity leave)
Serena Vecchiet / Emma Parsons (replacing Jennie Campbell on leave 2013).

**Maths:**
Heather Oh (replacing John Cameron)
Francine Thanos (additional staff for Maths/Science)
Social Sciences: Neil Dutton (replacing Robyn McQuarrie from Term 2)
Science: Rachael Battle (replacing Deborah Segal until June)
IT: Gonaseelan Govender (replacing Jeff Stubbs)
TAS: Paula Papas (replacing Kathleen Scott)
CA: Amanda Caltabiano (Ynping Mak on maternity leave)

We are very happy to welcome these staff and they are delighted to be part of the team which delivers quality education at BGHS.

5. Karyn O’Brien showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Proud Schools Day of Celebration. This event included:
   - A whole-school assembly (including a drag queen with an excellent message for all students)
   - A rainbow flag raising ceremony
   - A mural signing opportunity
   - 1300+ coloured cupcakes for everyone
   - Discussion forums for students, teachers and parents

Guests included students and staff from eight other schools in the pilot program as well as representatives from key organisations such as DEC, Family Planning, Twenty10, police, ACON, PFLAG. The assembly focussed on a clear message that "you don’t have to be gay to support Equal Rights". Other messages devised by students included:
   - Don’t hide what’s inside
   - Don’t let society mask what you are
   - Homophobia…not a fear, just ignorance
   - Tolerance is the link to happiness

There were excellent posters developed and designed by students, with the winning two receiving Westfields vouchers.

Karyn also reported that the literacy (reading) initiative with the Inner West Learning Community was progressing well and there will be a full report at the next School Council meeting.

6. The Principal received a proposal from the FAST Football Academy to jointly fund seating along the soccer field. This soccer field is well used by this group and seating would be of benefit to members of the community who come to watch their children play, as well as for our students during the day. The proposal is for six aluminium benches (2 metres in length) outside the soccer field boundary adjacent to the basketball court.

The total cost is $1196.45 including installation.

All members agreed this would be a great idea and to be taken to the school finance committee.

7. Principal tabled a document listing some of the contents for the 2012 Annual School Report. The School Council report was discussed and it was agreed to include some of the issues that School Council has had to deal with as a result of the behaviour of Burwood Council. The P&C report still needs to be prepared as well as:

**Evaluations:**
   - Special Religious Education
   - Digital Education Revolution
   - Quality Teaching and Learning
   - Parental Involvement
Special Programs: Proud Schools/Wear It Purple
- Inner West Learning Community
- Multicultural Education
- Student Wellbeing Initiatives
- Student Leadership
- ‘Not For Ourselves Alone’…charity commitments

The principal commented on our 2012 HSC results as being extremely strong:

**HSC Results 2012:** 187 students applied for ATAR
- 80% offered university place
- One student achieved ATAR 99.95 (1st of many in NSW)
- 23 students (12%) achieved ATAR greater than 95
- 47 students (25%) achieved ATAR greater than 90

8. General Business

8.1. P&C BBQ held for Year 7 parents was an outstanding success. Nick reported that it was an excellent event with plenty of P&C support as well as a good roll up of Year 7 students and parents. The new BBQ was fabulous and everyone had a good time. Special thanks to the hospitality students and their teacher, Louise Harper.

8.2. Need to make contact with Lai Yin Chiew and have a subcommittee meeting about our Sporting Fields and progress with Burwood Council.

8.3. All staff have undergone training for dealing with anaphylaxis and our school has purchased EpiPens for staffrooms for easy access in times of need.

8.4. School is compliant with WHS policy and practice. Our last evacuation was successful except for our Korean teacher and class remaining in a classroom – the rest of the school evacuated efficiently.

8.5. BGHS has requested to march for Burwood Anzac ceremony but has not received response from Burwood Council as yet. Suggestion to join the city march for 2013 should be explored.

8.6. There are still gifts available for overseas trips from the Uniform Shop.
- Samoa (our school will support a victims support group refuge)
- Malaysia - four girls are going with Rosemary Sandow, Year Adviser and the principal to observe conservation by the Malaysian Palm Oil Board. Trip has been postponed due to problems in Sabah. Expected to go ahead in May.
- New York trip is 10-22 April (30 girls + 3 staff)
- Italy trip is 10-28 April (20 girls + 3 staff)

8.7. Many Year 12 laptops have not been collected by students from 2012 Year 12. It would be good to donate these to a special program developed by St George GHS where laptops are sent to students in Nigeria and other African countries. Suggestion to place notice on website that if students do not collect their laptops by end of Term 1 (12 April), the laptops will be donated to those who can make better use of them. The current Year 12 students have already been approached about donating their laptops at the end of 2013.

Meeting closed: 6:55 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 29 May 2013, School Library, 6pm

**Attachments:**
- Copy of resident letter (6 February) from Burwood Council.
- Copy of letter from Adam Piccoli (MP) to Burwood Council (22 January).
WANGAL PARK ALTERNATIVE ACCESS ROAD AND SERVICE LINE INSTALLATION

I am writing to advise you that Burwood Council will be commencing the following construction activities at Wangal Park:

- The installation of the underground service lines across Burwood Girls High School land between Cheltenham Road and Wangal Park; and
- The installation of an alternative access road through Monash Reserve from Monash Parade to Wangal Park.

The bulk of the construction works will be commencing on Monday 11 February 2013. Prior to this leading up to the commencement date, minor investigation works will be undertaken including but not limited to:

- Exploratory excavation on Cheltenham Road to locate the storm water pipe for connection;
- Exploratory excavation within the works area to locate other existing service lines and assets;
- Survey set out of the site;
- Delivery of materials and plant to the site.

To facilitate these works the construction work will require:

- The removal of some trees in Monash Reserve which Council will make every effort to keep to a minimum; and
- Between the hours of 6am and 6pm, changed traffic conditions including traffic control will be in effect along Cheltenham Road between Queen Street and Princess Street and on Monash Parade along the park frontage. Some on-street parking along Cheltenham Road and Monash Parade will also be unavailable for the duration of these works. At the completion of the works, parking will return to the existing arrangements.

Should you require any further information and/or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me on (02) 9078 6152 during business hours.

Thank you in anticipation for your co-operation in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

MICHAEL LIMNOS
Manager Civil Construction & Maintenance
The Hon. Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education

Councillor John Faker  
Mayor  
Burwood Council  
PO Box 240  
BURWOOD NSW 1805

Dear Councillor Faker,

I write in response to your letter of 18 December 2012, following our meeting of 17 December 2012, regarding the temporary access road to Wangal Park located on Burwood Girls High School land (your reference: Trim No: 12/55261).

I am advised that the school has plans to construct a fitness track and recreation area on this land this year to support its 2013 Personal Development, Health and Physical Education program and provide its students with uninterrupted access to its playing fields. I understand that the school community is concerned that a further 12 months use of the access road will delay implementing the education program another year.

However, the Department of Education and Communities recognise that the capping required to remediate the park may take time and has advised that it is prepared to agree to an extension on the use of the temporary access road to 12 July 2013, which is the end of the Term 2 school holidays.

Should weather or other unexpected construction issues delay work, the Department is also prepared to grant an absolute termination date of 30 September 2013.

To keep faith with the school community, I urge Council to commence work on the alternate access road immediately and to strive to achieve the 12 July 2013 deadline.

The Department appreciates Council’s assurance that it will continue to have appropriate traffic management procedures and communication with Burwood Girls High School to ensure students’ safety when truck movements are required across the school site.

The Department has no objections in principle to Council placing pipes in a trench below the temporary access road and entering into a suitable agreement for future access to this area for maintenance purposes. The Department has requested that Council provide construction details and timeframe of the proposal.

In addition, the Department would be happy to progress a land swap to resolve the issue of encroachment by the school’s playing fields onto Council land.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Piccoli MP  
Minister for Education

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