Burwood Girls High School - P&C Meeting
Minutes of Meeting 1/2015: 18 February 2015

Attendance: Mia Kumar-Principal, Janina Longman-Deputy Principal, Karyn O’Brien- Deputy Principal, Nick Miller-President, Alice Magoffin-Vice President, Kerry West-Vice President, Effie Balomatis-Treasurer, Effie Matsas-Secretary, Kathy Kritselas - Assistant Secretary, Perry Kritselas, Helen Drury, Claudia Swientek (and others as noted on the Attendance Log)

Apologies: Elaine Browne

Minutes by: Effie Matsas

1. WELCOME
Meeting opened by Nick Miller in the Library at 7.20pm and welcomed the Year 7 parents.

2. PRINCIPAL’S REPORT - Presented by Mia Kumar
   3.1 Mia Kumar (Principal since 2002) introduced Janina Longman and Karyn O’Brien (Deputy Principals) and also presented holiday photos.

   3.2 New staff appointed in various faculties – Tricia Coulson (ESL), Cathy Nygryn (English), Debbie Kiely (TAS), Renee Lindsay (Dance and Drama), Kate Hooper (PE), Paula Papas (TAS), Kingston Roser, Christine Ha (Maths).

   3.3 History and Social Sciences faculties have been amalgamated into one and renamed Human Society and its Environment (HSIE). Headed by Patrice Simpson.

   3.4 ESL faculty is returning to English faculty.

   3.5 Welfare program replaced with Wellbeing Program with Voulla Kalogeropoulos as Head Teacher.

   3.6 School maintenance program, over the holidays:
   - Canteen painted, re-carpeted, and servery/catering area renovated.
   - Library drainage replaced
   - Planter boxes around trees completed
   - Blinds in classrooms
   - New vinyl outside Music area
   - Lighting and blinds for DT2

   3.7 Further special project improvements include:
   - Expand the Social Sciences staffroom to accommodate the new Human Society and its Environment faculty
   - Rebuild of music portables/annexes
   - New doors for canteen

   3.8 Large enrolment this year at 1,174 students, with a large contingent in Year 11 and 12 (due to extensive curriculum for HSC preparation).

   3.9 New Yr 7 Advisers Erin Dib and Matt Chalmers. Yr 7 settling in well and very confident.

   3.10 Swimming Carnival attendance was optimal and students and staff get right into the spirit with dress-ups.

   3.11 Goals to be achieved this term:
   - Appoint Head Teacher Secondary Studies

   Action: Mia Kumar needs a P&C representative for the panel (Completed).
- Complete the School Plan. Three main strategic directions have been identified and working towards change.
- Complete the Annual School Report

  **Action: Mia Kumar requires P&C report and School Council report to be included in the School report.**

- Completion of the BGHS brochures – brochures indicate BGHS values. Other brochures – eg. Wellbeing, Arts etc to be developed
- Microsoft Windows 365 and Google apps will be available to students soon free of charge.

3. **HSC Results Presentation**
   - Detailed report presented by Janina Longman.
   - 245 students completed HSC.
   - BGHS placed 88th in NSW or 7th among comprehensive high schools.
   - SMARTDATA – schools have access to NAPLAN results and teachers can review individual student progression over the years for literacy and numeracy and identify where student needs more attention. With HSC results, SMARTDATA indicates where a student is expected to perform against how they actually performed in the HSC.

4. **PREVIOUS MINUTES**
   P&C Minutes 19 November were tabled –

  **Motion: Minutes adopted by Alice and seconded by Kathy**

5. **PLANS FOR 2015**

   5.1 Working Bee – The Grounds Improvement Team started in 2013 aiming to beautify the school grounds and provide green areas for students and staff to enjoy. Several planting areas have been established, planter boxes around trees have been built, gardens maintained, picnic tables repaired and varnished, and artificial lawn has been laid. These improvements were only possible with parent working bees. Plan for 2015 includes improving the grounds between the section of artificial lawn down to the front of the school hall. All parents are welcome to participate no matter the level of skill or no skills. Opportunity for parents to get involved with the school and meet other parents. The Grounds Improvement Program and upcoming working bee dates are on the school web site.

   5.2 Topics for future P&C – Nick Miller asked if there were any topics that parents wished to discuss at further P&C’s –
   - Mia indicated that she has already organised Head PDHPE to come and discuss healthy lifestyles for students for March P&C.
   - Parent inquired why hats are not part of the uniform (as Yr 7 come from primary school culture with a strict code to wearing hats). Hats are worn only for PE.
   - When will electronic funds transfer be available as opposed to credit cards?
   - Shorts as normal school uniform? Elaine Browne is reviewing different styles
   - General shortage of school uniform items – shirts, skirts etc

  **Action: Nick to include items in next P&C**
6. **TREASURER’S REPORT**

6.1 As of 18 February P&C funds at $30,755.62. Alice indicated there is contribution monies still held by the office which needs to be transferred.

6.2. **Uniform Shop Report**
- No uniform report.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 Special guest speaker – Labour Candidate for Strathfield, Jodi McKay
Jodi has addressed all P&Cs in the local area as she is an advocate for education. Indicated she is very progressive on her views, strongly supports education and female leadership. Mrs Kumar/BGHS is known for the school which nurtures and produces very strong women leaders. Jodi indicated very proud to stand alongside BGHS and support the school. Especially with the type of initiatives at the school which shows great strength and leadership. One initiative is the Rainbow Flag raising, as Jodi brought “Safe Schools” to NSW which supports diversity and inclusion. BGHS has been a leader in this initiative in NSW, which is not an easy place to be, around an issue that can sometimes be quite controversial and divided. BGHS has earned a reputation as being a school which is not afraid to stand tall on issues for students involving diversity and inclusion in particular. Jodi is prepared to defend the school in the media as it is one of the great strengths of the school of not being afraid to stand up for the students. BGHS is doing such an incredible job of not only building inclusion and diversity and acceptance, and women who can make informed decisions as future leaders, but also women who have the academic ability to stand beside any man in their future and be an equal. This is demonstrated in BGHS’s HSC academic record.

8.2 **Next meeting starts at 7pm**

Meeting closed at 8.30 pm - Next Meeting: Wednesday 18 March 2015.