Burwood Girls High School - P&C Meeting
Minutes of Meeting #4/2015: 17 June 2015

Attendance: Mia Kumar-Principal, Karyn O’Brien- Deputy Principal, Nick Miller–President, Kerry West-Vice President, Effie Balomatis-Treasurer, Effie Matsas-Secretary, Perry Kritselas, Helen Dury (and others as noted on the Attendance Log)

Apologies:

Minutes by: Effie Matsas

1. WELCOME
Meeting opened by Nick Miller in the Library at 7.05pm and welcomed guest presenters Michelle Kals, Head Teacher Creative and Performing Arts and Martin Neville, Music Teacher.

2. GUEST PRESENTATIONS x 2
2.1 Martin Neville shared presentation detailing Year 7 to Year 12 Music options. Martin has only been with BGHS for a few months, previously teaching at Baulkham Hill High School.

   Three stages in Music:
   - Stage 4 is mandatory for Year 7 students and caters for a wide range of skill sets to provide comprehensive student experience. Large portion of the course is practical – performing, listening and learning.
   - Stage 5, an elective in Years 8,9,10, allows students to develop musical interest and skills. Covers popular music, jazz, Australian, film and TV music genres.
   - Stage 6 senior students preparing for the HSC. Two courses available:
     - Music 1: for students who may not be great performers but still interested in music. Does not require any prerequisites
     - Music 2: assumes students have a formal background in music.

Year 7 currently working through group presentations showcasing Asian music. In addition, 15 guitars have been purchased for Year 7 use to provide a broader musical scope. Year 8 studying orchestral instruments and working on performing "Imagine - with some students playing instruments and other students using vocals. Year 11 and 12 preparing their HSC performance pieces, due in August. Students also using composition software to prepare classical music variations.

Future music directions:
- Create opportunities for students to perform their class work outside of the classroom
- Initiate new performance groups eg jazz ensembles
- Improve functionality of learning space eg. students do not need to set up
- Review and develop current teaching program to meet not only curriculum requirements but also to suit student interests.

2.2 Michelle Kals talked in-depth about the Art Department. Presentation included - staff members, visual art curriculum and student projects, artworks from Year 7 to Year 12 HSC Body of Works, student opportunities to expand their skills and knowledge (eg Zines creative club at MCA, Year 11 students selected for intensive HSC art classes at the National Art School, Year 11 students selected to exhibit in Young Archie Awards), elements of the HSC body of works (two BGHS students were selected for Art Express 2014, out of approx. 10,000), support for ESL students, student learning using technology (own devices) and Moodle.
Michelle showcased students’ artwork and talents from all years. Confirmed that the BGHS Body of Works (HSC) Exhibition will be held in the school hall on 28 July and everybody is welcome.

Collaborative faculty projects have been produced over the years. Including 2012 mural “Year of the Dragon” by Year 8; 2013 “Hands Across the Ocean” mural outside school hall produced by Year 8 and Year 10 art students; 2014 “Activate your Mind, Body & Spirit” mural outside library produced by Year 11.

It was suggested that this mural should have a formal official opening

**Action: P&C agreed to host a BBQ to support the official opening of the “Activate your Mind, Body & Spirit” mural in Term 4, 2015.**

3. **PRINCIPAL’S REPORT - Presented by Mia Kumar**

3.1 **Actions from previous meeting:**
- Duke of Edinburgh co-ordinator, Guy McCulloch will be organising three groups:
  - Term 3, weeks 4 & 5
  - Term 3, weeks 8 & 9
  - Term 4, weeks 2 & 3

- P&C Contribution held by the school as of 5 June, amounted to $15,717, compared to $9207 last year. $10,000 taken out to pay for canteen tables and chairs leaving a balance of $7678.

3.2 **Successes**

3.1 Purchase of School Bus – seeking assistance from parents and community:
- Parent may wish to engage in part-time work to drive school bus. Special bus license required. Interested parents to contact Mia Kumar.
- Businesses to assist in sponsorship for vehicle running expenses - Effie M sent email to P&C group list requesting parent assistance and sponsorships.

3.2 Staffing – Transition Advisor and additional Head teacher required for 2016, two new appointments for 2015 (Carly Walsh and Daniel Whittemore).

3.3 New music room (storage) funded by Rotary is underway.

3.4 Mural is underway with preparatory work completed previous week. Xanthe Warren is managing this Environmental Committee project.

3.5 Meeting for Chinese parents was successful.

3.6 Afternoon tea was organised for ABC international students. International students invited from Concord High and Ashfield Boys.

3.7 Congratulations to Allegra Short as President of SRC.

3.8 Variety Night on 2 May showcased student talent – dance, drama and music.

3.9 Field Study Day on 3 June was a success with students involved in excursions and incursions for maths, visual art, TAS, English, Drama, Science, and Languages etc.

3.10 Korean Immersion Day

3.11 Band Tour to Mogo

3.12 Band Tour to Foster – extremely successful with students engaging in community.

3.13 Two students nominated and attended the 2015 Secondary School Leadership Program held at the NSW Parliament House.

3.13 School Development sessions were run, with teacher focus on performance and development framework.

3.14 Theatre sport – 2 groups formed, intermediate and senior.
3.15 Morning Tea for Shakespeare
3.16 Future Events:
- Year 7/9 parent/teacher/student interviews.
- Blue and Gold assembly for Years 7-9.
- Year 8/10 Reports distributed next week.
- IFTAR Dinner
- PAC Fest
- Lynne Openshaw (maths) retiring
- School holidays from 27 June to 13 July. Students return Tuesday.
- Principal visiting Cambodia/Vietnam 13-24 July.
- Visiting Canadian Principal 18-30 July.
- P&C meeting (guest speaker Languages) 15 July.
- Year 10 subject selection information evening 16 July.

3.17 P&C Considerations:
- New Head Teacher for 2016
- Letter of support for driving program
- Support for IFTAR dinner

Action: P&C agreed to support these initiatives. Nick M to produce letter of support for proposed school driving program.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

4.1 Grounds Improvement Team (GIT) – Due to the impressive work and parent effort from previous working bees, we have saved considerable amount of money which can be allocated to contractors to landscape the area from the front of the hall, around the camphor laurel and dirt area towards the grassed area. The budget is estimated at $21,000, with $10,000 allocated only to the supply and installation of synthetic grass in this area. Other costs include preparation of area, removal of existing picnic tables and re-installation, construction of planter box around the camphor laurel, landscaping and plants for beds and additional furniture. The majority of works planned for June school holidays. Working bee will be organised sometime in Term 3.

4.2 Special Guest Jody McKay – indicated support for P&C. We queried budget monies allocated to schools in the area, which required a facelift/building works. News item indicated BGHS has been allocated funds for this project? Strathfield Girls High school have indicated requirement for new hall, road safety issue and funding an IT program.

Action: Jody McKay to investigate budget allocation and meet with Mia Kumar for further discussions. Jody will be attending our P&C meetings on a regular basis.

5. PREVIOUS MINUTES

P&C Minutes 20 May 2015 were tabled –

Motion: Minutes adopted by Perry K and seconded by Effie B.
6. TREASURER’S REPORT

6.1 As of 20 May 2015, funds at $44,586.07.

    Action: Adopted by Effie M and seconded by Nick M.

6.2 Uniform Shop Report

6.2.1 As of 15 June 2015, uniform shop account balance at $16,227.

    Action: Adopted by Effie B and seconded by Helen.

6.2.2 Elaine indicated that the uniform shop needs a ‘spruce up’ and storage. Mia indicated it may be part of the works proposed by government (Item 4.2)

7. CORRESPONDENCE

7.1 Nil correspondence.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

7.1 Parent (Year 9) suggested that parents should have access to homework for each subject. Mia indicated that homework will be available on the new SENTRAL system. In the meantime, parents can access homework through MOODLE (ask daughters for log on details and password).

7.2 Proposed that the P&C pay for the 1st year of registration for the new bus (approx. $1,000 - $1,500).

7.3 Elaine indicated requirement for financial support for a student to attend band tour.

    Action: P&C approved expenditure. Effie B to forward cheque.

Meeting closed at 8.40 pm - Next Meeting: Wednesday 15 July 2015.