Burwood Girls High School
SCHOOL COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday 27 May 2015 in Library

Members present: Robert Brett ................ Community Member
Tim Cunningham ........ Community Member
Lesley Jolly ............... Parent
Ed Kent...................... Teacher
Perry Kritselas .......... Chairperson
Mia Kumar ................. Principal
Janina Longman........... Deputy Principal
Alice Magoffin ........... Parent
Karyn O’Brien ............ Deputy Principal
Gavin Parker............... Teacher
Patrice Simpson .......... Teacher
Chantelle Manion........ Student Representative
Christine Trieu .......... Student Representative
Lucy Ward-Gemmell ... Student Representative

Apologies: Leanne McKee ........ Community Member (State of Origin)
Elaine Browne .......... Manager, P&C Uniform Shop (Variety Night)
Nick Miller ............... P&C President (Canberra)

1. Perry welcomed members present and refreshments made available for all.

2. Business arising from last meeting on 4 March was discussed.

2.1. Principal reported that additional brochures were prepared for Sport, the Burwood Ensemble Program, Leadership, Facilities and Cultural Connections. Another planning meeting to be held on 3 June and a follow up photo shoot on 17 June. SRC members will be involved in photos for additional brochures.

2.2. Perry reported that a School Bus had been purchased and needed to be registered by the school before delivery. The bus is to have ‘Burwood Girls High School’ written on side as well as sponsor details if that occurs. All paperwork for bus provided to Principal for follow up. Perry suggested that students on detention could clean the bus. There is also a service ‘Hire a Bus Driver’ which could be useful.

2.3. Principal tabled printed copies of the School Plan. These were provided to staff at the School Development Day at the beginning of Term 2. Our Strategic Directions:

- Maximising Student Outcomes
- Promoting Leadership for Learning
- Enhancing Communication and Connections

would form the basis of our development for next 3 years. The School Plan is on the school website. Special thanks to students, parents, staff for their contributions and also to Perry for the initial draft plan on which this School Plan is based.

3. Janina reported uniform concerns from staff and community members, and in particular the length of skirts. Paula Papas addressed assembly regarding uniform which was well received by the majority of students. A very small group wanted to boycott the uniform blitz. Some staff concerned about the lack of modesty – walking up stairs, sitting on chairs when length of skirts so short. Comments made by members of Council about ‘free expression’, how to lengthen skirt
ideas were considered to be useful. A uniform committee comprising of Janina Longman, Rosemary Patonay, Paula Papas, students from various years and parents will discuss ideas for uniform improvements. Blue tartan will not change, but maybe the style of skirt? Alice commented that the Logo on shirt should not be sideways and the quality of senior shirts is not good. We used to use Australian manufacturers but that may be too expensive now. The straw hat, that had been promoted by the P&C, was not seen to be a popular idea. Principal reported that Strathfield GHS maintained a suitable length of skirt by requesting parents sign an agreement on enrolment.

4. The SRC reported on various school events:

4.1. Lucy reported that Japan school trip in April holidays was successful. Ed Kent outlined that twenty students and 3 teachers visited two schools in Japan which was highly successful. Henry Wijanto (HSIE) arrived to assist when Qeefaa An hurt his foot and they were grateful for the support. Students found Hiroshima was a moving experience and made paper cranes for the memorial.
4.2. Year 7/8 Disco was highly successful and raised $2,000 from ticket sales. Cake stalls and fundraising raised additional money. A total of $4,000 going to World Vision for Nepal Earthquake Appeal.
4.3. There is a need to have more engagement with boys schools.
4.4. Other activities: Athletics Carnival was excellent. NAPLAN worked through a power blackout. Tonight SRC running canteen for Variety Night which begins at 7pm. Other successful events were Big Sister activities, STARR days, Band Tour, Anzac Ceremony, Anzac march in the City and before the end of term there will be a Blue and Gold ceremony on 22 June.
4.5. IDAHOT day held cake stall raising $507 for Minus18 and Wear It Purple.
4.6. SRC Planning day last Friday was great, as reported by Christine.

Students value the opportunity to be involved in a range of activities and have the chance to show leadership, build resilience and organize.

5. Janina reported that there is a new proposal for all teachers “Performance and Development Framework”. This initiative has been approved by DEC in consultation with the NSWTF to ensure accountability and development at all levels.

Teachers are required to complete a ‘Performance and Development Plan’ by the end of this term. This plan includes three professional goals based on ‘Australian Professional Standards for Teachers’, ‘The Australian Teacher Performance and Development Framework’ and the ‘Charter for the Professional Learning of Teachers and School Leaders’. Janina showed these documents.

The school held a training session on 6 May and there will be another next week on 4 June.

6. Karyn tabled the 2014 Annual School Report and thanked members for their contributions. Photos of various members were highlighted and Karyn reported that our school always produces a quality document which includes lots of photos of school and student achievements. The 2014 ASR is also on the school website. Next year the ASR will be linked to our School Plan and may be a different format.

7. General Business was tabled:

7.1. Tim raised issue of parents driving into carpark at Cheltenham Road which made difficulties for staff driving in, when parents wanted to drive out. This is not such an issue in Queen Street car park as parents drive in and out in one direction. It is just an inconvenience when staff have to wait while parents drop off children in carpark before staff are able to park cars. Suggested solutions to have GA direct traffic at Cheltenham Road carpark or put up a large sign on right hand side “NO PARENT DROP OFF 8am – 4pm”.

2
7.2. Perry reported that CPA Marketing Manager would be happy to speak to our students about studying Accountancy. She is also conversant with being from a non-English background. More information to be provided so action can be taken.

7.3. Alice asked about when the women pictures would be replaced in the hall. Principal informed that this is the Prefect Project for 2015 – keen to include a number of successful women who have made a difference, from various cultural backgrounds and different countries.

Meeting closed: 6:55 pm (time to get to Variety Night)

UPCOMING MEETING: 12 August