Sheffield School Association Inc.

Minutes – Wednesday 16th May, 2012

Venue: VET Room at Sheffield School
Time: 7:00 pm
Meeting organiser: Kate Haberle
Meeting recorder: Kate Haberle


Apologies: Kevin Rogers, Gillian Pratt, Chris Puccetti

Moved: Anna Maddick, Seconded: Phillip Turner “that apologies be accepted.” CARRIED

Tim welcomed everyone and thanked them for accepting the change of date for this meeting.

1. Minutes of previous meeting: (19th April, 2012)

Moved: Elaine Deverell, Seconded: Dayna Grey “that minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.” CARRIED

2. Business Arising:

2.1 – School Banking – Defer to General Business
3. Correspondence:

3.1 In –

**Petra Wilden:** An email was received from Petra apologising for her lack of attendance at council meetings. Petra also resigned her position as a parent member of the School Association. Resolved to accept her resignation and write a letter thanking her for her time on the council. Members were asked to think of a replacement for Petra and to submit a name to council for consideration to fill the casual vacancy.

**Kate Haberle:** Letter received from Kate applying for leave of absence for three meetings next term due to being away on long service leave. Angela Craze and Sharon Allen will fulfil the role of secretary during Kate’s absence. Resolved to grant this leave of absence.

**Moved:** Newton Maddick, **Seconded:** Allison Boutcher “that the inward correspondence be received.” **CARRIED**

4. Special Committees Reports: No report this month

5. Standing Reports

**Student**

- Grade 8 camp is coming up at the end of the term. The students will have three days and two nights at Camp Clayton.
- SRC have been fundraising for Juvenile Diabetes. They have limited stock to sell including jelly babies, lip gloss, key rings, etc.
- NAPLAN testing commence yesterday, finishing on Thursday. Students were asked how they were finding the NAPLAN testing. They all agreed that it wasn’t too bad and were very positive. Students have worked well during the week while completing the test. What are the real implications of the NAPLAN results for the school? If we went down the scale we would attract more resources for the school. Generally it doesn’t have any implications as we are not a low achieving school. It allows up to look at each individual student to see if there are any gaps in their learning and then address those gaps. Also we can see if there are any gaps in the teaching programs.
- The tablets are still very effective in the classroom and students are working very well with them.
- Socials were held on May 3rd. They were a massive hit for all age groups. The theme was “Around the World”.
- Grade 8 students and the 9/10 Ag class attended Agfest. They all enjoyed the day and luckily the rain held off.
- The ANZAC Day assembly was held on the 24th April. Grade 7 essay winners were George Alsop with Sarah Barker and Bradley Huett being girl and boy runners up.
- Last Thursday, the school held the MADD night. It was a huge success with students from most grades participating.
• Grade 5 students held a Mother’s Day stall last Friday. Students brought along some money and bought a gift for their mum. Their camp fundraiser also went well with nearly $700 being raised.
• On Wednesday 18th April, everyone attended a sports forum. We had local sports people come in to talk to us about setting goals and achieving them. The team ranged from personal trainers to people aiming for the 2016 Olympic Games.
• A group from grade 9 and 10 will be heading to the mainland on the 24th May for a week.
• Cross Country for primary grades will be held on the 29th May with the inter-high Cross Country being held on the 30th May.

Early Childhood Campus

• In Early Years Learning, Lynda Wallace has entertained a total of 50 families with a new family coming each week. We have about 30 potential 2013 kinder students already.
• Teachers are starting to assess students’ reading and spelling levels in preparation for report writing and our moderation day on Monday.
• Our two prac students, Karyn Kleinman and Chrissie Cox, had a visit from Greg Ashman, the University prac placement supervisor. He spent about half an hour observing both Karyn and Chrissie in the classroom. He was very impressed with the behaviour of the Sheffield students both in the classrooms and in the playground. Debbie May was able to tell him that today was a typical day at the Early Childhood campus.
• MADD night was a wonderful experience for all spectators and participants.
• The students thoroughly enjoyed the social on the 3rd May.

Secondary

• Grade 10 students visited the Magistrates Court and Library in Devonport on Monday 14th May. They sat in the court room and witnessed real cases that went before the magistrate. The students found the whole experience to be very interesting and were very respectful of the people in the court room.
• MADD night – Teresa Bentley and Vivien Tawse organised a music, art, dance and drama night last week. It was very well attended by students and parents and the students who participated did an amazing job. We have some very talented people in our school.
• ANZAC Day assembly was held on the 24th April. Mr David Innes from the RSL gave the address and winners of the competitions were announced. George Alsop read his essay at the Dawn Service and Sarah Barker and Bradley Huett read their essays at the morning service in the Town Hall. Students representing the three sections of the school attended the morning service and placed flowers on the cenotaph.
• Grade 10 students visited the Launceston Campus of the University of Tasmania on the 23rd April. This was a familiarisation visit where students were given an introduction to the uni then taken on a tour of the facilities.
• Keys to P’s session for Grade 10 students will take place on Thursday evening at school.
• Grade 9 and 10 students are looking forward to their trip to the mainland next week.
• MUNA – Two grade 10 students – Sarah McLean and Yaminah Taylor attended the Model United Nations Assembly in Deloraine at the end of April. The girls were billeted by a Rotarian couple and attended the assembly on Saturday and Sunday. The country they were given to research was Libya and they did an amazing job finding out about that country and preparing responses to the 15 resolutions being discussed at the assembly. Teresa Bentley provided costumes for the girls to wear and they were very excited when they were announced runner up best costume with Ethiopia. Devonport South East Rotary Club sponsored the girls to attend this event with the cost being $220.00. On Tuesday night the girls were invited to attend the Rotary dinner and give a 10 minute presentation about their time at the assembly and what they learnt from this experience. Kate and Anna attended the dinner with the girls. The members were very impressed with the girls and the amazing support from the school. They were very vocal in their praise of the presentation and especially the costumes which the girls wore at the dinner. Resolved to write a letter of congratulations to Sarah and Yaminah and a letter of thanks to the Rotary Club for their financial support. The club would like to continue sponsoring the school for students to attend MUNA. They would also like to support our school for students to attend up and coming Science events.

6. Sub-committee Reports

6.1 Chaplaincy

• Next meeting will be held on the 21st June

6.2 Show Committee –

• The first meeting was held 8th May. The first task is to find judges for the show. The committee is also looking for younger people to join the committee and bring new and inventive ideas to the group. The minutes were tabled at the council meeting.

6.3 Farm Committee –

• Malcolm tabled the Farm Committee report and minutes of the April meeting.
• The end of the dairy season is getting close with winter next month. Blair and Monica Crawford who live next to the farm in High Street have offered their assistance in the cheese making area. Blair does not know a lot about cheese making but has Health Regulatory qualifications. This will link in with establishing the trade centre and upgrading the dairy.
• 60 cows are being milked to the vat producing 9 litres per cow.
• Milk production to date is just over 20,000 litres more than the previous season with fewer cows milked and only once a day. This proves the value of once a day milking. We have happy healthy cows!
• Fertilizer applied today on school farm and Peter Morse’s 300kgs/ha.
• 10 steer calves purchased at $60 each for kids’ enterprise.
• Councillor Penny Lane from the Kentish Council visited the farm to view tar sealed road on the farm to repair or reseal.
6.4 **On Line Access Centre** – No meeting

6.5 **Junior Cattle Handlers Committee** -

- Executive Meeting was held on the 1st May. Show dates were confirmed and fundraising events were discussed.

7. **General Business**

7.1 **My School Website:**

Malcolm took members through this website. Process: Google - My School – Sheffield School. This website includes: school profile, school finances, NAPLAN, results in graphs, results in numbers, results in bands, student gain, similar schools, VET in schools, local schools. Comparisons between years are difficult as there is a different group of students. There are lots of comparisons and trends with other schools. Malcolm encouraged members to interrogate the website and explore the data. Tim thanked Malcolm for discussing this website and giving members the opportunity to familiarize themselves with this site.

7.2 **Policies:**

In 2007-2008 we had a very active sub-committee who reviewed the policies. We had to classify the policies according to type – core policies, school community policies, council policies, school policies. Malcolm tabled a summary of the school policies. It is important to establish a sub-committee who is committed to looking at two policies, the two being decision making and homework. Phillip Turner, Elaine Deverell, Anna Maddick, Jacqui McCarthy, Michael Dunn, Sophia Dyer, Tim Dyer, Malcolm Moore and Angela Craze to form this sub-committee. These members were asked to meet after the meeting and set a date for the first meeting and report back to council at the June meeting. Policies do guide what happens in the school and we must ensure they are written carefully to reflect the values as set down in our charter. They are then free to allow people to work in the school.

7.3 **Banking:**

The school has been approached by the Bendigo Bank and the Commonwealth Bank to introduce school banking into the school. Two representatives from the Bendigo Bank met with Malcolm today. The Bendigo Bank is a community bank run by a board of directors. 80% of profits go back into the community and 20% goes to the Bendigo Bank. We need to keep this discussion on the books and reflect on where this concept might go within our school community. We could promote the Bendigo Bank and have school banking through them. We could even bank with them as a school which would certainly help to establish the bank in Kentish.
7.4 Plus School Improvement Plan:

Empowering Local Schools is the basis for this new concept put forward by the Federal Government. We are already participating in the National Partnership Program. Although we appreciate money from the Federal Government it is a very time consuming plan and holds principals very accountable. If we were to become a project school we would manage our own finances and then maybe have the opportunity to choose to bank with the Bendigo Bank and gain a profit from our investment. This new program will allow schools more flexibility. There are a lot of possibilities that we could capitalize on. We could have more flexibility with the school farm. At the moment it is very separate due to Departmental procedures which have to be followed by the school. Self-governing schools experience better outcomes for students. Professional development would be available for parents and the community to fully understand this whole concept. Malcolm will be meeting with the project manager of this program on Friday. There is a process to be followed to become one of the Plus Schools. A written application needs to be completed and a selection criteria to be addressed.

Moved: Phillip Turner seconded: Newton Maddick “that we endorse this program pending further discussions with the project manager and Malcolm this week”. CARRIED

This new program would involve receiving $40 000 from the Federal Government each year plus the State School Resource Package. Schools would then manage their own resources. We need to look at the benefits to the community and this could be done through the Bendigo Bank. Council has invited Malcolm to continue exploring this idea and report back to the next meeting.

7.5 Council Play Equipment:

Elaine asked Tim if he had received a reply from the Kentish Council regarding the type of play equipment for the new bike park. No reply has been received.

Meeting closed at: 8:25pm

Next meeting will be held on THURSDAY 21st JUNE, 2012 at 7.00pm in the VET Room.