Sheffield School Association Inc.
Minutes – Thursday 19\textsuperscript{th} April, 2012

Venue: VET Room at Sheffield School

Time: 7:00 pm

Meeting organiser: Kate Haberle

Meeting recorder: Kate Haberle


Apologies: Kathy Young, Angela Craze,

Absent: Petra Wilden

\textbf{Moved:} Newton Maddick \textbf{Seconded:} Kevin Rogers “that apologies be accepted.”

\textbf{CARRIED}

Tim welcomed Allison Boutcher and Keeley Hurley to the council for their first meeting this year.

1. Minutes of previous meeting: (15\textsuperscript{th} March 2012)

\textbf{Moved:} Chris Puccetti \textbf{Seconded:} Amanda Grey “that minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.” \textbf{CARRIED}

3. Correspondence:

3.1 In –

Kentish Council: A letter was received from the Kentish Council in response to our letter regarding the proposed new fitness centre. Our support has been very much appreciated and this will go towards gaining funding to complete this project. Elaine Deverell has been approached concerning the standard of equipment in the centre. It is a significant investment and it needs to be worthwhile. The quality of the equipment needs to be of the highest quality. It was resolved to send an email to the council expressing our concerns about the importance of excellent equipment. The school will endorse this recommendation. Tim to send email.

Nick McKim, Minister for Education and Skills: Mr McKim announced that the Government had accepted the eight recommendations of the School Viability Reference Group and this will now lead to a new and transparent process to determine the viability of all Tasmanian Government schools.


3.2 Out –

Kentish Council: Endorsement of the planned Kentish Community Fitness Centre.

Ms Samantha McCarthy: Thank you letter for her time and commitment to the School Council and particularly for her position as secretary.

Ms Trina Hole: Thank you letter for her commitment to the council for the past two years.

Moved: Phillip Turner, Seconded: Elaine Deverell “that the inward correspondence be received and the outward correspondence be endorsed.” CARRIED

4. Special Committees Reports: No report this month

5. Standing Reports

Student

- Yesterday a sports forum was held for students to emphasise a healthy lifestyle.
- Phillip Green held an Aboriginal Survival Technology performance today.
- On 23rd April, the grade 10 students will visit the Launceston University.
- Our ANZAC Day assembly will be held on the 24th April.
- A primary hockey clinic will be held on the 1st May.
- We will also have the whole school photo on that day.
- The school socials will be held on the 3rd May. The theme is ‘Around the World’.
- The music, art, dance and drama night – or MADD – will be held on the 10th May
• Grades 3, 5, 7 and 9 students will undertake their NAPLAN tests from the 15\textsuperscript{th}-17\textsuperscript{th} May.
• Grade 9 classrooms have been painted and they look a lot better. The students put together a proposal and gave it to Mr Moore. They said their educational learning outcomes could not be achieved in such dreary rooms so they need to be painted and brightened up. The red feature wall is very striking.
• Tablets are proving to be very effective with only a few teething problems. Networking has been the main issue but this has been resolved. Tablets are also used at home to complete homework tasks or finish assignment work.
• The Paranah sale was successful and students enjoyed the day. 5 Red Angus and 1 Hereford cows were purchased. These animals will be prepared for the Hoof and Hook held in November.
• Students were asked what they thought of the NAPLAN testing. Are they worried about the test? The students responded by saying that they feel a little anxious about the test.
• Hockey: there are no teams in the school at the present.

**Early Childhood Campus**

• Buddies – Kinder and 3-4 Richards meet fortnightly to play and develop relationships.
• Prep/One and Grade 9 ( Miss Melissa Dudley and Mrs Angela Craze ) are also buddies. Grade 9 helped with Easter egg making and Mrs Craze’s Journalism class shared their “I Spy” work and Prep One shared their “Grandpa…” books.
• Prep Hinrichsen/Moles and 4-5 Sullivan/Last meet fortnightly to develop relationships and work together.
• Deb Sukarna – Greg Hinrichsen, Susie Hinrichsen, Bronwyn Moore, Sharon Allen and Debbie May attended a follow-up Writer’s Workshop with Deb Sukarna. She is an inspirational presenter and we all came back to school very motivated.
• Reading Eggs – we have re-registered for Reading Eggs. This is a computer based reading program that children can access at school and from home. It is designed for 5-12 year olds. All prep, grade 1 and 2 students are registered.
• Easter – eggs were delivered to the residents of Dyer Court and prep children hopped their way around Tandara nursing home. Prep One Allen are going to revisit their elderly friends around Mother’s Day with a small “you’re special” gift.
• Students were very engaged in the Sports Forum on the 18\textsuperscript{th} April.
• 19\textsuperscript{th} April – cultural performance, learning about Aboriginal life. The children were very engaged and had lots of positive things to talk about when they returned to the classroom.
• As part of our ANZAC Day preparation, children have been working on the theme of “What is Mateship” and are very excited to be able to meet a member of the Australian Defence Force tomorrow afternoon. W.O.DeBomford asked if he could come to the classes and talk to the children.
Primary

- “Wild Man” performance was held today – an interactive performance showcasing aboriginal, culture, history and artefacts.
- First P-6 assembly for the year was hosted by 6 Bakes.
- Students attended the Sports Forum.
- An Easter egg hunt was organised for the students.
- Scripture has commenced with the 3/4s currently participating and 5/6 classes due to commence within the next couple of weeks.
- Students attended the Easter service organised by the Scripture teachers
- P-4 staff participated in Writer’s Workshop PD at Latrobe Primary School with Deb Sukarna before Easter. 5-8 staff met with Deb afterwards for a Q and A session about Writer’s and how it is going in our classrooms as a follow up to last year’s session.
- 5-8 staff participated in reader’s Workshop (fiction) PD at Latrobe Primary School with Deb Sukarna before Easter.
- Classes have been very busy preparing ANZAC Day competition entries.
- Grade 5 camp Easter raffle was a big success. We had a large number of chocolates donated by families to create 6 prize hampers. Students worked hard to sell raffle tickets and in total we raised over $420.00. A Mother’s Day stall will be our next fundraiser.
- School photos have been taken.
- Soccer clinics have been run for students.
- Grade 3-4 students participated in the Sports Expo held in Devonport. A group of Grade 9 and 10 students were involved in running some of the clinics.
- Students and teachers are preparing for NAPLAN testing.

Secondary

- Everyone has enjoyed the Easter break and is now ready to participate in a variety of activities planned for the remainder of the term.
- The Grade 7 and 8 students were treated to a wonderful presentation by Archie Fusillo on the 21st March. Archie is an Australian author from Melbourne. He is of Italian background and had many interesting and humorous stories to tell of his upbringing. The students were inspired by his story and were encouraged to be writers in their own way. He was never recognised as a top student at school but found his writing gift through being encouraged to write about things that were of interest to him and the stories of his grandparents and their Italian culture.
- The grade 9 and 10 students travelled to Latrobe on March 21st to listen to a presentation by Dr Martin Maroni on carbon storage in Tasmanian forests. The information was very detailed but gave the students an insight into the importance of this important issue facing our environment today. Follow up work will be done in class to clarify the understanding of carbon storage.
- Grade 7 students succeeded in walking up Mt Roland on Wednesday 28th March. It was a wonderful experience for the students and staff who accepted the challenge of conquering the mountain. Students were well prepared and were able to walk at their own pace with adult supervision. A fantastic effort by everyone. The main aim of providing students with this opportunity is to build up their self-esteem and to
take ownership of their community through the beautiful backdrop of Mt Roland and the murals.

- School photos were taken on Wednesday 4th April.
- Yesterday students from K-10 attended the Sports Forum where various people were invited to speak to students and parents on their sporting achievements and the requirements necessary to achieve their goals. It was a great success and credit needs to be given to Mrs Maddick and her Move Well Eat Well committee for organising this forum. The main focus was on motivation, work ethic and sacrifice to achieve goals. It was very enlightening and inspiring. Allison Boutcher reported that her husband who was one of the speakers and does not always enjoy speaking in public, found the whole experience to be very worthwhile and was inspired by the life journey of one particular speaker.
- Next Monday the grade 10 students will be visiting the University of Tasmania, Launceston Campus for a familiarisation visit. The first session will be an introduction to University life including courses, accommodation and social activities. Then they will view first hand some of the facilities throughout the campus.
- Some of our grade 9 and 10 students participated in the White Card training here at school on the 27th March. This is a legal requirement for any person wanting to work on a construction site. The students all passed and received their certificate.
- Initial reports went home on Wednesday 4th April.
- A small group of students represented the school at the Inter-High Swimming Carnival on Friday 16th March. Brianna Braid, Michael Dunn and Madelyn Keen received a place in their particular event.

6. Sub-committee Reports

6.1 Chaplaincy

- Meeting was held today.
- Esther’s report was highlighted at the meeting. Goals for 2012 are in the process of being written. Waiting on Pam for the right format. Students are independently and purposefully seeking out Esther for personal one on one time.
- Discussion on the Chaplaincy Dinner took place. Kate to talk to Anna regarding catering for the dinner which is planned for 16th October.
- A documentary on hospital chaplains is currently showing on the ABC.

6.2 Show Committee – No report

6.3 Farm Committee –

- Malcolm tabled the Farm Committee report and minutes of the March meeting. Mitch has written a three year plan for the School Farm Dairy Herd. Malcolm acknowledged the fantastic work Mitch is doing on the farm. As manager Mitch is delegated to employ casual labour as she sees fit.
- Joe Skirving has joined the farm committee and will be a valuable member due to his years of farming experience.
• Stock On Hand – 113 Mixed Aged Dairy Cows. 10 heifers brought in, 2 freishan bulls and 17 replacement heifers born in 2011
• 108 to calve in spring 2012.
• The farm is at its optimum with healthy soils and cows. 70 cows are being milked with 10-11 litres per cow. Ford’s cows have been returned and 20 cows have been dried off due to mastitis of low production. The rising 1 year old heifers are looking a picture with fantastic growth rates which have been achieved by grower pellets.
• Sheep on the farm are included in the educational programs.
• Trades Training Centre Program for the Polytechnic – Infrastructure for trade training. The dairy on the farm will be upgraded for dairy training for other students as well as our own students. A proposal has to be prepared but the committee will get help for this process. We would run this centre as part of the school and it could be of value up to half a million dollars. It will become a fully functional commercial farm and is an incredible achievement by the farm committee. We need to capitalise on this as a commercial venture. National Foods – Betta Milk will be on board. Food processing will be associated with this downstream, e.g. cheese, ice-cream, yoghurt, etc.

6.4 On Line Access Centre –
• Chris Puccetti spoke to Tim Wilson who is going on holidays for 5 weeks but will have a meeting with Chris when he gets back.

6.5 Junior Cattle Handlers Committee -
• The first meeting for the year will be late May.

7. General Business

7.1 School Report:

Council members to pass onto program leaders our thanks and congratulations, especially to the staff for their hard work in preparing the report.

Moved: Chris Puccetti, Seconded: Kevin Rogers “that the 2011 School Report be accepted”.
CARRIED

7.2 School Plan:

Question was asked if these figures are set in concrete with no flexibility. About 90% would remain within the budget. We have had to reduce the budget by 10% due to declining money coming into the school. Malcolm acknowledged and thanked program leaders for preparing their budgets within the constraints set out and for their frugality. Anna thanked the school for the discretionary fund in case of overspending.

Moved: Dayna Grey, Seconded: Elaine Deverell that we formally endorse the School Plan for 2012.  CARRIED

Staff were again thanked for compiling this plan and working within budget cuts and doing well in the circumstances.
7.3 Implementing the Australian Curriculum:

Malcolm explained this document to inform members of the Australian Curriculum, why the curriculum is changing, when the changes will be happening and how these changes affect the students. The balance has shifted from skills to content. Students are responding very positively to the new curriculum. The English Curriculum is very focused on the technical side of language. The school has to accept this curriculum and work within its stricture.

7.4 Assessment:

Malcolm showed the comparison to the Tasmanian Curriculum. The minimum requirement for Grade 10 Maths in the Tasmanian Curriculum was 12P. However to obtain the required standard this year students will need to achieve 12A-13P which is equivalent to a C. This means students will have to work harder and reach a C standard. This message needs to get out to parents to give them an understanding of the new assessment. More work will need to be done with staff and students to ensure a clear understanding of this new assessment and to implement the new curriculum.

7.5 Bendigo Bank:

- Chris Puccetti asked if a representative of this bank could address the council and present the benefits that could be attained for the school. Malcolm expressed his willingness to listen to a presentation at a council meeting.
- Resolved to invite a representative to attend a meeting. Contact to be made with Malcolm.

7.6 Commonwealth Bank:

School banking is not offered at school. The bank has a specialist available to talk to schools about this process. The task has been too onerous in the past with no one willing to take on the job. Consequently banking at school has not been an option.

Resolved to continue this discussion. We are not theoretically opposed to this idea so we can see if there is any interest in the school community. A commitment would be necessary but we need to make sure it does not interfere with teaching and learning. Chris Puccetti to make contact with the Commonwealth Bank.

7.7 Activity Day:

Phillip Turner asked about the possibility of having all extra sporting, music and drama activities on one day with the buses leaving an hour later on that particular day. Council members were asked to think about this concept for further discussion.

My School Website: NAPLAN results can be checked on this website.

Meeting closed at: 8:35pm

Next meeting will be held on THURSDAY 17th MAY 2012 at 7.00pm in the VET Room.