Sheffield School Association Inc.

Minutes – Wednesday 5th December, 2012

Venue: VET Room at Sheffield School
Time: 7:00 pm
Meeting organiser: Kate Haberle
Meeting recorder: Kate Haberle
Present: Michael Dunn, Kate Haberle, Kathy Young, Tim Dyer, Jacqui McCarthy, Sophia Dyer, Amanda Grey, Gillian Pratt, Allison Boutcher, Dayna Grey, Kevin Rogers, Elaine Deverell, Phillip Turner, Newton Maddick, Anna Maddick, Malcolm Moore, Sharon Allen, Angela Craze

Apologies: Chris Puccetti, Keeley Hurley,
Tim welcomed everyone to the last council meeting for the year. This is a special meeting as it is Malcolm’s last School Council meeting in his long teaching career and especially here at Sheffield. Tim will also be reading his report as the council needs to endorse this for him to present it at Presentation Day.

Moved: Angela Craze, Seconded: Allison Boutcher, “that apologies be accepted.” CARRIED

1. Minutes of previous meeting: (15th November, 2012)

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

2. Business Arising:

2.1 – School Transition Fund:

- Discussions on cooperation of the two schools working together as Railton will be closing at the end of 2014. A broad picture is a family unit for early education 0-grade 2. Grade 3-6 would be integrated here at Sheffield. The meeting also included
2 officers from the Education department where our information was taken and will be included in the guidelines of the funding. The next step is a community consultation process early next year and a vote by people affected by the changes and two members from the School Association. A plan will then be put in place. Resources will be shared between the two campuses. We see this as a very positive step for both communities in the Kentish Municipality.

2.2 – Cambodia Trip:

- Ten students applied for the trip and were interviewed by Malcolm and Anna today. The successful applicants will be announced on Presentation Day.

3. Correspondence:

3.1 In – Nil

Out –

- Kathy Young – Letter accepting Kathy’s resignation with appreciation of her service to the school and the council.

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

4. Special Committees Reports: No report

5. Standing Reports

Student

- On the 19th November the Food technology class had their dinner party.
- On the 26th November a few high school students travelled to Penguin to compete in the Inter-High Athletics Carnival. Many students performed well including two grade ten students who gave outstanding performances. Madalan Page won the grade 10 girls 800m and 1500m and Ashley Denby competed in five events throughout the day. At the end of the day Sheffield won the B division.
- The LC class organised a dinner for leadership teams from local schools at Anvers on the 29th November. Students from Sheffield, Reece, Ulverstone and Latrobe all enjoyed the chance to hear from a few guest speakers and they had the opportunity to get to know each other through introductory games.
- The grade 10’s had their exams on the 3rd December.
- On 4th December, the grade 6 students had their orientation day for grade 7 in 2013.
• Also on the 4th December the grade 10 students had their Start up Day at Don College.
• On Thursday night the MADD night will be held in the Related Arts building.
• Presentation Day is on Tuesday the 11th December at 11.30am.
• On the 12th December the Cattle Handlers Presentation Dinner will be held in the Related Arts building.
• The grade 10 Celebration Dinner will be held on the 13th December.
• Also on the 13th the K-6 picnic will be held at the Launceston Aquatic Centre.
• Reports go home on the 13th.
• On the 14th December the grade 10 students have their break up BBQ at Lake Barrington, followed by their Leaver’s Assembly.
• The K-6 Assembly will be held on the 18th December.
• Also the 7-10 picnic will be held on the 19th December.
• On the 20th December there is the final assembly and it is also the last day of school for 2012.

As chairperson, Tim wished to acknowledge and appreciate the input and contribution of the students to the council this year.

Early Childhood

• Teachers have been busy writing reports and I.E.P’s and are preparing for the follow up meetings with parents and teachers.
• Teachers have been finalising class placements for next year. There will 2 Kindergartens, 1 group will be attending on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday and the second group will be coming Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. We will also have 1xprep (24 students), 1xprep/1 (24 made up of 8 preps and 16 grade one.) 1x1/2(25 students) and 1 grade 2 (24 students) – about 130 students
• Prep/Hinrichsen/Moles and 1-2 Hinrichsen went to the Tasmania Zoo which was a great excursion.
• Over 20 parents attended a very productive Pre-Kinder session today. We have 40 students enrolled for kindergarten next year.
• Students have also been preparing for our MADD night which will be held on Thursday 6th December.
• Students are getting very excited that the end of the year is very close.

Primary

• 26th November – 6 Bakes travelled to Railton for an information session on weeds.
• 27th November – 5 Pratt, 5-6 Eustace and 6 bakes went on an excursion to Launceston. We visited the museum, had pizza delivered to City Park for lunch and then walked to Treasure Island Play Centre where students could play mini-golf or play at the play centre.
• 28th November – Final P-6 assembly for the year hosted by 4-5 Last/Sullivan.
• 29th November – 3-4 Richards went on an excursion to Wing’s Wildlife Park
• 3rd December – Some students in grade 3-6 participated in the Christmas service.
• 4th December – 3/4 McCarthy went on an excursion to Entally House.
4th December Grade 6 students participated in their Grade 7 Orientation Day in preparation for their move to high school next year. They spent the day in the grade 7 classrooms and enjoyed a variety of activities. Their trip to Lake Barrington was cancelled due to the weather.

6th December – Many primary students will be participating in MADD night.

7th December – Grade 6 celebration lunch

Teachers have been busy finalising end of year reports and conducting IEP meetings

11th December – Presentation Day

13th December – K-6 picnic at the Launceston Aquatic Centre

14th December – 4/5 Sullivan/Last are going on an excursion to Devonport to Cmax to watch “Rise of the Guardians”.

15th December – K-6 Christmas Assembly – Preparations are already well underway for this concert.

20th December – That’s a wrap!

Secondary

Secondary Athletics Carnival – Students competed very well winning first place at the North West Secondary Schools Athletic carnival at Penguin. Students were chosen for the team based upon performances at our own school carnival and trial in PE lessons.

Secondary students attended the Leadership Dinner at Anvers Chocolate Factory. The SRC and Leadership and Citizenship students enjoyed an activity filled evening where Hayley Davies and Maddisson Lockett were the MCs for the night. Students from other schools attended also.

On Monday the grade 10 students sat for their English and Mathematics exams. They did very well enduring the two hour length for each subject.

Grade 10 students attended Don College yesterday. They had already enrolled in their subjects for next year so yesterday was officially their first day in their particular subjects. From all reports they had a great day and are looking forward to attending Don College next year.

Thursday night is MADD night. Miss Tawse and Mrs Bentley have worked extremely hard preparing the students for their performances. It starts at 6.30pm.

Next week the grade 10 students will be enjoying their break up week with a trip to Launceston, the Leavers Dinner and the BBQ at Lake Barrington. The final assembly will be on Friday the 14th at 2.30pm.

The Sheffield Community Carols by Candlelight 2012 will be held on the 16th December at 6.30 in the Gym. This is being organised by the Chaplaincy Committee.

6. Sub-committee Reports

6.1 Chaplaincy
• The committee is organising the community Carols by Candlelight on Sunday 16th December at 6.30pm in the Related Arts Building.

6.2 Show Committee – No Report

6.3 Farm Committee –

• Cows are not producing as well as we would like. A special meeting was held last week. Concerns over cows producing 13 litres of milk instead of 26 litres per cow. This will affect our income which is on the back of a loss over the past 2 years. The plan is to increase the herd to 130 which will take 2 years. The dairy is very old so this will need to be addressed in the near future. The proposal for the Trade Training Centre will be looked at in August next year. This could include a new dairy.
• Wage costs are $50000 so we need to address this problem. High wages and low income is a problem. Maybe look at having only beef cattle after the next milking season.
• Simon Barber's role is being looked at. The committee is looking at an overseer of farm operations. An invitation will be extended to Colin Petit, Department Secretary to see the farm and assess the situation, particularly the staff component and operations with help from the department.
• Things are looking a bit grim and costs will need to be kept to a minimum.
• Poppies have gone in this year (5 acres). This will hopefully help the bottom line.

6.4 On Line Access Centre – No report

6.5 Junior Cattle Handlers Committee –

• Stanley Show this weekend. This will be the last show for the year. The students are doing very well. The celebration dinner and awards night is on 12th December. Students chose beef cattle this year so the dairy cattle were not used from the farm.
• It has been a fantastic year with the students being very well behaved and sharing all the responsibilities.

7. General Business

7.1 School Levies

• Malcolm tabled a proposal to increase levies for 2013. K-6 by $10 including K - $140, P-2 - $175, 3-5 - $200, grade 6 - $175, 7-10 - $370. Modest increase to meet the rising costs.

Moved: M. Moore, Seconded: N. Maddick that “we approve the levies for 2013 as tabled in the proposal” CARRIED

Our levies are very favourable compared to other schools.

7.2 Results of Parent Survey

• This survey is run every year around report time. It is based on the values established for the school. It allows us to plan for changes if we need to.
• Community Links show that most people are happy with the school.
• Communication: newsletter, phone, email, SMS, website
• Cultural: Behaviour is well managed in the school. There are always some that disagree. Focus on achievements and students feeling safe. Support for students is a high priority and a pleasant environment.
• Personal Development: Good relationships with teachers and other students. Leadership opportunities, healthy lifestyle, individual needs are met, children are taught well, up to date technology. Teachers are committed to improving the implementation of learning programs. Parents are kept informed about child’s learning. This was very positive.
• 18 responses were very disappointing. 30 would have been ideal. Parents can now access Facebook and surveys can be done through this media.
• Our School Improvement Report from the Department shows that parent satisfaction has improved.
• Trade Training Centre – in the process of putting in an application by August 2013.
• We need to keep working on perceptions of behaviour management. We fix problems by talking through the issues. We need to sell our methods better to parents.

7.3 School Report

• The school report was tabled by Tim Dyer, Chairperson.

Moved: Angela Craze, Seconded: Kevin Rogers that “this report be accepted and then read out at Presentation Day”. CARRIED

Tim spoke to Malcolm on his retirement and recognised his leadership in the school and the whole community.

Michael spoke on behalf of the students and thanked Malcolm for his role as principal and his relationship with the students. Anna spoke as a staff member and acknowledged Malcolm’s support of different ideas and discussions that take place. A humane personable person and family man who encourages staff to explore ideas and career choices. Kevin spoke as a parent and said Malcolm had gone out of his way to work on the many committees that operate within the school. Malcolm had generously taken on board the complexity of the school.

Malcolm thanked everyone for their support, guidance and wisdom in making decisions. He acknowledged the lovely students, excellent and talented staff and supportive community. It was not hard to come to work each day.

Meeting closed at: 8.21pm.

Next meeting will be held on THURSDAY 14th FEBRUARY, 2013 at 7.00pm in the VET Room.