Sheffield School Association Inc.
Minutes – Thursday 21st March, 2013

Venue: VET Room at Sheffield School
Time: 7:00 pm
Meeting organiser: Kate Haberle
Meeting recorder: Kate Haberle
Present: Ron Daly, Kate Haberle, Tim Dyer, Amanda Grey, Gillian Pratt, Allison Boutcher, Dayna Grey, Phillip Turner, Sharon Allen, Newton Maddick, Anna Maddick, Chris Puccetti, Melissa Dudley, Debbie May, Gabrielle Knight, Drew Horton, Mariska Scerri, Elaine Deverell

Apologies: Jacqui McCarthy

Moved: Dayna Grey, Seconded: Chris Puccetti, “that apologies be accepted.” CARRIED

1. Minutes of previous meeting: (14th February, 2013)

Moved: Newton Maddick, Seconded: Allison Boutcher, “that minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.” CARRIED

2. Business Arising:

2.1 – School Transition Fund:

- A process has begun in Railton with a community meeting. A request was made to tour our facilities to see how this transition could possibly take place. This took place last Wednesday. A meeting was held last Thursday in Railton. At this meeting it was decided to give the community an opportunity to vote on a few options for the future. Today was the closing day for voting. Our support of the Railton School will depend on the outcome of this vote.
2.2 - Enrolment policy:

- With any new enrolment, individual needs are considered. It is important to provide support to meet these needs including IEP for students, Risk management and Aide time. There are a set of procedures with any new enrolment. Anyone has a right to an education. We have to accommodate any students unless there are extenuating circumstances where we are not able to meet these needs. Chris spoke on the issue and was very supportive of the school and the communication with parents which was the defining point that led to a concern with parents at the beginning of the year.

3. Correspondence:

3.1 Out –

- Yaminga Feix, Callum Hayes, Jack Tammens, Brittany Baker, Karyn Jennings, Zachery Hampson – Acknowledgement of their awards at the Don College Celebration of Excellence Evening held in February.
- Brittany Baker, Tayla Smith, Barbara Alsop and Joshua Bell – Congratulations on their participation in the Lions Club, Youth of the Year held recently in Sheffield.

In –

- **Bendigo Bank** – Information letter with details of the process involved with the introduction of the Bendigo Bank in our community.

**Moved:** Elaine Deverell, **Seconded:** Anna Maddick that “the inward correspondence be accepted and outward correspondence be endorsed”. **CARRIED**

It was resolved to write to Michael Dunn, Sophia Dyer, Keeley Hurley and Kevin Rogers to thank them for their time of the School Council.

4. Special Committees Reports: No report

5. Standing Reports

**Student**

- On the 28th February, the grade 7 students climbed Mt Roland
- The swimming carnival was held on the 6th March at the Launceston Aquatic Centre for secondary students. The day was a great success where we ran 60 events in an hour.
- From the 12th to the 22nd March, learn to swim was conducted for grade 3-5 students at the Latrobe Pool.
- Grade 3-6 students competed at the Penguin Athletic Carnival on Thursday the 14th March. It was an enjoyable day with great results from all grades.
- A walk-a-thon was held last Friday as a fundraiser for our Relay for Life team which is participating in the Relay for Life this weekend. The team raised $197 which will help with research for the fight against cancer.
- Immunisations will be held tomorrow for grades 6, 7, 9 and 10 students.
• Reports will be going home tomorrow
• The Easter break is coming up on the 29th March till the 2nd April. The 28th March is a student free day.
• The Twilight carnival was held tonight where a number of our students represented the school in running events.

Early Childhood

• During week 3 and 4 (18th -26th February) each class had a parent information session. These sessions were well supported, with about 9 or 10 families attending each class. Parents came to meet their child’s teacher and get a feel for how the classroom operated and what was in store for the year ahead.
• 1st March PIPS testing has been finalised and the data has been returned to the school with pleasing results for many of the students. PIPS is Performance indicators in Primary Schools. It is an assessment of early literacy and numeracy for prep students completed in March and November each year.
• We are enjoying our new double width footpath between the music room and P/1A. Staff is having conversations about how to further develop our playground. We hope to build a garden/play area along the path and in front of the classrooms.
• iPads have been designated to kindergarten with 4 in each classroom.
• Kinder speech screening was conducted today.
• Initial reports have been prepared and are going home tomorrow night.
• We are delivering Easter Eggs to Tandara and Dyer Court residents next Wednesday.
• Easter egg hunts will be on Wednesday morning.
• Teachers are preparing for upcoming Moderation Days which are on the 28th March and 19th April.
• On Friday 15th March, we had a walkathon to help raise money for the Relay for Life walkers.

Primary

• We have two PITE students, Russell O’Rourke and Michelle Burke, working in 6 Bakes and 5 Pratt respectively. These students are from UTAS and are with us until the end of the year. Currently they are here one day per week, increasing to two days later in the year. They will also be completing their internships with us. Students have responded well to having them in the classroom.
• February 25 – Grade 3/4 Dowie went on an excursion to Gallery Tasmania.
• March 5th – Scripture commenced for the Grade 5 and 6 students
• March 12-22 – Grade 3, 4 and 5 students have participated in the Swimming and Water Safety Program at the Latrobe Pool.
• March 14 – A group of primary students represented the school in the NWPSSA athletics carnival in Penguin. A selection of these students made it through to the twilight event which was held this evening.
• March 21 – 5/6 R and 6B went on an excursion to Latrobe for “Little Big Shots” (film festival)
• March 22 – Initial reports went home
• March 25 – Primary Aquatics Day will be held at the Latrobe Pool. The format will be different to previous years due to the change in location and size of the pool/centre.
• A sausage sizzle is happening soon to raise money for grade 5 camp (Run by Primary SRC)
• March 28 – Professional Learning Day. Student free day.
• An Easter egg hunt will be held next week.

Secondary

• Harmony Day: Yesterday Grade 9/10 students in the Food Technology class celebrated Harmony Day which celebrates cultural diversity in our country. Students invited a friend to share in a meal from another country. The corridor was set up and the guests enjoyed eating the food that was prepared by the students.
• Piranah Sale: Grade 9/10 Ag students attended the Piranah sale today. A bit cold and wet but a good experience.
• Leadership Day; Anna Maddick and Tony Hays took a group of students to Launceston today to a leadership workshop. They left at 7.15 this morning so it is indicative of the commitment our students have to extend their leadership skills in a variety of ways.
• The Swimming Carnival was held on the 6th March in Launceston. Students enjoyed the day and there was a lot of positive feedback from the Aquatic Centre staff about how well the students behaved at the pool. Students participated very well and about 60 events took place in the first hour followed by free time in the pool. It was a very enjoyable day.
• Lions Club Youth of the Year: The Lions Club Youth of the Year was held on 23rd February. Four of our ex-students participated and did an amazing job. They were interviewed on the Sunday then at the dinner on Monday night they had to give two impromptu speeches and a prepared speech. Brittany Baker won both the public speaking and the overall Youth of the Year. She will participate in the regional final at Sheffield on Sunday.
• Clean up Australia Day took place on 8th March. Older students partnered up with younger classes and completed their tasks very well. It was lovely to see the older students looking after the little ones and accepting this responsibility in such a positive manner.
• RSL Dinner: Anna and Newton Maddick accompanied Michael Dunn and Hollie Jackson to the Annual RSL dinner on Saturday night. The members of the RSL were very impressed with the students and acknowledged the support given to them by the school. They will once again be sponsoring the ANZAC Day awards this year with Art and essay writing competitions.
• Grade 7 Mt Roland walk: Students, parents and staff had a wonderful walk up the mountain. For the first time they walked up and down the front of the mountain. Very successful day.
• Walkathon: was held last Friday. Once again older students accompanied the younger students and it was a great success.
• Youth Week Forum at Devonport High School. Melissa Dudley took 6 students to this forum which was organised to give students with academic aspirations an insight into opportunities for employment on the North West Coast.

6. Sub-committee Reports

6.1 Chaplaincy

• $11000 has been donated by the Devonport LCC. They have requested that this money be put into a program for Railton but with the assistance of Sheffield School LCC. Tim to write a letter to Scripture Union inviting them to begin the process of advertising and appointing a chaplain for the Railton School.

6.2 Show Committee – No report

6.3 Farm Committee –

• A meeting has been held. The farm is looking good after the heavy rain. Milk production is good. There has been a reduction in spending money.
• Poppies were taken two weeks ago. However due to the poppies being harvested late they were affected by the rain and the concentration was reduced. 8 tonne were taken. It is hoped to make a profit from the poppies.
• Colin Pettit will be visiting the farm soon and will attend a meeting to support a staff component or any other proposal in regard to the viability of the farm.

6.4 On Line Access Centre – No report

6.5 Junior Cattle Handlers Committee –

• There has not been a meeting. However the committee catered for the rodeo in March. It was a very long day but it all went very well.

7. General Business

7.1 Election

• Casual vacancies – Allison Boutcher to invite Kelly Parker to attend the next meeting with a view to accept the casual vacancy for two years. Debbie May will ask Tammy Deverell to attend also.

7.2 Mural Fest

• Mural Fest starts on the 30th March. Chris Puccetti has asked if a helicopter could land on the school oval on Saturday 6th April. Ron will be contacted in regard to this request.
7.3 Bendigo Bank

- A birth certificate will be required as a source of identification to sign up with the bank. A letter from the school would be sufficient and this may encourage more students to open an account.

7.4 Retention Rates

- Tasmania has the worst retention rates in Australia post year 10. We need to keep this in mind as a state and island and as a school. Rachel Matchett is our pathway planner and works with grade 10 students in planning their future whether it is at Don College, a traineeship, apprenticeship or work. We need to focus on celebrating our students as they move on to further their careers and not focus on them being leavers as this brings an assumption of finishing their education.

Meeting closed at: 8.40pm.

Next meeting will be held on THURSDAY 18th APRIL, 2013 at 7.00pm in the VET Room.