Sheffield School Association Inc.

Minutes – Thursday 21st November, 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, Allison Boutcher, Dayna Grey, Phillip Turner, Newton Maddick, Anna Maddick, Elaine Deverell, Kelli Parker, Sharon Allen, Cindy Dunlop, Gabrielle Knight, Gillian Pratt, Debbie May, Bradley Huett, Jacqui McCarthy, Mariska Scerri, Amanda Hardwicke, Lucy Crowther (left at 8.00pm), Sandra How, Marlene Febey (left at 7.35pm)

Apologies: Melissa Dudley, Chris Puccetti

Tim welcomed Amanda and Lucy from the Railton School Association. We look forward to their input into the discussions and value their viewpoint on amalgamation between the two schools. Tim also welcomed Sandra and Marlene who represent the Scripture teachers at the school.

Moved: Kelli Parker, Seconded: Allison Boutcher, “that apologies be accepted.” CARRIED

1. Minutes of previous meeting: (24th October, 2013)

Moved: Mariska Scerri, Seconded: Jacqui McCarthy, “that minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.” CARRIED

2. Business Arising: Nil

3. Correspondence:

3.1 Out –

- Mr Tim Dyer, Chairperson of Sheffield School Association – Letter to Learning Services North West requesting permission to temporarily suspend the
memorandum, election and quorum rules of the Sheffield School Association in good faith pending the execution of the MOU with Railton School. Learning Services are not able to do this so a minute will be sent to the Minister as soon as possible to secure this process.

As Tim will no longer be a parent member of the Association at the end of this year, it was necessary to move a motion to allow him to stay on in his role as chairperson. Tim vacated the chair for members to discuss his role on council.

Ron Daly took over the chair and spoke on the importance of continuity through this transition process.

Moved: Elaine Deverell, Seconded : Newton Maddick, “that we approve the extension of the current chairperson of the Sheffield School Association, Mr Tim Dyer, until a time in 2014 when the current School Association is dissolved and a newly formed School Association committee is elected” CARRIED

In –

- Cement Australia – Community Grants Program 2013, Allocation of Grants
  The Sheffield School Association has been offered a grant of $1000 for the purpose of “supplying resources for programs at Railton Primary School through chaplain services” as outlined in the application. Tim thanked Amanda Hardwicke for her hard work in writing the application. Peter Ives will be attending the Chaplaincy meeting on the 5th December for the presentation and photo shoot.

Scripture Report

- Tim invited Sandra How to address the meeting. She spoke on the program being offered to primary students. The program is values based and how these values apply to various characters in the Bible. Members were invited to ask questions about the material used in the classroom. Ron referred to the practical implementation of this program in regard to student numbers and timetable issues. This needs to be looked at so there is minimal impact on students’ learning and staff inclusion. Sandra to follow up with Mr Bakes.

Moved: Debbie May, Seconded: Allison Boutcher, “that we adopt the program as presented by Sandra How.” CARRIED

Tim and Ron thanked Sandra and Marlene for their work in the school and the commitment they have made to our students. Their input is highly valued.

Sandra presented the application form to provide Religious Instruction in State Schools.

4. Special Committees Reports: No report
5. Standing Reports

Student

- On the 1st November, the Athletic Carnival was held. Kentish took out the carnival for another year with Roland coming second and Don third.
- On the 8th November, the Sheffield Show was held. Unfortunately the pet parade was cancelled due to poor weather conditions, although the cattle handlers pushed through the rain to continue the day.
- Remembrance Day was held on the 11th November with two students from the three areas of the school laying wreaths.
- The school socials were held on the 14th November with the theme of Blue.
- Yesterday was Crazy Hair Day for students throughout the school with a gold coin donation. During the middle block, high school students attended an assembly where our friend, Malachi Hinrichsen cut off his locks to a number two level. All donations went towards children in Cambodia.
- Students travelling to Cambodia leave on the 28th November.
- The primary school fair is also being held for younger students on the 28th November with the inclusion of the pet parade after its postponement on show day.
- Anna spoke on the preparation that is taking place in regard to their trip to Cambodia. All is going well with a packing night taking place on Tuesday. Students are getting very excited. They leave Devonport on Thursday afternoon 28th November. Money raised has been overwhelming with over $1000 raised from Malachi having his locks cut off. On behalf of the School Association, Tim wished them all a wonderful time as they face the challenges awaiting them in Cambodia. He wished them all the very best as they travel and look forward to hearing all about their experiences when they return.

Early Childhood

- PIP’s testing has been completed. Results in Literacy show 7 of our students are well above the expected range and in Numeracy, 5 students were well above the expected range which is above the 90th percentile.
- Grade 1 and 2 students have completed PAT Maths and PAT Reading Comprehension testing online. Results are yet to be analysed.
- Kinder Sports and Athletics Carnival were successful events.
- Our Remembrance Day assembly was held in the central courtyard.
- K-2 classes met Tandara residents at Mural Park as they “Stepped into Spring.” Natasha from the pharmacy shared about the importance of being healthy. Fresh fruit was shared and colouring-in competition prize winners awarded.
- Last Thursday an ECE social, run by the SRC, was enjoyed by all with plenty of games, dancing and colourful hats.
- On Monday 18th November, Kinder students enjoyed an excursion to Ulverstone. They participated in a hands-on workshop with Slipstream Circus and had a fun time at the Dinosaur Park. Staff and children had a wonderful day.
- Prep Hinrichsen/Moles and 1/2 Hinrichsen bussed to Launceston today to visit the museum at Inveresk and the planetarium.
• Prep/1 Allen and 2 Moore are hoping to venture out (weather permitting) to Ulverstone tomorrow for a beach, park and barbecue experience.
• Teachers are busily writing end of year student reports, reviewing IEPs and writing new IEPs in readiness for 2014.
• An ECE Arts concert will be held next Tuesday afternoon from 1.30pm in the main music room.
• Due to a poor weather forecast, the annual Pet Parade was rescheduled; it will now be held at 11.30 on Thursday 28th November.
• Teachers and students are busy getting ready for the fair which is being held next Thursday. This year’s fair is taking on a new format and will be starting at the conclusion of the Pet Parade.
• Our numbers are looking good and two Kinder classes coming on board and an increase in numbers in our Early Childhood classes.
• Crazy Hair Day was great and most children participated.
• The end of year picnic will take on a different form. Three classes over two days will attend the Imaginarium, Jungle Gym and the Bluff.

Primary

• On the 28th October, Grade 3 and 4 students had a visit from a Royal Flying Doctor’s flight simulator and have been doing work in class to compliment the visit.
• November 1st – Students participated in the Athletics Carnival
• November 6th – P-10 Assembly
• November 8th – Pet parade was postponed
• November 11th – Remembrance Day assembly
• November 14th – School socials were held and there was a good attendance from the primary area.
• November 19th – Grade 3/4 students participated in the sports expo.
• November 20th – A number of students sported crazy hair styles to support fundraising for the Cambodia trip.
• November 22nd – 5/6 Richards and 6 Bakes were planning to go on an excursion tomorrow to the go-karts and the Latrobe pool, but this has been postponed due to the weather.
• Classes are busy preparing for the fair next week.

Secondary

• NAPLAN Testing results have been given to students and parents. In grade 7 100% of students reached the benchmark in Reading and Numeracy with 94% in Writing and Spelling and 92% in Grammar and Punctuation. In grade 9, 98% reached the benchmark in Reading with 91% in Writing, 95% in Spelling 89% in Grammar and Punctuation and 88% in Numeracy.
• Athletics Carnival was held on the 1st November with Kentish being the victory team. Students enjoyed the day and participation was excellent.
• On 31st October, the grade 10 students participated in the IParty program organised by YAFF. The team members presented a condensed workshop on alcohol, partying and positive relationships.

• The whole school assembly was held on the 6th November. It was a time of great celebration as many students were recognised for their amazing achievements over the past couple of months.

• Remembrance Day service was held on the 11th November attended by members of the local RSL. Michael Dunn and Natalia Porter read out their poems which they had written themselves. The RSL members were very impressed with the standard of the poems and the fact that they were written by students in the school.

• The socials were held on the 14th November with the theme being Blue. There were many interesting costumes, face painting and hair designs. The grade 10 students enjoyed the last song of the night dedicated to them as leavers this year.

• Some of our LAC students exercised their leadership skills at the 3/4 Sports Day in Devonport. The students did an amazing job supervising the various activities and the younger students had a great day enjoying the outdoor sports program.

• On Monday 18th November the Interhigh Athletics Carnival took place at Girdlestone Park in East Devonport. The students participated very well and showed their athletic ability by running a place in some events.

• Last Thursday, staff from the Don College came to school to enrol our students in their courses for next year.

• Grade 10 students have been participating in their First Aid course as part of their Health and wellbeing course.

• On Wednesday we had crazy hair day where students donated a gold coin for the Cambodia trip. Malachi Hinrichsen had his locks chopped off and a number 2 shave. Over $600 was raised on the day.

• The NSW English competition results were announced with Hollie Jackson gaining a high distinction. There were 7 distinctions, 21 credits and 54 participation awards. In Maths, Sophia Dyer, Michael Dunn and Baylen Puccetti gained a distinction.

6. Sub-committee Reports

6.1 Chaplaincy – No Report. The next meeting will be held on the 5th December.

6.2 Show Committee –

  • Great day at the show!! Very wet. It ran very well and was extremely well organised. The judge was fantastic and volunteered his time and resources. He even used his frequent flyer points to cover the cost of his flights. His feedback was very valuable. The animal chosen by the students at Piranah won the Hoof and Hook. A lot of volunteers were working on the day. The catering was wonderful.
6.3 Farm Committee –

- Life on the farm is going well. Milk production is way up. James Barker will be doing work experience. He is a former student of the school. Ken Jeffrey has asked for a trainee to help him with the workload on the farm. This will be looked into by the committee.

6.4 On Line Access Centre – No report.

6.5 Junior Cattle Handlers Committee –

- We are in the middle of the show season. Deloraine Show this Saturday. Last Saturday we had Scottsdale Show which meant an overnight stay. The students love this as they have entertainment at the ground.
- We have three students in the state final for Junior Beef Judging to be held next Saturday morning at the Devonport Show.
- At the moment we have three students in the State Final for Cattle Handling at Stanley.

7. General Business

7.1 Transition of Railton School

- The MOU document has been signed at a meeting last Thursday.
- The committee needs to now sign this and this is expected to happen without any issue. It was good having Alan Green at the meeting last week as he will be on the committee to finally sign off on the MOU. It is important to keep the process going within the time frame before the end of the year. It has been a generally positive process and will be good to have it signed off.
- The parents of this year’s grade 4 and 5 students will need to be given a lot of support and consideration through this transition process.
- As a council we need to communicate well in the community and be very clear and positive about the facts of the transition of Railton School.

7.2 Parent Participation Policy

- Tim went through the draft policy. This is a big picture policy from which other policies hang off. Members were asked to read the policy again, think about the significant issues ready for discussion at the next meeting. Try and think from a parent’s point of view, considering a balance of parent inclusion so that they can participate in activities in the school but not get to the point where they are locked out of the school.

7.3 Show Raffle

- Ron Daly won the show raffle. He wasn’t asked to do the draw so accepted the prize. Dayna Grey won the second prize of a cruise up the Gordon River.
7.4 Parents and Friends Association

- We can look at the inclusion of this body again in the school. It is not a decision making or political body. It is a more practical group focusing on fund raising and other organisational activities in the school.

Meeting closed at: 8.21pm.

Next meeting will be held on THURSDAY 5\textsuperscript{th} DECEMBER, 2013 at 7.00pm in the VET Room followed by supper. Please bring a small plate of supper to share. Tim will present his report for discussion before Presentation Day.