Sheffield School Association Inc.

Minutes – THURSDAY 16th OCTOBER, 2015

Venue: VET Room at Sheffield School
Time: 7:00pm
Meeting organiser: Kate Haberle
Meeting recorder: Kate Haberle
Present: Kate Haberle, Tim Dyer, Ron Daly, Debbie May, Cindy Dunlop, Sharon Allen, Jamie Skirving, Amanda Grey, Bradley Huett, Emma Wells, Allison Boucher, Phillip Turner, Elaine Deverell, Anita Richards, Kathy Turnbull, Chris Puccetti

Apologies: Kelli Parker, Chloe Temple, Trish Laws, Ayden Grey, Allison Hicks, Lillian Maddick, Newton Maddick, Helen Rockliff
Absent: Nicole East

Moved: Chris Puccetti, Seconded: Allison Boucher, “that apologies be accepted.” CARRIED

1. Minutes of previous meeting: (18th September, 2014)

Moved: Bradley Huett, Seconded: Chris Puccetti, “that minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.” CARRIED

2. Business Arising:
   - Letter to Jeremy Rockliff regarding Pathway Planners in schools. Tim has written this letter expressing our concerns at the cut in funding to employ Pathway Planners in our schools.

3. Correspondence

3.1 Out – Nil

In –
   - Review of 1994 Education Act – A discussion paper for consultation has been received. We need to look at how we will respond to this document. There are some issues which we need to discuss.
   - Trudy Pearce – Learning Services North-West – Railton/Sheffield Transition Steering Committee. All terms of the Memorandum of Understanding have now been fulfilled and the functions and purposes of the Steering Committee are complete. This committee will now be disbanded.
Moved: Anita Richards, Seconded: Phillip Turner, “that the inward correspondence be received.”
CARRIED

4. Special Committees Reports: No report

5. Standing Reports

Student

- On the 13th October the students came back feeling refreshed and ready for their final term of the year.
- On Friday, Grades 7 and 9 will have their immunisations.

Early Childhood:

- On the last Tuesday of term 3 our prep classes travelled to Spreyton Primary School to watch their school production. They then ventured to the Bluff for lunch and a play.
- 1 Allen spent time with their grade 10 buddies in the last week of term 3. Students, young and old, enjoyed painting pictures of Grug and Mr Men.
- PM testing of students from prep to grade 2 is almost complete.
- PIP’s testing will commence next week, with all Prep students being tested.

Primary

- Grade 5 students, teachers and parents thoroughly enjoyed the grade 5 camp to Hobart. Day one consisted of Woody’s Skate and Play, Hog’s Breath Café for dinner and arrival at Camp Orana. Day two at Port Arthur included a guided tour, harbour cruise, dinner and ghost tour. There was also some sightseeing around the area, in between activities including Doo Town, the blowhole and the tessellated rocks. Day three saw a visit to the Bellerive Oval consisting of a cricket session with the Tassie Tigers and a tour of the grounds. Following this they had lunch at the Botanical Gardens and an afternoon at the Hobart Aquatic Centre. That night a camp BBQ, auction and movie was enjoyed by all. The final day included the much anticipated Cadbury’s visit with mass purchasing and finally the long journey home. They received some fantastic feedback from various venues about the kids’ behaviour. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves and all welcomed some decent night’s sleep upon return!!
- We had another P-6 assembly on the 26th September that showcased our latest pieces of work and celebrated student achievements.
- Staff and students enjoyed a well-earned two week break and have returned fighting fit for our final busy term!
- All students are currently undergoing PAT Maths and PAT Comprehension testing which will be completed by the end of October.
- Marcus Bakes is on long service leave for the remainder of the year-lucky him!! Alison Last has stepped into Marcus’ role in both AST and class teacher capacity.
- Clare Crowden has joined us to fill Alison’s teaching position on 3/4 A.
- Teachers are currently in the process of organising classes for 2015.
- Students from grade 5/6 Richards and 6 Last/Jackson will be involved in the Personal Relationships Program on Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st of October run by Family Planning Tasmania. This aims to address and raise awareness of a range of relevant topics applicable to the age group.
- Staff will be involved in an internal moderation day next Friday looking at students work samples and continuing to review our literacy practices.
Secondary

- Students have made a great start to the term.
- LAC students are completing the triple top walk on the 31st October. They will leave at 7am and return to school by 5.30pm.
- Cattle Handlers enjoyed breaking in week.
- Grade 10 exams will be held from the 4th till the 6th November. They will have an exam for each of their core subjects (except for Health). These will be held in the drama room at this stage.
- Grade 8 students have been using their tablets this term and have been enjoying working on them in class.
- Grade 7 and 9 students have their immunisations tomorrow.
- Professional Learning Day for teachers is next Friday. It is a student free day.
- Last term grade 7-10 students attended a cultural performance by a man who did a series of dances. He also gave an inspirational speech about achieving goals and having the strength to complete the process. He also gave students a really positive message about the role of fathers. Overcoming challenges was the main focus with another being cultural identity and understanding who you are as an individual. The grade 8 students were so inspired that they had a Hakka competition on the last day of term.
- CORES program- Elaine Deverell ran the one day workshop with a group of grade 10 students and two teachers. The students found the program very useful and felt more comfortable about discussing and dealing with suicide and how we can help to prevent it from occurring.
- PAT Numeracy and PAT Comprehension testing is taking place at the moment and will be completed by the end of October.

Railton

- It has been a very busy time at the Railton Campus. This has been largely due to the building works that began in the last week of Term 3. We are still a ‘work in progress’ but the majority of work has been completed. The Kinder/Prep class were able to start their week in the refurbished classroom. The old, unused classrooms have been demolished and have been replaced with a barked area. We have a covered walkway that enables students to access the toilets, GP Hall, Canteen and Library without getting wet when it rains. Our learning spaces at the Campus have been greatly enhanced through these building works. There are many people who have had to work hard to ensure all ran smoothly, but we would like to particularly acknowledge the extra work of Malcolm Von Stieglitz our EFA, Claire Kent, Julie McCarthy and Rachael Watt, our Kinder/Prep team, and Ron Daly our Principal. We would also like to thank the Early Childhood team at the Sheffield Campus who made Claire and the Kinder/Prep students so welcome when they relocated to the campus for two days.
- Amanda Von Schill and two of our Grade 4 students participated in a specific transition program to orient them to the Sheffield Campus in readiness for 2015. This was highly successful for these students and their transition, along with the rest of the Grade Four students, will be further progressed this term.
- The Campus went on a highly successful whole Campus excursion to Launceston in the last week of Term 3. Students went bowling, went to the PCYC gym and to Treasure Island. We also managed brief visits to the Punchbowl Reserve and Launceston City Park. Students thoroughly enjoyed the day and their behaviour was a positive reflection of the Sheffield School. Ten grade 9 students accompanied us and were absolutely amazing as they supported and interacted with students throughout the day. They were instrumental in
making the day a success. Older students interacting with younger students are very important and it was a very positive time for all involved.

- One final note: We have been the surprised, overjoyed and extremely thankful recipients of $10,000 donated by the Hub to enhance the learning of students at the Railton Campus. The Campus has received the funds to support their priorities of developing quality learning spaces, promoting high expectations around learning, and developing play through access to resources.
- The Memorandum of Understanding in relation to the amalgamation of the Railton School and Sheffield School has been finalised, reflecting hard work and commitment from parents and staff.
- An opening of the new premises for the parents was discussed. It was decided to do this at an assembly where Tim will attend to acknowledge the support of parents throughout this process. Resolved to write a letter to each member of the team that contributed to the smooth transition into the new premises.

6. Sub-committee Reports

6.1 Chaplaincy –

- A meeting was held yesterday, 15th October.
- Celebration of Chaplaincy evening will be held on the 23rd October at 6.30 at Fudge N Good Coffee. Arrangements for this event are coming along and we are expecting over 40 to attend. A group from Devonport will be joining Andrew Hillier who will be running the evening with guest speakers sharing their experiences and information about how the chaplaincy program is operating in the schools.
- A sub-committee is presently organising the Community Christmas Carols to be held in the gym on the 14th December at 6.30. We are very pleased to have 4 very talented guest artists, the Early Childhood choir and two guest speakers. Of course Santa will make an appearance.

6.2 Show Committee –

- A meeting will be held on Tuesday night to make final arrangements for the show on the 7th November. At this stage everything is going to plan. This is a great opportunity for our students to display their skills in this particular field.

6.3 Farm Committee – No Meeting. The grass is growing and the calving process is going well.

6.4 Junior Cattle Handlers Committee –

- A group of grade 10 students went to the Melbourne Show with Simon Barber. Bronte Page came second in the handling.
- Our students did very well at the Burnie Show. Ethan East did exceptionally well and greatly supported by Madalan Page. This was wonderful to see and is a real success story.
- Only half the team attended the Launceston Show. Dayna Grey won champion of champions. A fantastic achievement and very well deserved.
- Sheffield is the next show. Then there will be five in a row.

7. General Business

7.1 School Charter
• The charter should be ready for approval by the November meeting. It will be emailed out two weeks beforehand so members can read it and identify any points for discussion at the next meeting.

7.2 Pool

• Information has been gathered and a letter sent out to regular pool users.
• Prices have been increased.
• A plan for this season has been sent to the Education Department’s legal arm to ensure all aspects for the use of the pool are covered.
• Liability – Confident that this has been covered.
• Learn to Swim – ECC will use the Railton pool. Ellen Parsons will run this on a Thursday. This is being worked out to ensure it will work practically.
• Grades 3, 4 and 5 have their Water Safety program to the Latrobe Pool.

7.3 Years 11 and 12 – Remain on the agenda.

7.4 Discussion paper

• Will we do a collective response or individual? It was decided to do a collective response from the School Association.
• 8 themes are being explored in this paper.
• Chris Puccetti, Phillip Turner and Ron Daly to organise a time to meet and answer the questions in the document.
• We will need to endorse the response.

7.5 Software Company

• Chris is a director of this software company which is designing software to use in schools that could replace NAPLAN or add to it.
• Chris would like to pilot this program in the school. It would be used to assess maturity and learning levels.
• Chris will organise this at no cost.
• Resolved we look at a proposal plan from Chris and discuss it at the next meeting.

7.6 Photos for leavers Dinner

• Chris has offered to take photos for the Leavers Dinner at his studio in Main Street. We have Matt Bennett booked to do the official photos but any students who choose to take advantage of this offer can make arrangements with Chris on an individual basis.

7.7 Landscaping the RSL

• The organisers of this project would like grade 6 students to paint on a slab of concrete.
• Is it feasible for students to come out of class and paint? It was decided that this shouldn’t pose a problem. Ron to follow up with Teresa Bentley.

Meeting closed at 8.15pm.

Next meeting will be held on THURSDAY, 20th NOVEMBER, 2014 at 7.00pm in the VET Room.