Sheffield School Association Inc.

Minutes – THURSDAY 18th SEPTEMBER, 2014

Venue: VET Room at Sheffield School
Time: 7:00pm
Meeting organiser: Kate Haberle
Meeting recorder: Kate Haberle
Present: Kate Haberle, Tim Dyer, Ron Daly, Trish Laws, Debbie May
Sharon Allen, Jamie Skirving, Amanda Grey, Bradley Huett
Ayden Grey, Newton Maddick, Emma Wells, Helen Rockliff
Allison Boutcher, Lillian Maddick, Nicole East, Phillip Turner,
Elaine Deverell, Allison Hicks

Apologies: Kelli Parker, Chloe temple, Kathy Turnbull, Anita Richards,
Chris Puccetti, Cindy Dunlop

Moved: Ron Daly, Seconded: Phillip Turner, “that apologies be accepted.” CARRIED

1. Minutes of previous meeting: (28th August, 2014)

Moved: Lillian Maddick, Seconded: Amanda Grey, “that minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.” CARRIED

2. Business Arising: Nil

3. Correspondence

3.1 Out –

- Madalan Page: Letter to congratulate her on winning the National Junior Cattle Handler Champion of Champions at the Royal Brisbane Show.
- Chelsea Rayner: Letter to congratulate her on being runner up in the National Junior Beef Judging Championships held recently at the Royal Brisbane Show.

In –

- A letter has been received regarding the upcoming review of the 1994 Education Act. Submissions for discussion need to be in by the end of the year although some schools have asked for an extension to this timeline. Any feedback will be taken into consideration. This letter is to inform council members only at this stage and not tabled as formal correspondence.
Moved: Bradley Huett, Seconded: Emma Wells, “that the outward correspondence be endorsed.”
CARRIED

4. Special Committees Reports: No report

5. Standing Reports

Student

- On the 29th August, dress up day was held with many students dressing up as their favourite book character. Thank you to all the students who participated.
- Don Taster Day was held on the 9th September. The grade 10 students went to Don to do classes such as Psychology and Health and Wellbeing. They all had a great time and enjoyed the day very much.
- On the 10th September the socials were held. With the theme opposites we saw a lot of boys in skirts and girls with beards. Everyone had a great time.
- The secondary sports presentation night was held on the 11th September. Congratulations to all sports team members for their achievements.
- This week is breaking in week with cattle handlers preparing their cattle for the show season.
- On Tuesday this week the grade 5 students set off on an adventure to Hobart. This trip will feature a Port Arthur day and night tour, Cadbury’s and much more. Good luck to them all.
- Term 3 ends on the 26th September.
- Term 4 commences on the 13th October.

Early Childhood:

- Literacy and Numeracy Week was celebrated in the week beginning 25th August. During this week ECE students wrote a poem that they carried in their pocket. It was great to see these poems being shared in the playground.
- On Friday 29th August our students came dressed in character costumes which were paraded at a whole school assembly.
- On Tuesday 9th September, Prep to grade 2 students travelled to Ulverstone to participate in the Northwest Coast Dance festival where everyone had a great time dancing. The rain cleared in time for us to enjoy lunch and a play at Fairway Park.
- Kinder to grade 2 students enjoyed a social last Wednesday afternoon.
- Teachers are busy reviewing and writing PLP’s (which is a new name for IEPs) for identified students.

Primary

- A group of 29 Students participated in the Speech and Drama section of the Devonport Eisteddfod. It was an excellent day and the students proudly represented Sheffield School. There were 19 items performed throughout the day and there were 15 awards given. Each student excelled and their performances were the best they had ever done! It seems that the stage, an audience and an adjudicator brought out the best in all students – they are all justifiably proud of their performances!
- Ms Dowie would like to congratulate every student who participated and thank them for the effort they have put into rehearsals and their presentation on the day. Thanks go to parents and carers who helped by organising students to attend after school rehearsals, at home rehearsals, costumes and parent help on the day. Also a big thank you to Mrs Bentley, Mrs Crowther and Miss Tawse who helped us with our rehearsals and costumes.
- A list of students and their achievements was tabled with this report.
Bonnie Sullivan received an award at the Showcase of talent Concert on Friday evening. She received the Dannebrog Encouragement award for the “promising primary student in Speech and Drama.” She was presented with a certificate and a cheque for $125.00. The presentation of awards is done at the conclusion of the concert which promotes the talents of the young performers who competed throughout the three weeks of the Eisteddfod. It was obviously an unexpected honour to receive the award and a big compliment for the very talented Bonnie.

Last Wednesday the primary students attended a social with the theme of opposites. There were many colourful, unusual and brave outfits worn for the social. Everyone agreed it was terrific fun. A big thank you must go to the SRC who did a great job in organising the social and also in the way they got into the spirit of the theme and encouraged the younger students to be involved.

On the 5th September a very successful Father’s Day stall was held for all students to have the opportunity to purchase something special for their dad on Father’s Day. A big thank you must go to Mrs Cindy Skirving for the tremendous effort she made in putting the items together and running the stall on the day.

The Spirit Cup is all about having fun and trying your hardest and participating in the games. Our team is called the Sheffield Magpies. We have played against Latrobe, Ulverstone, Devonport, Nixon Street and Burnie. There have been some wins! It is run by Mr Bakes and Mr O’Rourke. Students in grades 4, 5 and 6 are eligible to play.

The grade five students along with Miss Richards, Mr O’Rourke, Mr Bakes, Chris Puccetti and Esther Wass for the annual school camp to Hobart on Tuesday morning. They will visit Port Arthur, go roller skating, swimming and have a meal out at a restaurant. More details will follow at the next meeting.

On Tuesday the 9th September Primary students attended the Northern schools bi-annual dance festival. It was held at the basketball complex in Ulverstone. Many schools participated. The dances have been taught during PE lessons. Miss Scattergood and Miss Parsons attended the event to guide the students through the dances. There was a fantastic band that provided the music for the dancing.

Secondary

Congratulations to Bronte Page who has again been selected to represent Tasmania as part of the Prince Phillip Games Team. Bronte will be off to Western Australia later in the year to compete against the other states in these games.

Well done to James Knight and Ranni Lockett. James was selected in the Northwest Football team to represent the NWPSSA in the sports exchange against the Northern team tomorrow in Devonport. Ranni was recently awarded the Devon Junior Division 1 Association Best and Fairest player.

NAPLAN results went home to parents last week.

Elaine Deverell from CORES came to speak to the grade 10 students about a workshop associated with suicide. It was a very valuable session and we have a few students and two staff members participating in the course next Thursday.

Cattle Handlers are breaking in their cows this week.

Last week we had the school socials which were a huge success. The theme was “opposites” so we had a few very entertaining cross dressers.

The Don Taster day was held last Tuesday and students had the opportunity to see the school and familiarise themselves with the area. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience with many students who had not previously registered any interest in Don, becoming very keen to enrol next year.
• Last Thursday evening the Secondary Sports presentation evening was held to celebrate success and participation in sports during the year.
• Book week assembly was enjoyed by everyone as students paraded around the gym in their costumes.
• Staff versus students netball matches have been held at lunch time over the past couple of weeks.

Railton

• The Department has given the Railton Campus a grant of $2500 to run the breakfast program 5 days a week. This is run by parents, teachers and Esther.
• Students came to Sheffield for the Book Week assembly.
• The active after school program continues to be a great success.
• Students participated in the Dance Festival at Ulverstone.
• Bec Mitchell organised a kite making activity day and this proved to be a wonderful experience for all the students.
• The building work begins on Monday. The K-Prep section will be refurbished. The demolition of the old building will take place. A walkway will be constructed between the buildings. Vos Construction will be completing the project over a 3 week period.
• The Kinder and Prep children will utilise the second Kinder room, participate in a whole school excursion and come to Sheffield for the day.
• In term 4 the K-Prep will have a vibrant new learning area. Discussions will continue on utilising the area previously occupied by the old buildings.
• MOU – Tim and Ron attended a meeting. The committee is ready to sign off on this agreement. There are two minor issues to be finalised. These will be handed over to the School Council to deal with. The final signing off will then take place by October or November. This certainly is a good news story and is a big success. Improved learning outcomes for students have been identified.

6. Sub-committee Reports

6.1 Chaplaincy –

• The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15th October at 4.30pm.
• A Chaplaincy Celebration evening will be held at Fudge N’Good Coffee on the 23rd October. Representatives from local businesses and the churches will be invited to the event. Guests will be offered coffee, fudge and finger food, all donated by the Devonport Chaplaincy Incorporated who we are now affiliated with. Andrew Hillier and Esther will speak about the role of chaplaincy in our school and the proposed introduction of the mentoring program for our students.
• We are in the process of organising the Carols by Candlelight to be held at the school on Sunday 14th December. At this stage we have Brett Coombes, Michael Riley and Leah Woodbury as guest artists.
• Esther continues to be very active in her role of supporting students, staff and parents.

6.2 Show Committee –

• Ron reported on the progress of arrangements for the School Show on the 7th November.
• Two major sponsors have been gained – Wells Rural and Lion Australia. It will not necessarily be cash but the benefits will come back during the year. Other sponsors are on board. The judges have been finalised.
• There will be no pet parade as this was held earlier on in the year.
• Other schools in the state participate in the show.

6.3 **Farm Committee** – No Meeting

6.4 **Junior Cattle Handlers Committee** –

• Breaking in week went very well.
• There are 22 beef handlers and 2 dairy entries.
• Burnie Show is on the 3-4 October.
• Grade 10 cattle handlers will attend the Melbourne Show during the first week of the holidays. Simon Barber will accompany the group. They set up with cattle studs over there and will return on the 2nd October ready for the Burnie Show.
• The students will attend 6 shows this season. They will participate in the Deloraine Show due to the generosity of the cartage contractor who will take the cattle for nothing.
• We wish them a good season. It is pleasing to see new families involved this year.

7. **General Business**

7.1 **School Charter**

• Tim and Ron are still working on the charter. It may be November before it is ready to be tabled for approval. This charter will cover the period 2015-2017.

7.2 **Pool**

• A meeting was held at Railton with Ron, Kate and Kelli. Ron has gained some information from other schools as to how they structure the operations of their pool.
• The plan for this season will include operating times from 10th November to the end of March.
• Costing is being looked at including a surplus in the budget for infrastructure. The functioning of the pool needs to be sustainable.
• Charmaine is looking into the cost of running the pool. A cleaner will be needed for weekends and after school times.
• A CPR course will be offered – user pay.

7.3 **Years 11 and 12** –

• Alan Green attended the meeting tonight. He presented the facts as defined by the government. Retention will be assisted by the government and this will hopefully head toward students gaining their TCE.
• We need to seriously consider our stand on this issue as an expression of interest for 2016 needs to be in by the 16th December. We need to have some idea of a structure and what we can offer before asking students if they would stay at Sheffield. We will do this if we don't disadvantage our students.
• We will keep this on the agenda and discuss it further at our next meeting.

7.4 **Budget**

• **Pathway Planners** – This program has been terminated by the Government with the view that this responsibility will fall back on schools. The teacher will need to have knowledge of the local area and this will need to include courses available and businesses for work experience.
• It was resolved that Tim write a letter to the Hon Jeremy Rockliff, Minister for Education outlining our concerns regarding the axing of the pathway planning program. The letter
needs to include the positives that we have experienced in our school as result of the work done by Rachael and Kelli and our concerns about the future wellbeing of our students.

- **Information technology** – Reduction of IT support in schools. This service will be halved and the staffing will now be based on the number of students in the school. We currently have support staff for two and a half days a week but this will come down to one and a half days a week. Schools are able to buy staff for an extra day through their SRP (School Resource package). There will now be a reliance on the help desk on staff computers. This can correct any problems by remote control or the person can come up to the school.

- **Education Department** – The department needs to find $22 million in cuts. Schools will be targeted.
  - Maths and English specialist teachers are going into schools but we don’t have any here at Sheffield.
  - There will be a 5% increase in our SRP which amounts to about $30000 but this won’t meet the shortfall.
  - BSS - Business support which the admin staff access is going.
  - North and Northwest Learning Services will be merging. This will mean a reduction in external support. The Principals Network Leader will remain.
  - Focus on Maths and Science teachers – As there is a shortage of these specialist teachers, the government will retrain teachers. They will be given a term off class, funded through the Department.
  - Grade 8 students will have access to Acer tablets at the beginning of term 4.

**Meeting closed at 8.34pm.**

**Next meeting will be held on THURSDAY, 16th OCTOBER, 2014 at 7.00pm in the VET Room.**