

School Board Report Friday September 16th 2017

The Board meeting was held on Friday 16 September 2016 at 8:30am with all members present. Board Chair Claudia Renner, welcomed all and the Minutes of Term Two's meeting were endorsed as correct.

School Finance Report: Anne thanked MCS Trudy Lees for all her contributions to the school over past years, acknowledging that Trudy will be going on Leave until her retirement in March 2017. The new relieving MCS will be Debbie Humphries. Trudy advised that the Budget spending was on target. The Voluntary Contributions were budgeted to recoup 65% of 571 student enrolments. At this point, the budget is \$3000 short thus recoup has been less than 60%. Trudy and Patricia had attended training to implement RM Billing into the school which may result in a greater percentage of Voluntary Contributions being paid in the future.

NAPLAN Results: Deputy Robert Adams led discussions pertaining to data gleaned from the 2016 NAPLAN reports. Board members asked questions relating to various graphs and student performance leading to general discussion from all members with Rob and staff providing examples. Year 3 data reflected a solid performance in all areas in comparison to Like Schools. Year 3 student performance is compared to the school's ICSEA rating only. Year 5 results are compared not only with the ICSEA rating but also with the stable cohort. This extra variable has historically had an impact on comparative student performance. On Entry data from Pre Primary is now included as part of the data to give further information as to longitudinal individual improvement. It was emphasised by staff that in preparation for NAPLAN testing, students are given strategies and practice in answering multiple choice questions.

Focus 2017: This document from the DG, maintains the momentum and progress with the four priorities in the Strategic Plan "High Performance – High Care" and the Classroom First documents. The area of emphasis is the accountability of schools to find ways to accelerate learning success for every student. The Carine PS Business Plan and Vision are reflective of this focus on individual student improvement. The focus is also on highly performing school leaders to ensure exceptional teaching in all classrooms. Science, Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) is to be a focus in the Early Years, particularly in numeracy, creative problem solving and coding skills. Rebecca Rick has initiated contact with an ex Curtin University student who has been working with NASA. His field is mechatronics where engineers push technology to new frontiers as a human endeavour to create smarter products, devices and processes. He will be talking to our Year 6 students about the work he has done in this area.

Survey Update: Leanne Vardy advised that the school will be conducting three National School Opinion Surveys with students, staff and the school community. This is a mandated requirement for all schools in WA to distribute the surveys as a part of their 2016 operations.

Policy Review – Faction Carnival:

Following the school Athletics Carnival on Wednesday 31st September, the school received both positive and negative feedback where inclement weather was a factor. The school acknowledges the need for a fall back day in the case of inclement weather and has addressed this in a revised Cross Country and Athletics Policy, stating that in the event of the school Athletics Carnival being cancelled due to extreme weather, the school community will be informed through web based communications the day before, noting a rescheduled date. Robert highlighted the effectiveness of the Carine Districts School Sports Association (CDSSA) as the body providing policy and guidelines for Primary Schools in the Carine district. The Board was unanimous in accepting the revised policy.

Buildings Update: Principal Anne Fraser advised the Board that community feedback re the school fencing project has now been passed onto the planners, noting also that the fencing around the school on three sides was going to be garrison. The school is currently working with one of our parents, a qualified town planner, to create an attractive and enhanced entrance to the school. The Board also discussed the refurbishment and renovation to the rear of Block B which will begin soon and will be managed by the BMA as a school project. It will involve levelling the ground area, creating better drainage and renovating the undercover area so that it can be used as an outdoor classroom and play area. Anne also mentioned that one of the jarrah trees in the Quiet Area of the campus had died, needing to be removed for safety reasons. Another shade tree will be planted to replace it.

Curriculum Update: Schools are now operating in Phase 2 of the Australian Curriculum implementation with Phase 3 beginning in 2017 including a new Languages curriculum. Schools will also have to report on Visual/Performing Arts. Carine will be reporting on Visual Arts and class teachers will be responsible for this. Our specialists in 2017 will continue to be PE, French and Music, as based on our school needs.

Personal Items Lists:

It was queried if the school had a policy on using text books which had been ordered on the Personal Items List. Deputy Leanne Vardy noted that staff had collaborated on the draft lists with the understanding that teachers were obliged to use any text books which were ordered for 2017. New staff would also be under this obligation as the school did not want parents to pay for texts without them being used. The Board accepted the draft 2017 Personal Items Lists for 2017.

Art Specialist: The possibility of including an Art Specialist at Carine PS was addressed at both Term Two and Three Board meetings and it was noted that Specialist areas are selected based on a school's needs. As a result of this discussion, it was Minuted that PE, Music and French will be the specialist areas for 2017. The Principal and staff stated that all specialist teachers are general practitioners who have skills, interest or passion in a particular area and an Art Specialist would also fit into this category. Staff noted that Visual Art becomes more meaningful when done in conjunction with the class learning theme across all curriculum areas and is best done in individual classes. Compared to Music, PE or French, all staff at Carine PS are comfortable with teaching and reporting on Visual Arts and display student art proudly in each classroom throughout the school.

Term 4 – Scheduled earlier than second last Friday

The next meeting will be Friday 2nd December. Board Chair Claudia Renner wished all students, staff and parents a happy and safe holiday with the meeting concluding at 10:08am.