

Board Report

Friday 15th September 2017

The meeting opened at 8:30am and the Board Chair welcomed everyone.

School Finance/Budget Report:

MCS Debbie H gave the Board an overview of the school budget to date. Voluntary Contributions are currently sitting slightly higher than last year but we are still hopeful that more of our families will pay them next term. The school is currently on track in relation to the 2017 Budget and preliminary planning of staffing and structures for 2018 is already underway.

The Board thanked Debbie for her succinct and informative report.

Contributions and Charges 2017:

The 2018 Schedule of Voluntary Contributions and Charges were presented.

Minor increases have been made to the Charges to allow for inflation. It is noted that charges for each year level may vary depending on the nature and range of activities undertaken. A letter will be sent to all parents at the beginning of Term 4, outlining the charges and contributions with the specific breakdown of amounts supplementing each learning area.

Personal Items Lists:

Board members viewed the draft Personal Items List for 2018 supporting staff opinion that text books are to be used as one of a range of teaching tools and do not take the place of quality teaching.

Class sets of the Maths ICE books have been ordered as a teaching resource in Year 5 to complement the Year 6 and 7 books already being used in the high school. The Personal Items Lists were endorsed by the Board.

NAPLAN 2017:

2017 NAPLAN results were discussed and the data has already been analysed by staff to address concerns and plan strategies to teach to the point of need for improvement. The school takes a collective responsibility for student performance and a whole school focus on Spelling was identified for 2018. Strong phonic knowledge in the Early Childhood Years was deemed important as a foundation to Literacy and the Speech Therapy program in these years has benefitted our Kindy and Pre Primary students. It is envisaged that this program will continue into 2018, depending on the budget.

Exemplary Schools Research Paper:

The Board discussed a document entitled "Perspectives on Exemplary School Practice" by the DoE's Expert Review Group which provides a snapshot of the performance of a sample of exemplary schools. In reviewing this document we were able to identify the following strengths at CPS;

- Committed and competent teaching and support staff who have a mutual trust and respectful relationship with students.
- Effective case management approaches to address the needs of all students.
- A strategic approach to distributed leadership capacity and a culture of high expectations and standards.
- A school wide approach to teaching and learning.
- Effective curriculum differentiation as reflected in the CPS vision statement of "Quality teaching differentiating to improve student progress."

Digital Technologies Update:

Hayley gave an overview of what she has been doing with her class in the area of digital technology, programming and coding. Last week two members of the Young Engineers Club spent time working with her students in Room 13 Year 4/5, linking STEM concepts directly to the Science curriculum and coding. Students were extremely motivated and felt very comfortable in participating in the session because of all the programming and coding work they have done in class to date. The school is looking to purchase Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) resources where students can be transported to the The Great Wall of China, Travel through space, be in the trenches of WW1, go to the pyramids in Egypt, see how a real heart beats and identify its parts and many other exciting experiences. This digital technology is in its infancy in schools but is being increasingly used in school systems throughout the world. It allows teachers to enrich the experiences they are able to offer their students through improving student engagement and understanding. This is the hallmark of quality teaching and quality teachers.

Building and Grounds Update:

An upgrade to the area at the back of Block B will shortly commence to compliment the new paving and maintenance around the school is ongoing.

Term 4 meeting will be Friday 1st December 2017.

The meeting closed at 10:07am.