



ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL, QUEENS PARK

SCHOOL BOARD

Minutes of Annual Community Meeting held on November 21 2016

1. Opening of Meeting:

Meeting opened at 7pm with a prayer led by Kaye Savage Morton.

2. Present:

45 attendees as per attendance register.

3. Apologies:

Terri Herrington, Anna Tarle, Tania Valenti, Bruna Fiorentina, John Smith.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of last ACM Meeting on 23rd November 2015:

Minutes were circulated to attendees prior to the meeting commencing.

Accepted: Laura Giovinazzo

Seconded: Mike Saunders

5. Chairpersons Report

Good evening everyone, my name is Marisa Dawson and I once again have the honour of being the Chair of the School Board. On behalf of the School Board, I would like to thank you all for attending the 2016 Annual Community Meeting of St Joseph's, and for showing your continued support of this wonderful school.

The role of the School Board is a diverse one but its main role is to ensure the sound management of our school's finances and to support the Principal, Mr. Peter Yensch and our teachers with the best possible resources for the spiritual, academic, emotional and physical development of our students.

2016 has been yet another successful year for St Joseph's. The board has approved several projects which will, and already have, impacted our students, staff and parents in a positive manner.

The introduction of the new and improved School Sport Uniform for 2017 has thus far been received with great enthusiasm and positive feedback. A great deal of planning and discussion went into the design of the tracksuit, and we believe we ended up with a design which is representative of our new school and the students. As with the introduction of the new Inter-School T-shirts, (donated by our P&F), which the children have worn with pride, we believe that the children will enjoy wearing the new sport uniform.

The nature playground is another project approved by the board. We began this process last year and this year we were able to see the final product which has been particularly enjoyed by the pre-primary and Kindy students.

With Ronan Kelly leading the way, we have taken a step forward in taking St Joseph's to the next level in regards to the purchase of IT and the integration of IT into the curriculum. The board has approved an injection of funds into purchasing and upgrading many resources both for the students to use and to assist staff with implementing programs in the class. We look forward to continuing this process throughout the coming years as we understand the importance

of IT for the future of education.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Ronan Kelly. You have settled into St Joseph's with ease and the children have really enjoyed having you. The staff and parents speak very highly of you. You have been a great addition into St Joseph's and your continued initiative and support, particularly in IT has been a wonderful asset to the school.

As the use of Technologies and social media continue to grow both within and outside the school, the board believed Cyber Safety to be of high importance. We have discussed this issue in depth and have organized Paul Litherland from Surf Online Safe to address the issue of Cyber safety with parents, staff and students in Term 1 of 2017. Paul has come highly recommended and the Board will endeavour to encourage significant attendance at this very worthwhile event.

The promotion of the Canteen has been another issue that has been addressed by the board. Many board discussions and the results of the school survey, led to the ideas of naming the canteen, addressing the menu and the introduction of new products to promote the use of the canteen. The naming of the The Mercy Café has been a positive step forward and we look forward to implementing many other great ideas that have been suggested for 2017.

Other items that are ongoing and still being discussed are:

1. The issue of parking and safety
2. The potential use of the Coolock Centre these items will remain on the agenda for 2017 and will continue to be addressed.

Other items which have been addressed this year are:

- In 2016 Before and After School Care saw Communicare cease their service, however, there was a smooth transition to OSCHClub.
- 3 members of the board attended and gave feedback to the Cyclic Review
- A parent Code of Conduct for sporting events was introduced

Once again I would like to thank the P&F for always putting the interest and well-being of all the students and staff as a priority. I thank you all for your time, effort and commitment to fundraising and making our school a better place. Dan Nancarrow continued as President for 2016 and I would like to thank him for his continued support and commitment to the P&F.

I would like to thank the Members of our School Board who have been a great support to Peter and myself. Your School Board Members are Elisa Rangitoheriri (Secretary), Mike Saunders (Treasurer), Scott Shepherd, Marion Vagg, Lucy Sawkins, and Marit Collingwood our P&F representative, Laura Giovanzo and Father Peter, our parish representatives.

This ACM is the last for two of our current Board members and I would like to thank Marion Vagg and Lucy Sawkins for their contribution over the years. Marion has served on the Board for 4 years, and Lucy for 2 years. On behalf of the Board and the school we would like to thank you for your contribution over the years. Please come forward to accept this small token of appreciation. Thanks ladies.

On behalf of the School Board, I would like to thank all the staff of St Joseph's Primary. I am moved, as are many other parents are of the 'above and beyond' effort you all go to for the benefit of our children. We recognize not only the countless hours you put in toward teaching our children, but also the many before and after school hours for extracurricular activities. It has been said over and over again, how there is something special about the St Joseph's community and your effort, support and commitment to the school are second to none.

As another school year rapidly approaches the end, I would like to wish you all a safe, happy and relaxing holiday.

Thank you.

Marisa Dawson

Chair- St Joseph's School Board