

Aranda Primary School P&C Association
Meeting Minutes
18:30, 23 March 2022

1. Welcome and attendance

Kristy Youngman, Adrian Watts (Canteen), Penny McKenzie (Bookclub), Lisa Kingham (Deputy Principal), Erin Dampney (Uniforms), Bridget Tilley, Stacey Corkhill, Hayley Beveridge, Jim Gilchrist, Carol Lander, Alison Watters, Stacey Pearman, Bridget Tilley, Wendy Robertson (Secretary), Kirsty Munn (Treasurer)

2. Apologies

Apologies received from Joel Dalton (President), Petra Cole (Vice President), and Merisha (Mish) Percival (Canteen).

3. Confirmation of minutes from the last meeting

Minutes from the last meeting were confirmed by Penny and seconded by Alison.

4. Reports

Principal

- Lisa spoke of the wonderful celebration held on Harmony Day at Aranda Primary School. 38 countries and 48 languages were represented.
- Covid restrictions as directed by the Education Directorate will continue into term 2. Some will be relaxed, such as individual cohorts breaking for recess and lunch, but some will remain; unfortunately, parents will still not be allowed on school grounds. This is not a decision from the school. Each week the school conferences with the Directorate as they relay their findings for ACT schools. Lisa thanked parents for being so understanding and supportive.
- Swimming carnivals can resume in term 2 off school grounds. Parents are encouraged to attend if the carnival is outside. Camps have been postponed rather than cancelled in the hope that they can go ahead as restrictions ease.
- Staff have been heavily impacted by the current wave of covid in terms of health and isolation. There is very few relief staff available. All the executive teachers have been in-class teaching. Teachers have taken on a great deal of extra work, with a special thanks to Jessie Wilson.
- Special masks with clear sections have been introduced for children that need to lip read.

Q&A: Wendy read the following questions on behalf of Mish:

- Could the school please drop the 14:45 pick up for kindy children? Parents are frustrated as waiting for 15 minutes to pick up siblings means a 30-minute turnaround for workers, which is not sustainable. Lisa responded that she would talk to the executive.
- Many kindy parents are asking whether parents could do readers with their children in term 2? Reading could be done outside with masks worn. Lisa replied that Phil would discuss this issue with parents.

Erin spoke of the difficulties sourcing the school dresses. She has found a polo shirt dress that is cheaper and easier to obtain from suppliers. Erin asked what is the process to add or subtract a uniform item? Lisa suggested that she send through details of the new dress to the school for consideration.

Bridget asked whether parents could watch the cross country races, given they are held outside? Lisa will confirm. Bridget suggested using the parent year representatives to inform parents that restrictions in place at the school are imposed by the ACT Education Directorate and not the school itself.

Canteen

- Adrian provided a canteen financial update, stating that the canteen account is in a good position, roughly the same as last year, approximately \$22 000.
- He emphasised the need to stay on top of wage increases, which the 10% increase in price will help.
- The canteen continues to need a new manager to support Natalie.
- Adrian endorses using Xero for the P&C account. He will talk with Kirsty, the P&C treasurer, about setting up the system. The benefit of Xero is complete transparency. Adrian will set up the Xero accounts.
- The canteen now has new Husk pies, and they have sold 8!

Q&A: Wendy asked whether it is still mandatory to audit P&C accounts? Jim replied it is not.

Book Club

- Penny stated that they are at the start of the process, with parents and carers ordering books.
- Ann is still in charge, and Penny will take over in term 2.
- Kirsty volunteered to help sort books.

Uniform

- Erin told the P&C her family is going away for all of term 2. Michelle Mellier will take over organising the uniform shop in her absence. Some parents have agreed to help and fill orders.
- Furthering her comments to Lisa, Erin informed the P&C that the current dress option for Aranda Primary School sells less than 10 units per year. There is a 5c profit on each dress. Winter pinafores have a similar poor profit margin.
- Discussion surrounding whether to remove the dress option entirely.

5. Mountain bike track upgrade

- Update provided by Joel via email. See Appendix A.
- **Motion to spend \$300 providing sausage sizzle at the next working bee approved by Jim and seconded by Kirsty.**
- Penny thanked the team organising the track upgrade.

6. Fundraising

- Update provided by Joel via email. See Appendix B.
- Jim spoke about the trivia becoming a more significant, money-making event, including a silent auction. Jim will talk to Petra and Adrian about organising a team to coordinate trivia night.

7. Governance

- Update provided by Joel via email. See Appendix C.
- Jim is working on a constitution update; currently, he is ensuring the ACT P&C Council has the correct details of Aranda P&C office bearers.

8. Welcome picnic

- Wendy thanked the committee for helping and turning up. Attendance was not as good as last year due to rain, but many families enjoyed the evening.
- Thanks to Mish for a wonderful address to those that came.

9. Other business

- Wendy questioned whether people preferred meeting online or in person, as this meeting which ended up being online, had several new people. Discussion ensued. P&C will try alternating online and in-person meetings. Week 3 of the term is in person, and week 8 is online.

10. Date of next meeting

18:30, Wednesday 11 May 2022, venue to be confirmed

Appendix A

Mountain Bike Track Upgrade

The working bee held was a massive success. Really great community support and involvement. The track improvements and the new jumps, banks and turns all look really cool and most importantly are being heavily used by the local community. The device addiction / challenge is real, anything we can do to give kids an outdoor option to interact in the real world is uber positive.

Thanks to all involved & stay tuned for another working bee to finish it off next month (tentatively 9-10th of April). We'll get the comm's for out well in advance and get a big community turn out. P&C to put on a big sausage sizzle, few beers etc.

seek approval for \$300 to support

Appendix B

Fundraising

Thinking it more likely we'll do trivia end of term 2 & colour fun run term 3. Kids get really wet and dirty with the colour fun run so feel like it lends itself better to a spring event.

The question for the Phil & the group to consider at the meeting is what to spend the money we raise from both of these events on. Say we raise \$30k in total - is there are big bang item the school needs that we can rally people for both events to get behind i.e. give them a cause / goal to shoot for.

Phil may have some ideas and I think we should ask the school in the first instance, he may defer back to us in which case it becomes our job to come up with something exciting to rally the community around.

What else could we do as a P&C that would leave the school a really great legacy, like the MTB track, for future generations of Aranda kids to enjoy?

Appendix C

Governance

Constitution - Can we get an update on the constitution update from our illustrious public officers. There are a few applications/grants coming up that we'll need it for, are they still on track for completion this term? Can they be please :)

Zero / Accounting - at the last meeting we agreed to use Zero to help with P&C financial reporting (which also helps with overall governance, applying for grants etc). I don't think Kirsty was at that meeting but if we could bring her up to date on it & next steps were for Adrian to do some initail training with her that I'm happy to jump into as well.