

Maitland Grossmann High School P & C Association

Minutes of Meeting – Date: 7th May 2009

Meeting opened at 7.10pm

1. **The President's welcome:**
 - The President welcomed the 15 people in attendance.

 2. **Apologies:**
 - Kim Rogers, Fiona Edwards

 3. **Minutes from last meeting:**
 - Minutes were circulated and passed (Jenny Davies, Sharon Brewster)

 4. **Business arising from minutes:**
 - Water leak has been fixed - caused by a pipe that had disintegrated - no cost for repair and no water bills paid after the leak reported.

 5. **Correspondence:**
 - Nil

 6. **Guest Speaker: Nicole Crowe, Head Teacher PE**
 - Emphasis on technology in classrooms eg Year 8 required to submit their assignment online
 - PE now much more theory based than in the past and is about giving students skills to make choices eg drug education
 - Core Year 7 group is participating in Premier's Sporting Challenge - a physical activity log is kept to encourage physical activity and awards are given for the levels of achievement - \$5000 government grant for purchasing of specific equipment
 - General philosophy, while recognising excellence, is about rewarding students who have a go and reach their personal best
- Guest Speaker: Leanne Lacey, English Teacher responsible for Debating and Public Speaking**
- Involvement in debating and public speaking has grown in the last 4 years and MGHS have been successful making state finals in the past
 - Currently Years 8, 9 and 12 involved - Year 9 defeated Maitland High School and progress to the next round against Rutherford High School
 - Currently short on blazers for students to wear when competing - have 6 blazers, but sizes don't suit the current all male Year 9 team
 - Blazers cost \$235 - School Council have offered to purchase 2 blazers and seeking P&C financial assistance to purchase another 2 blazers - request granted (Jenny Davies, Tanya White)

7. SRC Report:

- Nil

8. Treasurers Report:

- The Treasurer's Report was tabled.
- GST refund \$1,854
- Bill for Investing in Schools Fund \$57,089
- Canteen Donation \$15,000
- Balance \$53,952
- Decided to invest \$40,000 in 3-month term deposit (Brad Wood, Lisa Ellicott)

9. Principals Report:

- Negotiating with Council for alternative date for the Athletics Carnival and cancellations to be posted on the MGHS website
- Administration office should be fully operational by next week
- Entertainment Room is finished - provides light and sound facilities for the hall, but will also be used as a learning space
- Currently we have 108 in zone and 158 out of zone Year 7 applications for enrolment in 2010, but not all schools are in yet
- Enrolments are capped at 199-200, but 225 places will be offered - not allowed to have a waiting list, so the additional 25 places are offered to allow for those that are not taken
- Applications are read by a panel consisting of an 'old girl' who is on staff, the P&C President and Dr Di
- The criteria that is taken into account includes aptitude in sport, academic, creative and performing arts, siblings and special needs
- The panel will meet in the last week of May and offers will be made in the 2nd week of June - parents can appeal if they aren't accepted
- Japanese trip is well underway, but the itinerary can still change
- Makaylie Foodey has been chosen in a State Government Talent Project as an Australian Ambassador for Country Music and will tour NZ
- Year 12 students have scarves which are now part of the uniform - students will promote them and they will sell for \$20 - \$7 of which goes towards Year 12 fundraising
- Following the death of a former MGHS student in a car accident during the school holidays, Year 12 received counselling and Year 11 will be required to attend a Police/Rotary driver safety training program at Tocal on 25th June - school will provide bus transport
- Letter received from the Director General expressing concerns and warning parents about 'sexting' - ie using inappropriate images on mobile phones
- School has concerns with regard to bullying, including cyber bullying, and have zero tolerance - any notification of bullying is dealt with immediately and a Police Liaison Officer may be called in
- Water leak has been fixed
- Staffing - Mrs Davina Bowen has taken up position of HT TAS at Dungog and has been replaced by Mrs Nicole Ross
- School jumpers have been sourced for sale through the school uniform shop
- Successes - Year 9 debating team defeated Maitland High School and Boys Tennis Team defeated Maitland High School and move onto the next round
- Roll call classes have been revised to include electives - chess club, drama ensemble, gardening group

- 500 Computers will arrive in the school at the end of Term 2 - 250 wireless laptops in banks at school plus laptops for Year 9 students - Year 9 students keep and are responsible for their laptop - Password logon will be required - yet to find out how repairs or lost laptops will be handled
- Technology, including computers, internet and mobile phones, is changing the way teachers teach - students are using the technology - schools and teachers must embrace the technology and keep up-to-date to engage students learning - students without internet access at home will be given access opportunities at school eg lunch time
- NAPLAN testing next week
- 125 year anniversary cocktail party at Monte Pio on 3rd July - no school students are allowed to attend, but past captains may be invited

10. SCR Report

- Next meeting will be 21/5/09

11. Canteen Report

- \$15,000 cheque given to the P&C
- Next Canteen meeting is Monday 11/5/09 at 2.30
- New freezer has been delivered

12. Fundraising

- Bulbs will arrive next week - \$687 clear profit
- Entertainment Books have been distributed to over 400 Year 7 and 8 students - additional books are available
- Next activities will include fundraising for the 125 year anniversary - wrist bands, glow sticks

13. General Business:

- Tracey Breese will be the guest speaker at the next P&C meeting and will talk about School Continuous Improvement Team, the futures plan and changes needed for the 21st Century
- 2 Year 7 students are participating in the Starstruck Hunter Signing Choir
- P&C Newsletter is in progress - produce approximately every 3 months - contributions from P&C President, Treasurer, Fundraising Committee etc will be collated and details posted on the website as well as in the School newsletter
- Discussion about the possible introduction of a voluntary contribution - it was noted that we have 1,100 students and 700 families - suggestions will be drafted for further discussion at the next meeting
- Commercial cleaning of the school canteen at a cost of \$130 - to be carried out each term.

Date of Next Meetings: Thursday 4th June 2009 and Thursday 2nd July 2009

Meeting Closed 9.10pm