MINUTES OF THE PARRAMATTA EAST PUBLIC SCHOOL P & C MEETING  
17 June 2013

1. Welcome

OPEN: 7:15PM  
Peter Hinton (chairperson) welcomed all.

2. Present

Lynne James, Rosemary Anner, Robert Ieroianni, Beth Hinton, Michelle Withers, Peter Hinton, Andrea Lukic (Babysitter)

3. Apologies

Estella Machado, Nalika Perera, Anh Danh

4. Previous meeting minutes

Rosemary moved that the minutes of the P&C meeting held on 20th May 2013 be confirmed as printed and Lynne seconded

5. Business arising from previous minutes

5.1 Uniform – Decision to be made on girls dresses

Mr. John visited from new company. The new prototype that his company made is Polyester / Viscose. He was asked if it was possible to make it in cotton. John replied that their cotton fabric is only appropriate for a checkered pattern because it would be transparent and see-through if just a block colour. It was agreed that changing the fabric from plain blue to a checkered pattern was not an option. John mentioned that the fabric is sent from Australia to China where the dresses are made in a factory in Guangzhou province. The current dresses are made in Granville. John said the minimum order is 30, and turn around time is 8 weeks.

We then compared both John’s sample, and the current uniform made by OzFashions. The following differences between the two samples were identified:

- The fabric of John’s sample was more lightweight than our current dresses.
- The stitching of the sample was poorer overall. The colour of the stitching at the pleats is too noticeable in John’s sample, and it would be better if the colour of the stitching was changed when stitching upon the lighter colour fabric. John said he would ask the manufacturer if it is possible to fix these issues, and if it would add anything to the current price of $30.80 (GST inclusive)
- The sample doesn’t seem to “sit right” at the collar.

It was noted that we need to look into the labeling of OzFashion dresses as some of the older dresses labels read Polyester / Cotton and the current ones read Polyester / Viscose. Peter agreed to call OzFashions and look into this matter. Robert mentioned that the current dresses are very long wearing and that it is possible for a parent to buy only two dresses for their child over the duration of Primary School. If we accept a product that isn’t as long-wearing, then parents might find themselves paying less for the individual garments but more over their time at Parramatta East because the garments need replacing more often.
After John left, each person present spoke to the matter.

- Rosemary – said she was concerned about the quality and mentioned that the current uniforms last a long time. She also noted that making a product locally is favourable, and that outsourcing to another country may cause problems. She also noted that OzFashions turn around is too long currently.
- Lynne said she couldn’t make comment on the material.
- Peter said that he couldn’t speak to the quality of the material, because he didn’t know much about material. He asked if the price was reduced to $30.80, would we have a dramatic increase in the children wearing these dresses? He asked if we could go back to the OzFashions and negotiate with them.
- Robert gave some background on the uniform, and mentioned that the current girls dresses were designed in an attempt to make the school look unique. Moving away from a check dress was a historical decision. But the problem we have now is that we are not seeing this “uniqueness”, because few people are buying the dresses. The school is losing touch with the reason we got the uniform in the first place. He added that even by changing our current supplier and by making the dresses cheaper, students may not choose to wear the dress anyway.
- Michelle noted that quality is an issue. But, working in the uniform shop last year, she can see that having a more affordable dress would be a good thing.
- Beth noted that factories in China are known for their sweatshop labour. Outsourcing to China is an issue.
- Robert – Moving away from a checkered patterned dress was a historical decision. But we are not seeing this unique aspect of our uniform, because the skorts are a more popular choice. Even if we do make it cheaper, the girls may not choose to wear a dress anyway. We are beginning to lose touch with the reason we got the uniform in the first place.

Peter moved to accept the new supplier. The motion was not seconded.

Rosemary then moved for someone to have a dialogue with OzFashions to see if rectify some of the issues we have with them. The motion was seconded by Peter.

Peter agreed to take up the matter with OzFashions and give feedback to other P&C members via email.

5.2 P&C Constitution, Conduct of Business, Membership Forms: copies to be located in the P&C correspondence box in the office, and uploaded onto website.
Membership form – discrepancy with the price was fixed.
Peter moved to have these documents available both in the P&C box, and on the website.
Seconded by Rosemary

5.3 Election day fundraiser
- Last year, the fundraiser comprised of Busking, Garage Sale and sausage sizzle. Michelle noted that the event was quite successful. Rosemary noted that the garage sale component entailed a lot of effort, and Lynne mentioned that there were a lot of leftover goods at the end of the day that were donated to charity.
Press moved to hold the election-day fundraiser without the Garage Sale component this year.
Rosemary seconded the motion.
- Details of event need to be confirmed next meeting. Preliminary discussions included that we need to buy the bare minimum when catering for the sausage sizzle and perhaps identify key times and have the sausage sizzle only when it will be busy.
5.4 Donation to school for portable tablets (Robert will mention this in his Principal’s Report).

6. Correspondence:
   6.1 Inwards: P&C magazines
   6.2 Outward: None
   Motion: That the inward correspondence be received and the outward be adopted

7. Business arising from the correspondence
   None

6. Reports:

   PRINCIPAL’S REPORT
   Mr. Robert Ieroianni

SEMESTER 1 REPORT
Next Thursday, children will bring home their Semester 1 student report.
It is a very important document which reflects not only their achievements from the first half of the year, but also suggestions for their future development as they progress at the school.
Having read every report, I am so impressed with the quality progress so many students have made.
I would encourage parents to spend some time reading through them and discussing the report with their child, celebrating their terrific achievements.
I would also like to acknowledge and thank the teachers for their meticulous efforts in preparing these reports.

WIRELESS COMPUTER NETWORK
With the generous support of the PEPS P&C association, I am pleased to report that the school’s wireless network is now operational.
This network will allow students and teachers to access electronic resources from almost any location across the school. The teaching staff is very excited about the educational opportunities this technology will provide.

MULTICULTURAL PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION
Parramatta East Public School will be represented by four highly effective speakers at the final of the Multicultural Public Speaking Competition on Wednesday at Parramatta North PS.
The students, Lana Sabir, Shayma Abou-Zeid, Aiden EK and Yanni Marathocabitis will present a prepared speech, followed by an impromptu.
I would like to thank these students for their wonderful efforts and for making our school so proud.

PARRAMATTA COUNCIL “WASTE-WISE” CLEANAWAY ART FINALISTS
At the recent awards ceremony for the 2013 Parramatta Council “Waste Wise” Art Competition, Sanjam Dhillim was announced as the winning artist. Her design will now be displayed on the side of a council recycling truck which will be on display around Parramatta as the truck goes about its work.
Kristen Anner of Year 6 was also awarded with a highly commended certificate and Shiven Bansal was announced as the Stage 3 winner of the competition, all wonderful achievements.

EDUCATION WEEK 2013
Is in Week 3, Term 3. A timetable for the week will be set-up and sent home. At this stage, Open classrooms will be on Tuesday along with an Education Week assembly. School photos will be held on...
Wednesday and the PEPS Athletic Carnival on the Friday. The week will also include science discovery sessions with the CSIRO.

BOOK WEEK 2013
Book week is week 6 Term 3. There’ll be a book parade, a book fair and a visiting author. The theme for this year is “Reading across the universe”

TERM DATES
End of term 2 Friday, 28th June.
Students return Tuesday, 16th July

6.1

TREASURER’S REPORT
Peter Hinton


Income

Opening Balance (Cheque account) as at 11 June 2013 $50,223.24

Uniform $490
Chocolate Drive $1336

Sub total $1826.00

Less Expenses

Donation (Discovery Garden) $10,000
Donation (Year 6 Jerseys) 316.63
Uniform (LW REID) $877.68

Sub total $11,194.31

Book Balance $40,854.93

Bank Statement Reconciliation

Balance as per statement No. ** $50,223.24
Add un-presented deposits $0.00
Less un-presented cheques (#300268 – uniform) $1838.73

As per Book Balance $48,384.51

Balance of Cash Reserve Account as at last statement (31 May) $17,342.71'
Treasurers report cont....

Peter said that the signatories were transferred last Tuesday, 11 June 2013. Estella, Anne and Peter are now the new signatories. He added that he doesn’t have netbanking access yet. Rosemary said she would look into transferring netbanking access from her to both Peter and Estella. He mentioned that he was happy to continue with the current system of banking, which is that each subcommittee banks using separate deposit books. He added that he was happy to continue with the current system as long as basic governance was being followed;

- Cash should be counted by at least two people, separately, but in the presence of each other.
- Subcommittees should be promptly banking money received (twice weekly during busy times, once weekly at the minimum.)

6.2 Music Report (Rosemary Anner)

The dates for recorder and band are:
- Mon 22nd July - recorder rehearsal in city
- Mon 29th July - recorders – Festival of Instrumental Music ticket sales open.
- Mon 26th August - recorders - Festival of Instrumental Music at Sydney Opera House
- 3rd September - Celebrating the Arts - Riverside Theatre (recorder item)
- Tues 30th July ?- Education Week -School Open Day - recorder and band perform at assembly
- 7&8 Sept - band camp
- 14th Sept - Busking on Election Day!
- Term 3 will also have a band performance evening - date TBC
- Term 4 - date TBC - A Night With the Stars - school performing arts showcase evening.
- Band and recorders also perform at presentation assembly and performance evening at the end if the year.

Recorder classes will be open to Year 1. Enrolment at the beginning of term 3.
Auditions were held for “PULSE” – Kristen Anner was successful for her audition. Waiting to hear back from the Arts Unit. Tickets are on sale for “PULSE” 24th June.

6.3 Fundraising Committee Report (Beth Hinton in Anh Danh’s absence)

CHOCOLATE DRIVE

$6,565 raised thus far. The cost of the chocolates is $9000 so we haven’t raised enough to pay for them yet. Last date for collection of money is 24th June And prizes will be drawn on 26th June.

Beth noted that there are quite a few students still waiting on boxes. Beth to prepare a note to go home to students reminding them to return their boxes if they are having trouble selling them.

Lynne asked if it was possible to extend the date for collection of money, and Rosemary said that in the past the P&C has extended the date and it didn’t help, but instead it just dragged on.

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

27 Books sold with $351 Profit to date.

Motion: That the reports be adopted (Peter). Seconded by Rosemary
7. General Business

7.1 P & C Website
Beth mentioned that she had mocked up a separate website and said that it was possible to directly upload all P&C content onto it, and provide a link from the school's website.
It was suggested that it was better to utilize current website, as we don’t have enough content for an entirely separate one.
Beth to speak with Jane who organizes the uploading of content onto the website.
The conversation then moved to the types of things the P&C could put on the website. Peter suggested that it would be great to show the public what we are spending the funds on. Lynne responded that in her experience, it was always difficult to publicize that type of information because no-one was able to tell her how much money was raised in a timely manner.

7.2 Woolworths Earn and Learn
Beth to count coupons and post them. Rosemary offered assistance.
Someone needs to collect the box at Rosehill Woolworths.
Beth to put a note in this weeks’ newsletter.

8. New Applications for Membership
NONE

9. Date of Next meeting

WEEK 2 – MONDAY 22ND JULY
WEEK 5 – MONDAY 19TH AUGUST
16TH SEPTEMBER (NON MEETING)

10. Meeting Close: 8:45

***MINUTED BY BETH HINTON***