

DOREEN PRIMARY SCHOOL NO. 945
SCHOOL COUNCIL MINUTES
22 October 2020

Present: : Glenn Simondson, Ben Miller, Janette Colistra, Catherine Sutherland, Brent Hardy, Leonie Craig, Naomi Joiner, Rebekah DiBerardino, Jaclyn Delange, Carly Bloomfield

1. Welcome
2. Apologies: Michael Kehio
3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Glenn approved and Brent seconded

4. Business arising from previous minutes

5. Correspondence

- **School operations guide** – will probably change again next week
- **Rurality letter** – letter from DET

6. Principal's Report

- Well, we are back. After a change in how Victorian Children were taught for the first time in our History, we are back to onsite learning, hopefully for good. There is genuine appreciation of having our students back on site from staff, and I am really pleased to see so many happy faces out in the playground, and back in the classroom. We have had to change many things, but staff are keeping the focus on getting children back into normal routines and activities. We have often had 99% attendance rates!
- Enrolments for 2021 are going very well despite worries with children missing so much kindergarten and school. We won't be looking at many children repeating a year, but the next month or so will tell. We are taking enrolments across grade levels that will simply top grade levels up. It means we get a good budget with little strain on resources.
- Three Way Interviews will take place in the second week of November.
Let's do them differently. Offer with or without kids – teachers can do from home via zoom
- Reports will have standardised testing data included.
- At present, nothing can happen regards Concert. No singing. No large Groups etc. We will have to look at the new Restrictions as they come BUT the thing to remember is that teachers are really focussed on ensuring children get as much Explicit Teaching as possible, the bit they missed last term and second term. As a staff we agreed that term 2 was OK, we were able to get children back up and running, bout Term 3 was a real challenge just to get children engaged. Thankfully, a lot of children were able to progress, but some struggled to keep moving forward.
- Lots of events have been cancelled that will return next year.
- Our Chinese Language teacher will be available in 2021 to work one day a week. This, with negotiations with existing staff, we will be able to afford. It is hard to find qualified teachers in mandarin that are VIT registered, and already show they can teach the Language. Perng teaches 3 days at Laurimar, and has a big wrap from Jason. She is also keen to get a Chinese assistant involved, and will liaise with Jinbang PS and Mr Wu. She is already talking about how she can make this happen.
- Staffing for 2021 looks consistent with 2020. Music and PE contracts run out at the end of 2020, but I envisage rolling these over for at least another year.
- We held a very simple Book Week Day today. It simply involved out of uniform or dress-up if you have them, and masks. It was all about appreciating Literature.

7. Junior School Council report

- Junior School Council has not been able to run as planned. We are making sure our grade sixes get as many leadership opportunities as we can this term. The remaining students to take a turn will do so for 4 week blocks, and they will run a JSC meeting with class representatives each Friday afternoon. We did this via ZOOM during remote.

8. Child Safe Standards Report

- CSS Policy changes
- Regular discussion – School Council, Staff
 - lots of regular discussion about student welfare
 - onsite learning was used to help children who were struggling at home.
 - we did a few “pick-ups”.
 - Staff were very supportive of this.
- Ensure all adults working with children are aware of their obligations regards Child Safety.

9. Building and Grounds Report

- We await the Minor Works Contract results.
- We await the Shade Sail results
- We await the Solar Grant results.
- We have \$21,458. For Bushfire Preparedness works
 - I showed you a quote to assess our issues. DET also gave me a planner.
 - Last year we spent it ALL on tree management
 - This year, as trees had a clean-up last year, I have been costing a PA System, A Fire Service and gutter cleans and gutter guard. There will also be the fence boundary cut with John Yeoman.
 - The Fire Service will lead to Sprinklers on the BER roof out of the next budget.
 - An option may be the removal of the Big Pine in the centre of the school.
- Over the break we had the Roof of the P-1 room repaired, as well as the Breezeway fitted to the Grade 3 and the JSC room. Letter for Brad Park.(Done at Cost. Luke and I came down to help but ended up doing other tasks. He brought 3 guys with him.
Grade 3s to do up thank you letter to Brad Park
- If Possible, a focussed Working Bee. Will depend on Grant success.

Treasurers Report

CASES Balances

High Yield Account Balance as at 22nd October, 2020 - \$90 551.52

Official Account balance as at 22nd October, 2020 – 4,172.26

Total Holdings as at 27th June, 2019 - \$94,723.78

- This has \$18K of Bushfire Preparedness money.
- It is very healthy, but if we can carry over funding, it will come in handy to ensure we can complete projects each year. The Rurality issues will cause problems.
- We will aim to purchase everything we planned this year, and some new furniture will be needed next year, but it won't be at major cost levels.
- I am hoping to carry funds into 2021 that will cover any deficits in our budget.

Financial reports to be tabled and signed:

Annual Sub Program report
Sub Program Status Report
Bank Account Movements
Cash Receipts Report
Cash Payments Report
Journal Report
Cash Flow Report
Cancelled Receipts Report
Cancelled Payments Report
Family Credit Notes Report.

10. Fundraising Report

- Very hard at present.
- Colour day has been postponed – **likely dates for next year are 12 or 19 March**
- In theory, I believe we could do Mangoes, but in practice it would be very difficult. Parents on site are an issue when picking up, as most get many boxes. Hygiene with the Mangoes, issues with cold storage and COVID 19. It may just be too difficult this year.....and bank balances aren't as large as they may have been with Christmas coming up – **decided to give Mangoes a miss**

11. General Business

- Rurality – **meeting was had with the Minister and local MP last week. Transition money was promised as ongoing. Glenn has concerns with any future funding being taken off the transition funds. Rebekah offered to keep writing to the Minister and DET to advocate for the surrounds of the school being taken into account to consider whether it's rural or not – not just a line on a map. Local MP getting back to us with question on future funding affecting the transition funding.**
- School Concert – **unsure how this will look. No singing allowed. Depends on where we are at with restrictions.**
- Grade 6 Graduation – **30 pages of special memorabilia book for them each. New ideas coming in and being considered. Perhaps this will be new beginnings for traditions.**
- 2021
 - Budgets
 - Enrolments
 - Programs offered
 - Catching Up
 - Teacher PD
 - NESST
 - AIP – supporting learning

12. Round the Screens

- Rebekah raised security cameras - Elite electrical offered to put in security cameras in school (Janette arranging) and JSC fundraising ideas for 2021 – Indigenous Literacy Foundation (\$47 a month for sponsor child would still need to be collected and money for Fudge) Glenn had another idea with China sister school.
- Carly – raised new signage to be a bit more prominent. Possibly put them on the orange bollards?

- Naomi - Swimming – we'll wait to see how we can make it work but it's scheduled in the calendar
- Janette – Grade 6s and preps to possibly have a walk down to a park to have some buddy time together. Prep breakfast - come to school in pjs and have a yoghurt, fruit, and cereal. Glenn wants grade 2 & 3 to have a sleepover earlier in 2021 – maybe the 1s will be included – then 1s and Prep have one later in the year.
- Catherine – last meeting for the year plans? To be discussed at the next meeting.
- Brent - Private music lessons – still online.
- Ben - Camp is 26-28 May 2021 confirmed.
- Glenn - Basketball rings – 4 have been ruined by outsiders using the basketball courts. Glenn wants to put in heavy duty rings, which are \$130 a pop.

Leonie approved Naomi seconded

13. Next meetings

Thursday 19th November (proposed) – ***agreed to have one***

Thursday 10th December – ***might end up being 17 Dec***