
Minutes: General Meeting of the Vincentia
High Community
Hosted by the Vincentia High School P&C

Acknowledgement to Country –

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from last meeting.

Motion moved - Jodie Newman

Seconded – Mary Nelson

Principal's Report by Renee Gilbert

- Ruth in Training in Adelaide – Renee filling in.

Celebrations to report

- Aunty Gai has been asked to facilitate a connecting to country experience for Principals travelling from Canada and Finland on the 19th July. This is a great opportunity for Aunty Gai to advise and inform how VHS embraces culture within the school and the school community.
- Zoe Sillato and Noah Egan have been asked to present to the state-wide staffroom regarding the role of pre-service teachers in facilitating the COVID ILSP program in schools
- Sea Eagle Epic, Coondoo, Cross Country, Athletics carnival – These whole school events have been welcomed by staff and students to get out of the classroom and have some fun.
- The NEST operated last Wednesday – a very successful event celebrating student achievement. Thank you to the P&C for the donation to the NEST.
- Our school has been working with Youth Insight and have secured a social worker to work at our school for 12 months on a trial period. This is a great resource for our students.
- Our Wellbeing Hub (Wallawani Ngarn) is nearing completion – likely to be open for use in Term 3

- IDAHOBIT day tomorrow – going rainbow against LGBTQIA+ discrimination.
- Sorry Day – 25th May
- Black Dog – Future Proofing Day – Year 9 this Thursday
- Main Learning Displays
- Year 6 Open Night – 31st May, 2022

Challenges being faced at school

- Anti-social behaviour – monitoring the toilets for vaping and vandalism has decreased in incidents of vandalism. Vaping is an on going issue.
- Staffing – due to COVID there is always going to be changes as it is so unpredictable. We are reshuffling classes where needs to be cater and make sure learning is still a priority.

Treasurer's Report

- Bendigo stands at \$56,995.60 which includes the Jo Warren grant of \$24,000.
- Received a \$140.43 cheque refund from icare to be deposited in Westpac.

Canteen Report

- \$20,000 to soon be handed over the P&C.
- Anna thanks staff who turned up and thanked canteen staff after catering 4 functions over the last week. It really boosted morale in the canteen staff as they have been short staffed due to sickness etc.
- Spriggy is still going well.

Community Liaison Officer Report – Karen Cunningham

- **Newsletter:** is emailed home on the Thursday of Week's 3, 6 & 9 and uploaded to our website and Facebook. Each newsletter is viewed by 415 -675 people.
- **Website** is updated multiple times each week and receives between 1200 and 3000 hits per week.
- **Facebook** continues to grow in followers. As well as good news posts about our students and staff, I post community announcements that could benefit our students or school community. Please like or leave a comment on posts so that we don't disappear from your Facebook feed.
- **Alumni** – I contact ex-students to feature in our Where are they now series
- **Staff Profile** – introduces and informs of a staff members roles and passions
- **Electronic sign** is updated weekly with important dates and events.
- **About Magazine** has a VHS article every month
- **NSW School Updates app** and the NSW Education Parent App – includes links from our website for News, Events and Newsletter.
- Parents and students are welcome to email the school with any out of school achievements for publicity.
- Emails are sent home to the preferred contact list for year groups for all important messages, reminders, or events.
- **I am retiring and will finish at VHS at the end of this term. I have worked in a variety of roles during my 19 years and have enjoyed every one of them. I'd like to thank the P&C for supporting me in my role as publicity officer. I'm looking forward to the next stage of my life and I'm sure I will miss VHS every now and then!**

Correspondence

- Michelle Haynes is check status of Australian Charities Association position and uploading financials as they ask for them.

General Business

- **Support Bus** – The bus that was purchased was not able to cater to the wheelchairs of the students in support so the bus has been sent to fabricators in Sydney (as local business could not cater to the buses needs) to modify the lift and ramps. The fabricators are confident they can modify to the needs of our students. P&C will be kept updated on the buses status.
- **Gumbari Workshed** – A funding form was submitted last meeting for \$23,406, a more accurate quote has been submitted for \$15,000. The workshed is to give students of Gumbari an opportunity to learn and use different life skills in an appropriate and safe environment. P&C will reserve a decision on this till further funding has come in from the canteen after the financial year is finished. Liz did leave a message for Harry regarding Club Grants he may be able to access to help with funding this shed.
- **Jo Warren Funding** - \$24,000 was deposited for Jo Warren in the P&C Account to be held till it needs to be forwarded.
- **Staff Vouchers** – Michelle Haynes will hand out vouchers week 4 to staff. Karen will take photos for publicity.
- **Bike Rack** – the P&C purchased bike racks for the school, they have now arrived and are installed.
- Yearbooks have been printed and handed out to 2021 Year 12 students.
- **Karen Cunningham is retiring.** Liz suggested an appropriate gift should be bought for Karen as a thank you for her 19 years of service to VHS. Michelle Haynes will have a think about a gift for Karen and will email ideas out to us to decide.
- We also need to revisit Marys retirement gift as due to covid it hasn't come to fruition. Mary had a morning tea but we need to decide on a gift as previously discussed. Michelle Graham will look back through minutes of previous meetings and see what was discussed and advise Michelle Haynes who will put an email out to all to agree.
- **Canteen Upgrade** – our canteen has been nominated for upgrade by the schools assets manager. Renee will keep us informed as to the status of the grant and upgrade.
- **Union Talks** – Liz Folkard brought up in Term 4 2021 that she would like the P&C to support the teachers and

advised us of the 1200 educators who marched through the centre of Nowra on 7th December 2021, and informed us that at least 20 VHS educators marched. VHS has no casual teachers and with teachers having massive work loads it is causing burn out in all teachers. All P&C agreed and support all teachers but Jodie Newman, Michelle Graham and Michelle Haynes-Armstrong did mention that they thought that this was not the forum for this conversation.

Liz informed us at this meeting she had made enquiries as to whether it is political and if it can be discussed at the P&C meeting. She was advised it could be discussed. The previous meeting Liz had mentioned some local politicians by name when speaking about this topic which is why it was thought to be leaning towards a political topic. This turned into quite a heated discussion as it has two clear sides to this. A agreement was not reached but Liz asked to make ourselves aware of the unions “Teachers deserve more than thanks” campaign and have a look at the teachers federation website and check out the facts and figures available there, or start a conversation making the public, friends and family aware of the teachers current situation as mentioned above. We all agree that we support the teachers through volunteering our time on the P&C, which in turn supports the school and teachers.

- Michelle Haynes also stated that the P&C do not hold Executive Meetings in between term meetings.

Meeting closed 7.00pm

NEXT MEETING

TERM 3 – WEEK 4 - MONDAY 8th August 2022