# Maroubra Bay Primary School P&C:
## Minutes of Monthly Meeting – 7 October 2015

| Meeting date and time | Wednesday 7 October 2015  
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<td>6:30pm – 9.00pm</td>
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<td>Location</td>
<td>MBPS School Library</td>
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**Attendees**

1. David Fitzpatrick (Chair),  
2. Sandra Newell  
3. Giulia Tronci  
4. Tertia Purves-Tyson  
5. Stephanie Berglin  
6. Eleanor Sweetapple  
7. Yasmin Schubach  
8. Lou Schetzer  
9. Celia Paoloni  
10. Karen Clouston  
11. Belinda Rayment  
12. Karen Clouston  
13. Kat Konig  
14. Vasilka Jovanoska (Acting Principal and non-member of P&C)  
15. Brad McGuinness (Acting Principal and non-member of P&C)  
16. Karina McCormack (Teacher representative and non-member of P&C)  
17. Clare Wojinski (Teacher representative and non-member of P&C)  

**Apologies**

Damien Murphy

**Administrative Items**

1. Dave welcomed the group.  
2. The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 September 2015 were confirmed by Belinda Rayment and Yasmin Schubach  
3. No nominees came forward at this meeting, for the position of P&C Vice President therefore role remains vacant.

**Special Items for Discussion**

4. **Canteen Issues**  
The sub-committee met to review our current menu. A proposal that was based on Woollahra PS menu was presented to our supplier. Unfortunately the owner of the business was not comfortable about all of the requests and so discussions will continue. Some items such as pies and flavoured milk will remain on the menu, but, there is a possibility of online ordering in the future. **Action:** Belinda and Stephanie to pick their top 3 amendments and talk to face to face with Jenny (owner of the business).

5. **Playground Project**  
Unfortunately only two helpers turned up at the last working bee. At the next working bee (2 weeks away) the remainder of the timber and the climbing wall needs to be erected. Delivery of the Moduplay items is expected end of October and our builder has committed 2 workers to install it. A proposal has been submitted to the Department of Housing for a $20,000 grant application and our letter of request for a donation from the Seals Club was presented by the GM at their board meeting. **Action:** Belinda to follow up submission status. It was mentioned that Aerocool paint on the soft fall @ $1500 would add 3 years to the lifespan of the soft fall and give colour to the ground – group decided to wait until closer to the finish time to make this decision.  
A sander borrowed from a parent has been broken and a request has been put in for the P&C to replace it @ +/-$230.  
**Action:** Belinda to speak to Rose and ask Daniel to purchase a similar sander at reasonable replacement cost.  
**Action:** Vasilka to provide paperwork from school required for Forepark.
6. **Screening of films in Class**
   Concern was raised about the type of movies shown in class during rain at breaks and at other times during the day, it is thought that movies are a fall-back plan too often. It was stated that the Department has specific policy on the showing of movies and that copyright rules apply. The school confirmed that during wet weather at recess and lunch a G rated movie is offered but there is option to do puzzles and board games. Films shown during school time are linked to the curriculum. The school is very happy to hear about any concerns at any time. There was one incident recently that has been dealt with. A request was made for documentaries such as Blue Planet to be shown instead of Disney movies, other suggestions were: SBS online documentaries as well as Human Planet. **Action:** Vasilka to discuss at the next staff meeting the preference for showing documentaries and educational items when films are screened in classrooms.

   It was mentioned by a parent that we should be checking in with our children to keep up with what they are experiencing at school but remembering there may be more to the story and so therefore, check in with the teacher if you have concerns.

7. **Fundraising Priorities**
   **Action:** Dave to roll over to next meeting

8. **School Environment Management Plan**
   Sandra stated that the Department website advises that SEMP is mandatory in the whole-of-school plan. Sandra will take no further action on further developing the draft SEMP until a committee involving staff, SRC and parents is formed. **Action:** Karina to find out from Mark if SRC has discussed the possible formation of an Environment Committee. Vasilka, Karina, Mark and Sandra to meet for further discussion.

9. **Book Fair Parade**
   This year the artwork at Education Week was based on a book. Parents expressed that they and their children enjoyed the parade in previous years. **Action:** Vasilka to look into the parade for 2016

10. **Admin Staff**
    P&C members expressed they are still uncomfortable asking office admin staff for assistance with printing and small amounts of stationery. Vasilka requested that we rather send any printing to her directly and to ask her or any of the assistant principals for assistance. A query was made into the employment of Lauren who is assisting in the office whilst Dario is on leave. Lauren is Robyn’s (admin manager) daughter and Vasilka did not know of the employment process that Kathy used. **Action:** Vasilka to look into possibility of P&C having its own log-in to school computer.

11. **School Rules Discussion**
    Parents advised the school that children are not happy with the new ‘school rules’ and found them too restrictive, i.e. no handstands/cartwheels. The school was not aware of new ‘school rules’ and said that handstands and cartwheels are allowed on the oval. Children are still allowed to take the class roll to a teacher outside class and unfortunately the flags are not put up because something is broken on the pole.

12. **Buddy Benches**
It was agreed that a buddy bench would be installed on the oval, as well as the one on the playground. **Action: Karina to arrange a buddy bench on the oval, possibly repurpose one of existing log benches and paint it.**

### Reports and Update

#### 13. President’s Report – David Fitzpatrick

Dave expressed that there is some discontent amongst parents and carers – some are valid concerns and some are possibly just grumblings. The P&C is the best forum for voicing concerns, and Dave encouraged everyone to add their concerns to the agenda and encourage more parents to attend meetings. Any discontent should be voiced at our meetings so that we can be productive and have a positive effect on the school. The P&C is running the risk of its current members becoming fatigued and therefore, we should think of ways to increase participation and recruit new members. Dave will be presenting at the Big Start meeting but parents from other years should be recruited. Someone suggested we call it a “Whine and Wine” meeting …

#### 14. Principal’s Report – Vasilka Jovanovska

- The group was advised that Kathy has retired effective immediately. The executive team that were present at the meeting will remain in place until the end of the year. Kathy will come into the school on the 17th December to see the teachers only. Kathy has been with the school since 2007. With regard to replacement - the department follows protocol so it is difficult to know what the process will be, the position could be filled by transfer-in or by advertising the role.
- Vasilka thanked the P&C for coordinating a new playground for the school.
- We were advised that the end of year concert would be split over two days. K-2 concert to be held on 3rd December and 3-6 on 4th December. Concert will start at 11.30am followed by a family picnic on the oval. Families are to bring their own picnic basket. The International Food Festival will not be repeated due to the amount of work involved.
- The school is going to participate in the ‘Culturally Inclusive Project’ – this involves a 5 minute iMovie filmed in 4 classes at the school. Parents of these classes signed consent to have the movie used in all forms of media. In October the department will be sending representatives to see how implementation is progressing.
- Some teachers will be attending training for the ‘Wellbeing Programme’ to be implemented in schools for healthy minds and positive thinking.
- Vasilka is still working on a process to reinstate emailing out the weekly newsletter.
- Access ramps to the hall, oval and classrooms were to be built in the school holidays but the works are ongoing and due to be finished in the next week or two.
- The Good Guys have donated an oven to our canteen. The school will pay for the installation and have contacted the property manager to manage and start the process.
- So far 54 kindy kids have enrolled in the school for 2016 (80 at this time last year). Vasilka is positive we have enough classrooms.

#### 15. Treasurer’s Report – Tertia Purves Tyson

To date 15 families have donated funds to the playground project totalling $3461. The uniform sales continue to bring in funds but exact profit is still to be determined. Tertia stated that the accounts are available to anyone who wishes to review them.

**Action:** Vasilka to check with Robyn if Moduplay can be paid by the school and the length of time until payment is received.

**Action:** School office to email all invoices paid to date by the school to Tertia for
accurate account of playground costs.

16. **Class Rep Update** – Karen Clouston

Forms should be handed out at Big Start to obtain permission for class rep list and P&C mailchimp list. The school obtains permission to email via their own enrolment form. **Action:** Karen to update P&C email request form and send to Dave. David to draft message.

17. **Canteen Update** - see item 4

18. **Environment & community Update** – Belinda Rayment

The “No Dogs” signs purchased by P&C seem to be missing.

**Action:** Existing action, but Belinda to ask Rose if she knows where they are and get them installed if not already.

19. **Ethics Update** – Celia Paoloni

There has been no communication whether Ethics as an alternate option to scripture has been taken off the public school enrolment form. If it is removed there will be a separate form to be completed, which specifically asks for removal from scripture. There are some ethics teachers at MBPS who can no longer continue so 5 or 6 new volunteer teachers are required. Celia will go to Big Start to recruit for new teachers. If there are not enough teachers, children will be waitlisted - a letter will be sent to ethics students asking for parent volunteer teachers.

20. **Fundraising Update**

Bunning BBQ was cancelled due to no one coming forward to coordinate. There is an opportunity to host a stall at the Sports Club markets. The P&C would like to be involved so as to offer support to the club and service the community, a coordinator is required to organise. Possible stalls are an umbrella, 2nd hand book or cake stall.

**Action:** Karen to liaise with organisers to decide on a suitable stall theme.

The Entertainment Book raised $504 – the cheque is still to be received from the supplier. A total of 36 books were sold, and 16 books were not returned!

The P&C has put in an application for a $13,000 grant from Community Services that offers grants for community projects.

21. **Garden** – Sandra Newell

A sample of our soil has been sent in to the UNSW for testing, as a part of their ‘Veg Safe’ programme – there is not cost for this. Sandra is working on brewing a weed tea – this involves pulling out weeds, soaking them until they ferment – this is very healthy for soil. The garden club is intending on planting seeds this season.

A few attempts have been made to obtain some of Bourke Street Bakery’s compost but we have missed out. Permission was granted to offer Bourke Street Bakery some advertising in our newsletter if we can have first dibs on their compost.
22. **Uniforms Update** – Giulia Tronci

The uniform shop continues to operate on Thursdays 2.30 – 3.10 pm and Fridays 8.40 – 9.10 am. It was flagged that there may be a shortage of girl’s summer tunics – the supplier has delays and we have not put in a large order due to funding restraints (due to playground project commitments). Any orders made this term will be delivered next year. Some parents are still going to the office to order uniforms - P&C prefer that school office staff do not fulfil orders as it is difficult to account for stock, sizes and money received. Forms can be found at the office but to be taken to the shop to be fulfilled. Everyone present was encouraged to listen out for feedback on this system so that we can ensure we are covering the needs of the school community. A sign will be put up around school advertising shop hours. Volunteers will be required next year in order to keep the shop operating.

23. **P&C Webpage Update** – Karen Clouston

*Action:* Vasilka to approve wording for content of P&C’s tabs on the school webpage, so that Brad can launch them.

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**Other Business**

24. **Homework Policy Revisited**

It was acknowledged that there was a miscommunication of the purpose of the meeting between Yasmin Schubach and the school regarding the current policy therefore this consultation did not take place. The P&C would like to pursue a review of the policy and this will be held in consultation with the school through proper channels such as consultation, surveys and research presented. The school agreed that this could take place next year.

25. **Transition to High School**

The school confirmed that transition involved inclusion to South Sydney High School for 3 children over a period of time. There is a one day excursion for Year 6 students. Feeling was expressed that MBPS students are not prepared for self-management, overall general knowledge, handling assignments and homework load in Year 7.

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**Action Items**

26. Action items list was not reviewed due to time constraints, but list to be updated per new actions recorded in these minutes.

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**Meeting Close**

27. **Next meeting**

Wed 4 November 2015 at 6:30pm. In the school library.