

BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL
P & C Draft Minutes of the Meeting
WEDNESDAY 15 March 2023

pandc.bghs@gmail.com

Attendance: Mia Kumar – **Principal**, Katherine Lye – **Deputy Principal**
Kara Gabbett – **P&C President**, KT Wlodarczyk – **P&C Vice President**, Marnie M Noor – **P&C Vice President**, Chiara Cenati **P&C Treasurer**, Cat Rodie **Secretary**.

Members per sign-on register:

Jennifer Moore
Anna Johnston-Buckle
Peter Zographakis
Karen Harper
Natalie Jennings
Sarah Coughlin
Lachlan Mitchell
Uta Mihm
Harley Ross
Jackie Speak
Briony Mawer

Meeting Chair: Kara Gabbett

Meeting recorded by: Cat Rodie

Apologies: Tim Cunningham, Mark Drury

Format: In Person

Start: 19:18 (following AGM)

Principal's report – Mia Kumar

- School photos have been taken. Students will get a picture book by the end of the term.
- Big Sister program for the new Year 7 group is going well.
- Music camp took place on 20th/21st February. The numbers were limited so some students missed out and parents were disappointed. A new system has been implemented for next year. No more 'first come first served' Places will be offered in descending year order starting at Year 12. Next year's music camp has been booked at the same venue (Galston Gorge Camp & Conference Centre) and we're also on the waitlist for Stanwell Tops. All of the organisation for next year's camp will be done at the

end of this year to give parents more notice. Students had a positive experience at the camp.

- There was a school assembly on 6th March with focus on 2023 being the 'year for First Nations voices.' Awards, including the Premier's Reading Challenge and Korean Awards were also given out.
- International students hosted a pop up stall to raise money for Turkey and Syria Earthquake aid relief. They raised \$600.
- There are some opportunities for students at Burwood Castle.
- World Pride was celebrated with a new Pride flag raised during True Colours. Breakfast club made rainbow pancakes.
- Knockout sports started - no big wins, but great attitudes from kids.
- Zone swimming very successful - Girls 15s 4x50 Freestyle Relay record was broken.
- Choir and Dance group took part in Pulse Alive concert.
- BGHS has a new careers advisor and will be doing some careers talks with students.
- There have been some ministerial visits during the last month with a visit from Minister Ed Husic who launched the National Science priorities discussion paper from the new BHHS STEM building along with Cathy Foley, Chief scientist and local MP Sally Sitou.
- Some enthusiastic students were interviewed by Nine and Sky News.
- Year 7 camp took place in early March. The kids had a really good time.
- A Field Study Day also took place in early March. Year 8 language students visited restaurants such as Papa's, Year 10 History students attended a talk at the Sydney Jewish Museum and Year 9 visited the Science Centre in Wollongong.
- Year 9 PASS students took part in a 2 day Surf Camp at Bondi.
- Year 7 and 9 students took NAPLAN tests. All NAPLAN tests are now online.
- International Women's Day was marked by staff and students wearing Green, Purple and White. It was noted that younger students were confused about what they are allowed to wear so there will be better communications in the future.
- Year 8 SRC students attended the GWS Giants IWD Forum and met the netball vice captain Jamie Lee Price and AFLW captain- Alicia Eva, the only female coach in the AFL
- BGHS has a new HISE teacher starting in Term 2. Natalie Tan comes from Sydney Girls
- The Year 7 Information Eve was well received by parents. Action: Julia to arrange for PowerPoint slides from the eve to be sent out to Yr 7 parents
- Query: It was noted that with so much happening at the school, some notices get missed. **Action: Mia/Julia/Kathyl to investigate if notices to students can also be added to the parent portal.**
- The school hosted an information evening for prospective parents - there was a big turn out. Captains and Year 7 students spoke really well about the school. There was also a School Tour for prospective students - Mia received lots of feedback from parents about how friendly and outgoing the prefects were and how well they spoke about the school.
- The 'Pitch In' campaign to keep school tidy has continued.
- Sports House Captains met to discuss new names for sports houses that will be more meaningful and reflect our 2023 focus 'The Year for First Nation Voices.' There was

some information about this in the latest Event newsletter. The new names will be announced in assembly.

- International Day will take place on the 12th May - parents are invited to attend this year. Any parents who want to help need to have an up to date WWCC.
- Mia is going on leave for the rest of this term. Kathy will be standing in.
- The IFTAR Dinner will take place on 29th March.
- The P&C Trivia Night will take place on the 27th May.

President Report

Kara Gabbett delivered her report during the AGM. The AGM minutes will be available on the school website.

General Business

Grants committee - KT Wlodarczyk

- KT is currently working on 3 grant applications.
- Re Community Partnership Building Grant 2022 - KT looking at projects might be appropriate.
- Sally Situ is supporting the school with an expression of interest for a grant that could potentially fund air conditioning in the movement studio.
- Bike racks - photos needed to complete the grant process.
- There has been a lag in the grant process due to Covid. This means that we can't apply for new grants if money previously awarded hasn't been spent.
- Grants tend to fund Capital works such as school infrastructure.
- KT notes that the school can't apply for these grants directly, so it's one of the things we need a P&C for.

Uniform Liaison officer - Natalie Jennings & Marnie M Noor

- Natalie confirms that the DoE plans to take over contacts with uniform providers, however our contact with Lowes has been extended for two years.
- Lowers give 10% of profit back to school. Query re whether the school is still getting this or whether it is now going to the DoE. **Action: Kathy to follow up.**
- The purpose of the Uniform Liaison officer is to provide an alternative channel for uniform queries. E.g if parents have any issues such as difficulty getting an item/ size they can report to Natalie and she will provide feedback to Lowes.
- Marnie will work with Natalie this year and take over as Uniform Liaison officer in 2024.
- Query - does P&C have any say re prices of uniforms? Natalie explains that no - we can't negotiate.

- Query - will there be another 2nd hand uniform sale? Julia/Kathy explains that there is not enough stock to hold another sale, however, secondhand uniforms can be accessed via the wellbeing office.
- BEP will be holding a second-hand sale on Wednesday 22 March from 9:30am - 11am.
- Natalie flags that Lowes donate 3 blazers to the school per year. **Action: Julia to provide sizes.**

Trivia updates - Jen Moore

- There are 12 people on the Trivia committee. First meeting went really well.
- Date is fixed for Sat 27 May.
- The theme is 'Hollywood' - eg come as fav movie star/character or glitz and glamour.
- Lewisham PS to donate box of props such as a red carpet
- The 'Save the date' has been sent out via social media.
- A flyer with the ticket details will be sent out by end of term with some incentives to buy tickets early.
- Jen has secured around \$4k of donations already.
- The silent auction will be online so that we can reach a larger audience.
- There will be a Wine Vault and Jen is hoping to organise a similar game with a bike.
- Jen doing recce of hall and lights etc.
- Three cheers for Jen

Parent volunteers for funded webinar series - Cat Rodie

- Cat is putting a panel together to help research topics and vet presenters for the P&C funded webinar series.
- Anyone who would like to be on the panel can contact Cat via pandc.bghs@gmail.com
- Topics of social media and phone addiction put forward
- School note that Fiona can help parents with tech support - she will be guest speaker in August – **Action: Cat to advertise this and other guest speakers via social channels**
- Reminder that there is a list of other guest speakers on the school website.

Adoption of minutes from previous GM (GM 15 Feb 2023 - on the website)

Minutes passed: Cat Rodie

Seconded: Marnie M Noor

Any Other Business

Cooler Classrooms/Air Conditioning Fundraising - Y7 parents. Magda C.

- Magda was not at the meeting

- We will wait for her to speak about this point.

Back-to-school vouchers - KT

- Query re Back to School vouchers and whether the school can accept them excursions. There has been a change in finance systems so Mia will find out if this can be supposed.
Action: Mia/Julia/Kathy to find out more and report back.
- General discussion re confusion about what parents owe as the new system lists all fees. The school will send out a communication about School Bites. School Bites will make it easier for parents to pay fees.

Music Camp

- **See point about Music Camp in Mia's Principal Report above.**
- There were some issues re this year's music camp; for example, parents were not given much notice and only had a small window to register. Because of this, a lot of students missed out.
- Improvements will be made so that all kids in the music program have the opportunity to go. If numbers need to be limited, priority will be given to older students first as new Y7's will have lots of other chances to attend.
- Communications re 2024 Music Camp will be sent out towards the end of 2023.
- There is some confusion around BEP events in general. There are lots of events coming up with a cluster around the Easter/ANZAC weekend. More information is needed for parents.
- There is a [BEP calendar](#) on the school website (under Learning at our School/Burwood Ensemble Program.)

Sport selection Y8

- A few students missed out on the 3 selections they were asked to note on the enrolment form.
- Most students ended up with one of their 3 choices. In few cases where this did not happen it was because they had picked a choice with very limited numbers (eg Rock Climbing).
- Unfortunately there were some options that did not attract enough interest. For any kids who wanted to take part in Drama Games there is now a Y8 Drama Club, see Simon Foro in the English department. **Action: Kathy will find out the process, see if it can be made more effective and report at the May Meeting.**

Meeting Closed: 8.30pm

Next Meeting: 17 May

Additional Meeting dates for 2023:

- 21 June
- 16 August
- 20 September (Cancelled)
- 18 October
- 15 November