

**BURWOOD GIRLS HIGH SCHOOL  
P & C *Draft* Minutes of the Meeting  
WEDNESDAY 17th May 2023**

[pandc.bghs@gmail.com](mailto:pandc.bghs@gmail.com)

**Attendance:** Mia Kumar – **Principal**, Katherine Lye – **Deputy Principal**  
Kara Gabbett – **P&C President**, Marnie M Noor – **P&C Vice President**, Chiara Cenati **P&C Treasurer**, Cat Rodie **P&C Secretary**, Natalie Jennings, **Uniform Liaison Officer**, Jen Moore, **general member**.

**Members per sign-on register:**

Mark Drury
Sarah coughlin
Poh Keng Goon
Rianti Bieler
chiara cenati
Jacqueline Bouf
Jackie speak

**Meeting Chair:** Kara Gabbett

**Meeting recorded by:** Cat Rodie

**Apologies:** KT, Karen

**Format:** In Person

**Start:** 19:15

**Welcome and Introductions – Kara Gabbett**

**Guest speakers:**

School counsellor - Marja Boddeus

Liz Ford - Head Teacher Wellbeing (7, 8, 9)

Voulla Kalogeropoulos - Head Teacher Wellbeing (10, 11,12)

**Anxiety Awareness Presentation** - Copy of slides available below.

**Liz Ford and Voulla Kalogeropoulos** spoke about some of the support that is available for students, for example, the well-being breakout room and posters in classrooms with breathing exercises. Copy of slides available below.

Query: How can the P&C help?

Liz/Voulla suggest running courses for parents

### **Principal's report – Mia Kumar**

- Thank you to relieving teachers that filled in during Mia's annual leave.
- Due to the change in government, we now have a new education minister, Pru Car. Mia anticipates that Pru will make a big difference to schools and teachers.
- Students have been participating well in Science and Engineering challenges.
- Music students from Redcliffe High School in Queensland visited Burwood GHS and took part in workshops with BEP.
- Uncle Jimmy gave a special assembly which included announcing the new house names - Barangaroo, Cora, Bennelong, and Pemulwuy.
- The new careers advisor has been organising lots of talks from universities and is getting good feedback from students.
- Harmony Day was celebrated by wearing orange accessories
- Burwood GHS took part in the Uplift Program, to improve WiFi - it took 6 weeks to complete
- Year 8 had a successful STARR day
- Dr Cathy Foley visited the school to have science forum with students.
- Year 12 studies of Religion visited the Nan Tien temple in Wollongong for two days
- There was a special ANZAC assembly arranged by the SRC
- Burwood GHS BEP Students took part in several ANZAC Day events including the ANZAC March in the city.
- New staff at BGHS:
  - Natalie Tan - HSIE and business studies teacher.
  - Ben Hilton - HSIE
  - Val Latini - SLSO
  - Lucy Absolom - New nurse
- Staff took part in a School Development Day - focus on First Nations Voices and an opportunity to connect with Country.
- There was a great Year 12 STARR day
- The Knockout teams doing well

- The Athletics Carnival took place
- The debating team has been doing well
- The Y7/Y12 parents/teacher night went well. There is a Y8/Y11 parent/teacher night coming up.
- Staff took part in professional learning with a focus on meeting literacy and numeracy targets.
- 22 teachers took part in mental health training
- International Day was a big success - great food and wonderful music. Highlights were the Parade of Nations and the Smoking Ceremony and the concert. Thanks to the parents who came along - it was a great day for everyone.
- Love and Information - a performing arts collaboration between Burwood Girls, Ashfield Boys and Homebush Boys was a successful event over two nights.
- Mia would like to organise an event to mark the official opening of the STEM building - would the P&C like to host this? The proposed date is 23 August (after trial HSC and Year 11 Jindabyne/Work Experience). To be discussed at next meeting.
- Mia will not be able to attend the next meeting but Kathy Lye and Fiona Diakos will attend.

### **President Report - Kara**

- Election BBQ great - raised \$1000
- KT is working towards a Grant to buy Native trees

### **Treasurer's Report : Chiara**

- All looking good
- Going forward, all invoices need to be sent by email so that they can be properly filed
- P&C is being charged Bank fees - Chiara is following up
- Issue regarding a lost cheque - the cheque has been reissued
- All trivia invoices up to date

**Query from Chiara:** Is there anything that the school would like?

**Mia:** Would like P&C funding towards new outdoor furniture. The current picnic tables are getting a bit old. Mia is looking into pricing and suggests sharing the cost between the school and the P&C.

**Query from the last meeting re commission from Lowes.**

**Natalie:** The school hasn't been getting the commission- it has gone to the department. Natalie spoke to her contact at Lowes and was told that other schools seem to be getting the commission back via EdConnect. Natalie is waiting for EdConnect to get back to her. Potentially the P&C could be reimbursed for the donation towards school uniforms.

**ACTION:** Natalie to report back re conversation with EdConnect

## **General Business**

### **Grants committee**

**Grants update from KT (via Kara):** Stronger Communities Grant application has gone in for \$6,700 - partial funding of the air-conditioning for the Movement Studio.

### **Trivia update - Jen Moore**

- Just over a week to go
- 12 tables confirmed
- Haven't heard back from Jason Lee (who expressed an interest in attending) - Jen will follow up
- Online auction going live on Monday 22nd May. It will run until 10pm on the night of the event.
- \$10K has been donated in prizes
- Jen would like a few more volunteers
- Discussion re freezer space for the choc tops

**Note:** Mia flags that the 27th May is the first day of the asphalt upgrade work. No concern over this impacting the trivia night set up.

**Kara:** Big thank you to Jen - the trivia organising has been amazing!

### **Parent volunteers for funded webinar series - Cat Rodie**

- Booked Burwood Psychologist Jocelyn Brewer for 'Untangling Teens from Technology'
- Thursday 8th June
- Comms will go out week commencing 22nd May.

## **Adoption of minutes from previous GM (GM 15 March 2023 - on the website)**

Minutes passed: Marnee  
Seconded: Kara

### **Actions arising from previous meeting**

Query re whether the school is still getting commissions from Lowes, or whether it is now going to the DoE. **Action: Kathy to follow up (done).**

**See above**

Query: It was noted that with so much happening at the school, some notices get missed. **Action: Mia/Julia/Kathy to investigate if notices to students can also be added to the parent portal.**

To discuss at June meeting.

Natalie flags that Lowes donate 3 blazers to the school per year. **Action: Julia to provide sizes. (Done)**

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.**

To discuss at June meeting.

Sport selection Y8 - **Action: Kathy will find out the process, see if it can be made more effective and report at the May Meeting.**

Kathy has provided a document that explains the process. See attachments.

### **Any Other Business**

#### **BEP Music Camp**

Mia: Next year the music camp will be at Stanwell Tops.

#### **BEP query from Chiara: can we revise entrance fees for music concerts?**

- Entrance fees can add up when it's a family, e.g. at the last event some families paid \$50
- It was noted that costs vary a lot between different events.
- Mia agreed that costs need to be reassessed so they're consistent.
- Mia will address as a whole school policy

#### **Cooler Classrooms/Air Conditioning Fundraising - raised by Y7 parent, Magda C.**

To be discussed at the June meeting if Magda attends.

#### **AOB**

**BEP query from Chiara:** Is the music program open to incursions from specialist tutors to target specific groups?

- Chiara has some ideas - she will look at the costs and report back.
- Mia notes Vivaldi Strings have improved

**Meeting Closed: 9.04pm**

**Next meeting: 21st June 2023, 7pm**

**Guest speaker:** Fiona Diakos re Mobile phone policy, Google Classroom and how IT is used in the classroom

**Additional Meeting dates for 2023:**

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

**Attachments:**

[Anxiety presentation](#)

Wellbeing team presentation -

[Process for sport selection](#)