



Broken Bay Catholic School Parent Council

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Minutes of Meeting

Diocesan Parent Council – North Shore Cluster Meeting

Monday 1st June, 2015

7.30 pm at OLPS West Pymble

1. Attendees:

Louise Johnston (North Shore Cluster Co-ordinator) Carmel Hewitt (Family Liaison Officer, CSO), Sue Host (Principal, OLPS West Pymble) Kirrily Rooney (St Agatha's Pennant Hills), Robbie McKegg (St Thomas', Willoughby) Necola Chisholm (OLPS, West Pymble), Justine Whiting (Sacred Heart, Pymble) Katherine Goh (OLOR, Waitara), Susanne Palmer (St Patrick's, Asquith), Maria Smith (St Leo's, Waitara).

Apologies: Steve Varnum (Sacred Heart, Pymble) Anna Betke & Angela Rossello (St Philip Neri, Northbridge), Sue Giacomelli (St Gerard's, Carlingford).

2. Welcome and introductions lead by Louise Johnston.

3. (a) Feedback from DPC Leadership Evening - Parent Engagement.

Everyone found it a very positive night. A great way to plan together particularly if the P&F are new. Great examples of what schools are doing regarding parent engagement and good suggestions to take back to schools. Videos on the night were very helpful, putting the theory into reality.

Note: the videos are on the DPC website under Authentic Partnerships

Other comments:

Carmel Hewitt was delighted with the night. The videos took a very long time to make so was pleased to hear positive feedback. The message regarding parent engagement is that 'everyone' has a role in a child's academic life.

St Thomas' doing a survey as a response to the Leadership evening. Found the data very useful and informative.

OLOR sent their survey and got a 50% response. Katherine suggested sharing resources, seminars with other schools in area. Robin Gallagher who ran the Ripples program is presenting this week.

St Agatha's found it very useful particularly for the new members of the P&F. Great ideas and also confirmation we are on the right track.



OLPS conducting a survey this term regarding parent engagement and future fundraising strategy.

St Pat's found 'weebly' very useful and the DPC website

(b) Feedback from DPC Draft Strategic Plan 2015-2017

- Parent friendly language needed for stakeholders to fully understand the aims and direction of the DPC.
- Deliverables? Show how plan is achieved?
- Under point 1. PE Partnerships, insert line 1 'Provide current Australian research and review.....' (ARACY)

(c) CCSP Review Focus Group

- Filled in a questionnaire from the CCSP.
- Not enough promotion and exposure as to what the CCSP do.
- The group were impressed with their ethos but they are not marketed well so not enough is known of their work.

4. DPC Parent Workshops Term 2

Growing Up Online with Susan McLean

Thursday 18 June 7.30 pm

Mater Maria Catholic College, Warriewood

Target market: Year 5 to Year 12 children

There were requests to have the seminar streamlined. Agreed it would be beneficial to those not able to attend. DPC to investigate for future seminars.

The Power of Social & Emotional Skills for Children's Learning

Monday 22 June 7:00 pm – 8.30 pm

Holy Family Catholic School, LINDFIELD (Note Louise is not available that night).

Target market: Primary children

Carmel advised the CSO can offer free workshops on social and emotional learning. They can train parents to be presenters if enough interest. Training is 1 day a week for 3 weeks. Also training on 1-2-3 Magic and the Resilient Child.

Also a good website 'The Parent Toolkit. You can download an app.

<http://www.parenttoolkit.com/index.cfm?objectid=B66C4990-11CF-11E4-97A30050569A5318>



5. Report from CCSP Conference in Lismore (Council of Catholic School Parents)
"It takes a village to raise a child"

Carmel reported the seminar was very good. Michael Grosse was very impressive and DPC investigating his costs and availability. Bruce Sutherland challenges us to 'take a look at ourselves and our own parenting' How are you presenting yourself to your children? Do you show gratitude, humour, humility, generosity?? Children mimic behaviours so how does yours rate? Hugh McKay spoke about our sense of community. We live more for ourselves than for others. He challenges us to take responsibility for others as well as your own.

Check the website for more information
<http://www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au/conference>.

(I strongly recommend listening to the children's song "It takes a village"

6. Matters / issues for future consideration.

- Privacy laws

Real concerns and frustrations regarding lack of class lists for schools. Reps advising the school spirit amongst the kindy parents is lacking as no-one can get a copy of the class list (not even the class parents) to organise gatherings or children's parties etc.

Carmel advised to write a short letter to Louise Johnston and it will be forwarded onto Carmel Hewitt and Peter Hamill.

- A request for a big name speaker for Term 3.

Michael Grosse, Steve Biddough for example. Other topics 'supporting parents at home.'

Hugh McKay for AGM or Leadership night 2016. Bishop from the CCSP Conference (Carmel to confirm name)

7. Meeting closed 9.30pm. Next Cluster meeting: TBA.

Late addition by Louise Johnston

Two websites on parent engagement. The second one is great for kindy parents for 2015 and 2016. Encourage Principals to put in your newsletter.

http://www.det.act.gov.au/teaching_and_learning/parental-engagement

<http://www.ccsp.catholic.edu.au/2015/20150528/>

