

MINUTES OF THE DAVIDSON HIGH SCHOOL P & C MEETING HELD 28th April 2009

Meeting opened 7.40pm

Present: Chris Garvan Chairperson, and others as per Attendance Book

Apologies: Phil Smith, Gavin Cahill, Lesley Snell, Caroline Musik, Brian Donn, and Virginia Penrose

Welcome new members Monika Johnston and David Stephens

GUEST SPEAKER

Matthew Hurditch

Matthew Hurditch is a year 12 student and gave a presentation on his experiences as a member of the 2008 Beijing Olympic Orchestra Tour. Matthew was one of 200 members from the NSW Millennium Marching Band chosen as part of the Australian contingent of 500 musicians.

The tour Matthew and his fellow band members undertook was a 15 day tour of Beijing and Shanghai. Most of the time was spent in Beijing 13 days and two days in Shanghai. He spoke of the extreme heat and humidity, the accommodation was nice, the long hour in the heat rehearsing, the food served in the grand Dining Hall, mostly rice, and finally the performances. A highlight of the tour was for the first time a foreign band had performed in Tiananmen Square.

During their stay in China the group attended several different events including a Chinese Acrobat Show and a womens soccer match between China and Sweden. Matthew also visited the Forbidden City, Summer Palace and had a cruise in Shanghai.

Matthew spoke of the life experiences he has gained from being part of this tour, these included, the inspiration to pursue a career in Music, university studies in Music and to be part of the group chosen to tour the USA in 2010.

In closing Matthew thanked Davidson High School P&C for the support given to him, which helped him attend the Beijing Tour.

Mr Peade

Mr Peade Head Teacher PDHPE, addressed the P&C regarding a unit of work involving years 7-10 in Social Dance. The idea is to help students better relate to each other through dancing for fun. Mr Peade mentioned a *Dancing with the Stars* format with heats and finals seeing students dancing in Male/Female pairs, with a prize purse at the conclusion for 1st, 2nd and 3rd placing. This money would be raised by an entry fee of \$5.00 per person. Mr Peade requested the P&C match the entry fee amount dollar for dollar, which will be used to boost the prize money offered.

Motion: That DHS P&C offer a pledge to support the PDH/PE Dancing for Fun venture by matching the money raised, through entry fees, and to be used as the prize money offered to contestants.

Proposed: Alan Turner- Morris **Seconded:** Kos Psaltis

Carried

LISTING MATTERS FOR GENERAL BUSINESS

- 1 Assistance available through Rotary to Davidson High.
- 2 P&C Volunteer Support.
- 3 Allocation of funds raised at the Trivia Night.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: The minutes of the previous meeting be accepted.

Proposed: David Stephens

Seconded: Sharon Lorge

Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes:

Question raised regarding the installation of water saving taps (minuted previously at the February 2009 meeting) and the cost effectiveness in terms of saving water. Mr Cawsey took the question on notice and will report back next meeting.

Correspondence In/Out:

As tabled and circulated.

Adoption of Correspondence Register:

Motion: The correspondence register be accepted.

Proposed: Sharon Lorge

Seconded: Sam Phillips

Carried

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr Cawsey reported on:

Term 2

The school has a big term ahead which will see activities such as SOPA underway.

The students will be sitting exams including Trial HSC beginning Term 3 with much preparation already underway in term 2. The teachers will be preparing student reports and students will be making subject choices.

The focus on student's abilities will be highlighted this term. A simple mantra of "ability should be measured by results" will be enforced with the students. Students need to understand that it is not how good they think they are, this must be transferred into deeds.

During Term 2 will see surveys taken of a group of parents and students, the results of which will give first class data and assist in the Targeting of programs and also provide feedback for other areas.

Government Initiatives

Lap Tops will be rolled out to all Year 9 students shortly and then every year 9 year group the next and subsequent years.

Building Education Revolution (BER) Grants for \$200,000.00. Nominations for this grant closed 24th March 2009. Primary schools were treated differently to Secondary schools for this grant.

Secondary schools focus mainly on heavy infrastructure and school maintenance projects.

Davidson HS has made a list of 16 items identified for Program of Works, which includes toilets, oval upgrade, MPC upgrade and concrete cancer removal.

Mr Max Wilson, Assets Manager toured the school over the school holidays and inspected areas of concern including the concrete cancer and chimney stack and has agreed the DET will remove the chimney stack.

The school will fund as much as possible from the list as they can and taking into account the government parameters.

The next round of government money will target upgrading the Science Labs and Library.

The applications for this close Friday 1st May 2009.

TREASURERS REPORT

Sharon Lorge tabled the treasurer's report, main points as follows:

Due to a change of personnel in the accounts office and also being the first day back after the holidays, the accounts for this meeting were incomplete and will be up to date for our next meeting.

The P&C have \$25,000.00 of unallocated funds.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Proposed Linda Cahill

Seconded Coralie Turner- Morris

Carried

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Chris Garvan reported on:

The fact that many positions on the P&C will become vacant as many of our committee parents have children in year 12 and will be leaving the school at the end of this year.

He expressed a hope that those on the committee can attract more people who are willing to take on these soon to be vacant positions.

Bill Ackhurst has agreed to take on more of the duties involved with Maebashi as we have yet to find someone to step forward to fill this role.

Chris attended Janice's farewell and said the event was a great night.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Canteen Report

Coralie Turner-Morris tabled the Canteen Report, main points as follows:

Thank you to staff and volunteers, but still need more helpers.

Coralie is looking for a person to take on her position next year.

The committee has been surveying the students and will summarise results soon.

Meeting scheduled for 20th May 2009 at 6.45pm main staff room.

On behalf on the Canteen, Coralie presented a cheque for \$7000.00 to the meeting.

Uniforms

Winter uniform is to be worn in Term 2. Check that your children have their school tie.

GROUNDS REPORT

Sam Phillips tabled the Grounds Report with the main points as follows:

No formal working bee has been held since last meeting.

Sam and Graham have done some maintenance and repair tasks.

Grounds have not appeared to have suffered too much vandalism during the school holidays.

A couple of tress fell over and were removed by DET contractors.

Currently Sam is attempting to secure funding for the path between Duffeys Forest and Pound Ave.

Next working bee will be 9th May 2009

PERFORMING ARTS

Carolyn Watters tabled the Performing Arts report the main points as follows:

SOPA

Fund raising BBQ held last week raised \$1010.00

Advertising for SOPA will be erected soon and there will be an article in the Dispatch.

Rock Eisteddfod

Entertainment books are on sale at the accounts office and have been sent home with the students. They are \$65.00 each of which \$13.00 goes to the school.

Sharon and Carolyn have been reorganising the shelving in the MPC which has seen an improved area in which to store the costumes.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

No report

SPORT REPORT

No report

MAEBASHI REPORT

No report

DISTRICT, REGIONAL AND STATE COUNCILS REPORT

Kos Psaltis report was tabled, main points as follows:

Next meeting will be 4th May 2009. Guest speaker will be Warringah Mayor, Michael Regan.

Next Annual Conference will be at Penrith Panthers Club 31st July 2009 to 2nd August 2009.

Date for future District P&C Meetings are as follows.

4th May 2009, 22nd June 2009, 10th August 2009 and 9th November 2009.

Regional News

No report

Council News

No report

<http://members.optushome.com.au/pandc-nsregion/agenda.htm>

for further information.

DISPATCH REPORT

No report

GENERAL BUSINESS

Rotary

Kos Psaltis addressed the P&C and spoke of the programs and assistance Rotary can offer students at Davidson. This included, The Rotary Student Exchange Program, Debating Programs, Leadership Programs, Peer Support Programs and the Rotary Youth Awards.

P&C Volunteer Support

Recently the P&C were approached with a request to give financial assistance to a parent volunteer. This request was subsequently fulfilled. The P&C noted that at the time the P&C committee had no Policy or Guidelines upon which to refer to, as this situation had not previously arisen. It was suggested that a Guideline and Criteria be formulated along the same lines as the one currently used for the Student Support model see copy attached.

Motion The Policy developed by Linda Cahill, Secretary DHS P&C, be adopted as the model upon which all future Volunteer Support claims are assessed.

Proposed Linda Cahill

Seconded Sam Phillips

Carried

Trivia Night Fund Raising

On behalf of Caroline Musik, Coralie Turner-Morris requested the funds raised on the Trivia Night be spent on the MPC's upgrade/refurbishment. The committee decided that a letter be sent to Mr Cawsey requesting this, the Secretary to write the letter.

Coralie also thanked Sharon Lorge for laundering the table cloths.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 9.30pm

Minutes taken by Linda Cahill