

**SACRED HEART SCHOOL MONA VALE
PARENTS & FRIENDS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Wednesday, 11 February 2009 – 7.30pm

MINUTES OF MEETING

Prior to start of meeting, Julie Caldwell introduced 2009 teaching staff to all present.

ITEM	DISCUSSION / ISSUE	ACTION	WHO / WHEN
Meeting opened at 7.40pm			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former president, Rob Tonoli opened the meeting, welcoming new families to the school community and announcing new members would be formally elected. • Thanks to Julie Caldwell for the fabulous work she does for the school. • A mini AGM was held and the following members were nominated, and seconded: President – Dom Sudano Vice President – Suzy Caruso Treasurer – Darren Parker • Due to work commitments, Dom Sudano was unable to be attend. • Rob Tonoli stepped down as president and Suzy Caruso chaired the meeting in Dom Sudano's absence. 		
PRINCIPAL'S REPORT	Please see attached report.		Julie Caldwell
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suzy Caruso welcomed new families to the school and introduced the members of the executive committee. President – Dom Sudano Vice President – Suzy Caruso Treasurer – Darren Parker Secretary – Kerrie Andrews • Minutes from the previous meeting were passed. • There were no ongoing issues from the previous meeting. 		Suzy Caruso in Dom Sudano's absence
TREASURER'S REPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Darren Parker went through his cashflow statement. In 2008, total payments of approximately \$45,000 were made to the school. Two electronic whiteboards and 16 laptops were purchased. • Thanks to Felicity Dennis and Karen Tonoli for their fantastic work on the social committee last year. • The uniform shop has raised approximately \$11-12,000. • We currently have \$10,000 set aside for a garden plan and landscaping work. We are looking at holding a working bee to help create this area. We would like to use the \$10,000 for materials. • The account balance is currently sitting around \$12,000. 		Darren Parker

ITEM	DISCUSSION / ISSUE	ACTION	WHO / WHEN
COMMITTEES			
Social Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mandy Allan is our new social coordinator. She is looking to create a happy balance between fundraising and social activities. • On 27 February we will be having a welcome back to school BBQ which will be hosted by year 6. • Mother's Day and Father's Day breakfasts will be held this year as well as something similar to our Saturday Night Fever Disco last year. • If anyone would like to help, please contact Mandy. 		Mandy Allen
Uniform Shop	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our new look uniform shop committee consists of Fiona Scarf, Gwen Stevens, Michelle Nemicich and Jacqui Palmer. They are currently very busy, nothing to report. 		Fiona Scarf, Gwen Stevens, Michelle Nemicich, Jacqui Palmer
Parish Delegate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kathy advised our new parish priest, Fr George, has a mission that everyone can become involved in church. • We have a wonderful Youth Minister named Simon. Youth meet every Thursday. • A group called Youth Alpha for 13-15 yr olds is now held at Mater Maria. • Primary school aged children are involved in the family masses which include a BBQ afterwards. • There will be a LOTWEM Evangelisation retreat in April for adults. • The sacramental program for 2009 starts with weekend with enrolments for First Reconciliation. 		Kathy Gray
Parent Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rachel sent her apologies and advised there were no new matters to report. 		Rachel Homan
MATTERS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ideas regarding the garden plan for the school were discussed, including donating plants and a working bee. • The main areas to be worked on are the secret garden and under the orange seats. • We would like to form a garden committee and asked for volunteers. If you are interested, please speak to any member of the P&F. • Plants to be used will be plants native to the Pittwater area. • A sustainable vegetable garden is not an option due to the rabbit population in Mona Vale. • Once the plan is finalised, it will be put up in the breezeway. 		
<p>Meeting closed at 8.30pm</p> <p>The date for the next meeting in Term 2 will be advised in the school newsletter at a later date.</p>			

P and F Report 11th February 2009

Catholic Life and Mission

The year began with the staff being blessed at a mass by Father George. We are blessed with his presence in the community. He has a great interest in working with the schools.

We are currently preparing for a combined staff retreat with Father George. The school is working closely with the Parish Sacramental team in order to assist and make it as invitational as possible.

Father has given his time on Wednesday's after mass to the children to teach them about their faith. Today he spoke to Year 1 and Year 3.

I am lucky to be supported by Mrs MacLean our new REC.

Teaching and Learning

National Testing – we have done well in the identified areas, have work to do in spelling, inferencing and test taking.

Professional Learning for the teachers focus on Mathematics and Literacy. We are developing consistent and rigorous practices in Assessment as well as putting assistance in place for children in younger years. Mrs Driscoll and the mathematics team worked on this last Tuesday developing a strategy for the school.

Mrs Browne is not only leading the Year 3 team but literacy in the school. We will be looking at Spelling beginning this term. Proofreading and editing.

Miss O'Connor is leading ICLT and especially the integration of Interactive Whiteboards as a tool into the learning environment.

Student Welfare and Pastoral Care

Positive Behaviour for Learning – Asking staff to commit to working more intensely with this next year. Have recently revamped the school rules and will teach rules as well as replacement behaviours this year. Listening is our focus this first two weeks. We are working with Liz Calabria from CSO.

Facilities and Resources

Currently looking at our budget and definite priorities for 2009. With the current economic concerns the CSO has cut all schools Professional Learning budgets in half and I will be working with staff reprioritising our needs.

We have spent much of the money that the P and F gave us at the end of 2008. The two interactive whiteboards have been installed and are active in the Year 5 rooms. These cost \$12 000 per classroom. We have purchased 16 new laptops from school and P and F money. \$10 000 of P and F money is set aside for playground improvements this term.

The school will replace lighting in classrooms as it is not cost effective and will become a concern. This is a cost of \$10 000. I have also been asked to put at least \$25 000 into the maintenance plan for the school.

While not wanting to place too big a burden on families or the P and F the staff along with the results of the parent survey last year indicated that any money raised be put toward technology and the remainder be set aside for ground improvements.

Strategic Planning

Our new leadership team set down their goals and role descriptions this week in order that we can lead the school according to the broad goals of the Strategic Plan set down last year.

P and F

Thanks to an incredibly supportive P and F. I wish Dominic and his new team every success.