

NEGS P & F Meeting

Tuesday, 27th January, 2015

Meeting commenced: 7.17 pm

Attendance: Heather McPhie, David Fenwicke, Jenny Swan, Helen Byrnes, Tracey Whitehill, Joanne Campbell, Sally Strelitz, Mary Wright, Clive Logan, Lisa Haynes, Etoine Galbraith, Libby Parry, Rebecca Polonski, Scott McMahon, Ian Brown, Jennifer Thomas, Susan Northey, Nicholas Brown, Lachlan Brown.

Apologies: Sophie Carter, Kate Blackmore, Janelle Connolly, Sarah Edmonds, Michelle Bookallil.

Minutes of Previous Meeting: Moved as a true and accurate account of the meeting. Etoine Galbraith, seconded Tracey Whitehill. Carried.

P&F Scholarship: Mary Wright (Enrolments and Development) advised that the recipient of the P&F Scholarship has declined the offer as the family have transferred and the student is no longer coming to St John's. A \$6,000 scholarship is now available for a Junior School student (boy or girl) for the first year.

Enrolments have been a priority and therefore scholarships have been a focus. Heather McPhie moved that the Marketing Committee open the scholarship up to the whole school and possibly split the scholarship at \$3,000 each student to attract the right student or student(s). Seconded David Fenwicke. Carried. Mary confirmed the Marketing Committee will keep the Executive informed about applicants.

Principal's Report: NEGS was the best performing school in the region in the 2014 HSC. An external analyst has been secured to work out ATARs. Last year the School finished with the culmination of doing the little things right - The Tipping Point. NEGS improved 139 places on the league table, the School went from 340 in 2012 to 297 in 2013 to 158 (2014). Teachers are available in the library to assist Year 12 students. Boarding structure helps the boarders perform better. A student came 3rd in NSW with Visual Arts, School Captain came 8th in NSW in Design and Technology. Good credit goes to the staff. NEGS was 77th in English (Band 6) which far exceeded other schools in the area for English. Pitching the girls to "fail better" which means have a go and get better. There has been an overall lift in results. 15 of the girls gained over 80 in ATARs. 32 have been offered a place in University. Focus has been on boarding, tutor groups, the Equestrian Centre, student welfare and the Wellbeing program – it is all right to fail and improve. Enrolments are 100 new students at the school, which is one third of the school and 60 of those are boarders. The School needed to employ new staff, open another wing of a boarding house and consolidate which is a good news story. TAS are looking at coeducation for 2016 and are undergoing a consultation process. The Principal's job is to ensure that NEGS' thrives and that we focus on girls' education and the Equestrian Centre. We have a unique product and believe we are on the right track after two years of persistence. The region has received lovely rain as the rural environment has been poor. NEGS was able to attract good new staff members. Double staffing in Transition as there are 20 in Transition. Thank you to the P&F executive for reorganizing the Welcome BBQ in the MPC. When the School is thriving and flourishing people will support it which is a good positive vibe. Diversifying the Equestrian Centre has meant the School is accommodating 75 horses at the Equestrian Centre now. NEGS has the best Cutting and Polocrosse instructors available. NEGS is starting off the year on a good footing and we aim to see the School continue to thrive. We will not rest on one year's results.

New staff: Sam Morley was replaced by Remo Seca who is a fully fledged TAFE D&T Technology teacher. The School has decided to double stream Years 7, 8, 9 and 10 which has meant we needed extra staff.

Leanne Chandler has been employed to teach English, History, Geography as well as Visual Arts. White House has a wing open and Stephanie Thomas will look after boarding which included a new House Mistress. NEGS has increased staff by one and two in the Junior School. 75% of the School's total budget is about staffing. We cater for individual needs, gifted and talented, learning support, and offer electives. Yrs 9 and 10 can be the lost years so we are trialling on recommendation for some students to do two electives and a third elective can be swimming, equestrian or music (an extra curricular subject).

President's Report: David Fenwicke – last term the ODE was our most significant and time consuming activity. The P&F provided breakfast, lunch and dinner with bar on Saturday and breakfast and lunch on Sunday. It was a very big weekend, with great support and plenty of helpers and contributions. Moxons were very generous with their contribution of cakes. The P&F has decided not to cater for the ODE on 14th /15th February. The welcome BBQ went ahead successfully in spite of the wet weather. The Junior School and Senior School Swimming Carnivals will be the next event as the P&F will cater for lunch. The rest of the time will be spent fundraising. Josie Knox has finished as Liaison Parent for the Junior School – so we need to find a new representative.

Ian Brown asked about fundraising for NEGS and what the boundaries are in relation to contacting those on the school database. Clive confirmed that the School is legally required to protect personal contact information. Heather McPhie confirmed that Parents and Friends are encouraged to contact the P&F Executive about fundraising ideas and these would be happily considered. Ian Brown suggested that businesses associated with NEGS could provide financial and like assistance through promotion on the School website – David Fenwicke agreed to discuss this and other proposals further with Ian Brown after the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: (attached)

Opening Balance @ 7/10/14 \$48,379.65
Closing Balance @ 26/1/15 \$55,683.87.

Our main expenditure was \$6000 for the Scholarship. The main income is from the annual subscription of \$30 per student late payment. Outstanding Income is for Equestrian Centre staff costs. Outstanding Expenditure is the Can Assist cheque which is not yet banked.

Netball Carnival will be held in September this year. The Spring Fair is our major fundraising event with \$11,000 raised last year. Last year's raffle will be drawn at the Senior School Swimming Carnival. The Wish List amount is based on Spring Fair fundraising. The HODS submit requests and the Executive decide from those submissions. The P&F acquired one new BBQ, aprons, new wooden picnic tables, catering equipment and badges.

Sally Strelitz suggested a P&F room where there was coffee, tea making facilities, WiFi, be available at the School for Parents travelling from Walcha, Guyra etc to spend time while waiting for student commitments to finish. Clive Logan undertook to consider where parents could go to spend time waiting for students.

Correspondence in or out: Nil.

Business Arising:

Information packages: - will be available on the School website and the data will be kept up to date.

Name Tags:- new name tags produced for all new parents, new Year 7 parents from St John's, Liaison Parents and the P&F roles. Any new badges can be purchased at a low cost.

P&F Patron and Constitution: – no letter received from Board as yet. Clive to follow up.

Summary of ODE: – what went well and how we can improve on the weekend's catering.

New Business:

Swimming Carnivals: – the P&F will provide lunch and require a few helpers.

NSW Parents' Council: – Heather McPhie resigned as has other commitments.

Michelle Bookallil advised that new parents are not receiving information about events. Clive confirmed packages were sent out, however, he will investigate further.

David Fenwicke established a NEGS P&F Facebook page – please sign up to the page and join as posts are put out so that members are aware of what is coming up. Suggestion made that more administrators be appointed to the Facebook page so they can share information.

Meeting closed 8.20 pm.

Next meeting is the AGM on first night back Term 2.

NEGS Parents and Friends Treasurer's Report 27 January 2015

Income & Expenditure for the period 7th October 2014 to 26th January, 2015

Opening balance @ 07/10/14 \$ 48,379.64

Expenditure

Spring Fair	\$	425.80
NEGS Valedictory Awards (Heather Fisher)	\$	150.00
2014 ODE	\$	104.17
Rosemerin (Flowers)	\$	60.00
Bear Memories - Year 6 Graduation Bears	\$	154.00
P & F Scholarship	\$	6,000.00
Cheque Book Fee	\$	15.00
TOTAL	\$	6,908.97

Income

P & F Annual Membership	\$	6,390.00
Spring Fair	\$	315.00
NENC - player lunches (264 x \$8.25)	\$	2178.00
NEGS Athletics Carnival - Staff lunches (24 x \$9)	\$	216.00
ODE 2014 takings	\$	4,314.20
Glenavon Bull Sale	\$	800.00
TOTAL	\$	14,213.20

Closing balance @ 26/01/15 \$ 55,683.87

Income pending \$9,899.00

ODE 2014 – Equestrian Centre Food & Drinks \$ 468.00

Expenditure pending \$

5% Spring Fair Profit to Can Assist	\$	650.00
ODE 2014	\$	2451.58